

NWCS Strategic Planning Meeting
Agenda & Notes
Dec. 11, 2017 - 6:30 PM

I. Welcome –

II. Introductions: Scott Mills, Mark Misch, Tim Wilson, Katie Brandewie, Jeff Miller, Alex Nafziger, Gene Donaghy, Deanna Elzey, Scott Elzey, Mark Reinhard, Cami Shelton, Susanne Tieman, Adam MacAfee, Erin Newcomb, Kent Kotesky

III. Lilly grant application update.

- a. Have not moved forward at this point in applying for the second round. Still a possibility. We know we need to address the social/emotional struggles students face. In addition, we know that we would need someone to help with the career focus.

IV. Graduation Pathway Proposal

- a. High School graduate concern from legislation: The committee making the recommendations argue that kids need “Currency” for their future and that the current method toward high school graduation does not provide that.
- b. Committee appointed by 2017 legislation to create pathways started meeting late last in August 2017.
- c. The State Board of Education received two days of testimony pleading the panel to slow down because we need more answers and resources to put into action for the pathway proposal.
- d. This pathway is for the graduating class of 2023, this year’s 7th graders.
 - a. 3 hoops (pathways): some easy and some difficult
 - b. Starts after June 30, 2018
 - c. Check-off 1: Diploma (Core 40, Academic Honors, General)
 - d. Check-off 2: A student must complete one of the following experiences: Project-Based Learning experience, service learning activity, work-based experience
 - e. Check-off 3: Attain predetermined scores on the SAT or ACT, Score at least a 31 on the ASVAB, obtain an industry-based certification, participate in an apprenticeship program, be a CTE concentrator (6 credits), or complete a locally created pathway that meets the framework from and earns the approval of the State Board of Education
- e. What should be our concerns?
 - a. Fear: If a student can’t achieve Academic Honors, then what are their chances for success?
 - b. Fear: What if someone takes the Academic Honors route and then finds out their Junior year that they can’t pass the exams necessary to get that type of diploma? At that point it could be too late to take the CTE concentrator route.
 - c. Will there be enough teachers to cover the CTE concentrate area? Enough students interested in each concentrate to justify having the classes?

- d. Kids could fall through the cracks; therefore, we need to keep looking ahead to find ways to support and help these kids. It won't be easy, and it most likely will be expensive.

V. Next Steps

- a. Find businesses that want to partner with us for students who are not college-bound.
- b. Look at when we give the Indiana Career Explorer survey. Is middle school 8th grade appropriate for students? In the Career Exploration section of the Indiana State Board of Education document it recommends career exploration in the middle grades (grades 3-5) and middle school (6-8). It can include, but not limited to: career exploration courses, career interest assessments, and consultations with school counselors.

VI. Scott shared what he learned at the ACTE National Conference

- a. Isaac Lidsky: Encouraged us not to limit ourselves by fogged vision. We shouldn't let others dictate our circumstances. He explained, "We can control our circumstances."
- b. Pecha Kucha: 20 slides/20 seconds each. A new method for us to communicate what is really important.
- c. Wisconsin requires academic and career plans for all students now. The Indiana pathways is not really a "new" idea.
- d. Switzerland has an Apprenticeship model where businesses partner with schools and don't want the government involved because they feel it would only make things worse.
- e. LIVEBINDERS for student portfolios: It is a possibility for NWCS if eBackPack doesn't work out for us as our LMS.
- f. How might we continue to inspire our kids to help change the world through projects of our own? Scott shared the story about a PLTW class that created a cardboard brick that is fire proof and water proof and is made from used cardboard. A West Virginia class wrote a grant for the Lemelson-MIT Student Prize.

VI. Next Meeting – Feb. 19, 2018

- a. It is President's Day. If we have school that day we will have the meeting.

VII. Adjourn