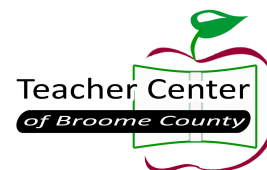


Teacher Center of Broome County

Date: 4/10/17

April Meeting Agenda



Call to Order: 4:08

Meeting Presider: Karen Doolittle

Appointment of Meeting Secretary: Erin Hitchcock

Present:

Debbie Sluzar (BINGHAMTON)		Pat Walsh (LEA)	Karen Doolittle (VESTAL)
Nicole Fenty (Binghamton University)	Leah DeVita (DEPOSIT)	Erin Hitchcock (MAINE ENDWELL)	
	Cheri Panko (DIRECTOR)	Diana Simpson (NON PUBLIC)	Andrea Gresko (SUSQUEHANNA VALLEY)
Mike Sabo (BUSINESS)		Mary Hibbard (PARENT)	Dan DiGennaro (WINDSOR)
Deb Daniels (CHENANGO FORKS)			

Excused: Jim Stocum (CHENANGO VALLEY), Heather Badger Brown (HARPURSVILLE), Sarah Reid (PUBLIC LIBRARY), Colleen Cawley (BOCES), Sharon Wells (EARLY CHILDHOOD), Pat Follette (WHITNEY POINT SUPERINTENDENT)

Absent: Nicole Fenty

Previous Minutes: Debbie/Mary. Passed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. NYS Budget - 14.3 to 20, 146 for us? Teacher Centers are included, and actually getting more money (possibly about \$40,000 extra for our Teacher Center). Before our next meeting, be thinking about how this money could be used. Cheri will send out information as she hears.
2. Wireless Router - ours died, we now have a new one (purchased by BOCES)
3. Whiteboard -- mounted on the wall for workshop use

CORRESPONDENCE: none

LEA REPORT: budget presented. Waiting for FS-10 amendment to be approved. We currently have \$5,000 in equipment fund. Need to decide how to spend this.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

1. iPad 2s -- cannot be updated anymore (too old). New iPads just came out. About half of the apps do not work with new operating system.
2. Coding Class --Cheri had taken photos, Diana spoke about the stations. It was a very hands on workshop, and attendees got to actually use the technology (most borrowed from BOCES). Cheri asked participants for feedback as to what they would like the TC consider purchasing.
3. Poetry Contest -- TC contributed to purchasing ribbons, Lonna Pierce was very appreciative.
4. Earth Day Poster Contest -- just picked up. About 12 submissions (usually closer to 30)
5. Study Group updates -- all were completed, variety of reports (Google Docs/Slides, PowerPoint, S'more, Prezi, pamphlets, blog). Most are currently posted on the TC website.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Study Group conversation, any new ideas? Could cut the hours (currently 20), could cut the number of people (currently 3-8), could cap the amount and make it more competitive (allotted \$20,000 but we spent more this year). Will need to make a decision in May, or at least have more of an idea of where we are going. Mike asked how many people are affected by study groups... 18 groups, average of 5 people per group. Many of them are repeat groups. Not sure how to bring more people into it. It's sent out to many people (TCUpdate, Ambassadors), but not everyone reads those messages. It is a big time commitment, and it is a choice whether they do it or not. The Book Incentive did reach more individuals than study groups do. Perhaps this could be built into next year's budget.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Social Studies Focus Group report- Karen. Not many participants (8 at first meeting, 3 at end). About 4-5 meetings. Came up with strategies to meet new Social Studies Framework of skills/practices. Went well for a first round of something like this. Posted on TC website. Biggest challenge was getting a group of people. Good starting point for future focus groups. Will be shared in a future TCUpdate.
2. Spending money
 - a. Technology- <http://www.apple.com/ipad/compare/> The new iPads are \$299 (32 gb). Cheri recommends 10 because they are not getting loaned out as much as before. 10 would be \$2940. Debbie -- operating system takes up a lot of memory, is 32 gb enough? Our current iPads are 16 gb and have about 5 gb available. Would also need new cases (new ones are much thinner) for approximately \$15 each.
 - b. Coding- Hummingbird- <http://www.hummingbirdkit.com/> \$1675
Dot and Dash- <https://store.makewonder.com/#/education> Classroom pack 10 Dash, 10 Dot, etc. (\$2620); Starter set 4 Pack (\$960)
 - c. Breakout Boxes <http://www.breakoutedu.com/welcome> Looking to purchase 1 (\$125). Leah has experience with this and the students are loving it. Logic, problem solving, teamwork.
 - d. Bee-Bots -- Vestal has these, Cheri is familiar with them. Bee-Bots are more elementary, Blue Bots are more middle school. Blue Bots would need a tablet.

Some discussion about how this is connected to actual curriculum. Could be used to teach shapes, write a story with the object moving. This is fairly basic education. Not sure how to integrate it into upper level curriculum.

Mary -- motion to purchase 10 iPads, 10 cases, starter set (4 pack) of Dot & Dash. seconded by Leah. passed (a few abstentions). Website has good resources as to how to use in classroom. Workshop would include application -- how to tie it in to curriculum.

3. Continuation Grant work -- committee will be working on this. Mary, Dan, Cheri, Karen, and possibly others
4. Director's Evaluation -- Mike will be sending this out to the Policy Board. Please include comments. Mike will compile results and share.

OPEN FORUM:

1. June 6 -- go out to dinner after (for Cheri and Colleen)
2. For next meeting, brainstorm whether we want to do Book Incentive for next year, address Study Group funds

ADJOURNMENT: Mary/Deb move to adjourn. 5:16 pm

Future meetings dates:

			May 9, 2017	June 6, 2017
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