

Dan Miller would like to know what the exact end goal is. If we go back to the action plan from a year ago, our mission is to promote career paths and appropriate skills for college and non-college-bound Sheridan County students that will provide a seamless transition into the local workforce and/or post-secondary training. We brainstormed ideas as to how we could reach the goal.

Task is strategies to effect collaboratin for curriculum and job opportunities – utilizing resources of business community, education community, students, and parents.

The Career Academies concept has come up. SHS is planning to research a freshman academy that would open in the fall of 2009. Based on how things go with a freshman academy, they will look at other academies. Step 1 was to attend career academies conference and there is permission from administration. Immediate need is to expand apprenticeship and internship. However, we first need to be well versed in the laws, age restrictions and opportunities for students to get skills training.

Presently, three programs are in place with internship contracts.

We appear to have several issues independent of one another.

- Opportunity for students now
 - Goal: Improve work opportunities to help students currently.
 - Action items
 - Job Shadow, Career Expo, Job Fair
 - Child labor laws clarifications – March 5 – Entire Task Force
 - Enhance Safety training
 - Legislative changes
 - Expand/enhance internship programs at high school
 - Promote programs
 - Survey classes to quantify students' interests
 - Consider additional apprenticeships
- Career Academies beginning with Freshman Academy Fall 2009
 - Permission to pursue
 - Established task force that will work through next school year
 - Exploratory academy for freshman to explore career pathways
 - Not sure if it will be academy approach for all or just for select at-risk students

- May be 30 students with a drastically different schedule. Might be team teaching.
- Vision has to come from the staff, (gain buy-in from teachers) to succeed
- Establish measurable goals
 - Establish strategies/action items to get to the goals
 - There are models out there that are successful
 - Poudre Valley, Colorado is the program PACE was patterned after
 - School system is looking at Poudre again to advance technical programs
- What would make the staff agree this is the right thing to do?
 - Support from the college, industry, community
 - Opportunities to fast track into careers
 - Support from parents
- Goal: Ultimately target 80-85 kids enrolled in academies (minimum involvement of 25-30)
 - Action items
 - School district gather task force (Kathleen)
 - Get staff on board
 - Parent/Community Task Force
 - Visit other programs
 - Get industry partners on board (Fwd Sher)
 - Get community parents on board
 - Identify at-risk students
 - Recruit 8-10 parents' involvement (Randy)
 - Recruit students already involved in programs (Kathleen)
 - Establish marketing efforts
 - Marketing to parents
 - Marketing to students
 - Marketing to businesses
- Several years ago the college offered 10 hours of credit free to seniors
 - It has not developed – only 8 are signed up this year out of 220 students
 - Administration hopes this task force can look at that as well

- Cindi Thiede (Sheridan College) will work with school district to better promote the program
- Need to promote it more and get kids into Sheridan College classes
- Goal: Awareness to parents and students
 - Action Items
 - Youth apprenticeships for credit for programs at college
 - Have college help promote the opportunities for seniors
 - Curtis Biggs promote dual enrollment as well as concurrent (work with Kathleen and Carol Lundgren and counselors)
 - High school counselors promote it more (Dirlene)
 - Strengthen dual enrollment (concurrent is strong)
 - Classes on field trips and bring college students to classes (teachers - Heidi)
 - Combine classes where possible on joint projects (teachers)
- FYI: Mark Your Calendar - - Are there ways we can help them be successful?
 - Job Shadow Day -- Feb 22nd
 - Career Expo (Sheridan College) – April 17th (After School) 11th & 12th graders
 - Job Fair (SHS) – May 8th
- NEXT MEETING: March 5 – 7:00 AM – Location – Room B115
 - Discussion Topics:
 - Child Labor Laws & Apprenticeship/Training
 - Marketing
 - Action Plans