BOF QUESTIONS

Potential to regionalize TAP, and potential for auditorium revenue when the project is complete?

Jean and Dr. Rodrigue - inquiry on the depth of the NHS computer science offerings? Are they relevant to today's learner? Have recent courses been added to enhance student opportunity? Can this focus area be regionalized as a tuition based academy?

Auditorium

The renovation of our auditorium should begin shortly. This will include a full renovation, bringing the facility up to code, as well as the inclusion of a theater package (phase II) so it can continue to be used by teachers for high school instruction (Theater production, Acting, Drama, Music, Band, Unified Theater).

While our auditorium is used throughout the year for concerts, assemblies, evening events, and dramatic and musical productions, it has also been utilized by community organizations. Fees are required typically – however, there may be additional revenue-producing programs in the future. A completely renovated auditorium with an updated sound system will entice outside organizations. School events, of course, would need to remain a priority.

Potential to Regionalize TAP

Currently, we are looking at the staff and resources we would need in order to expand our alternative (TAP) program. This year, we began by increasing the schedule so students now attend earlier in the afternoon (1:15 p.m.), which is the last period for high school students, giving our TAP students access to some of the elective and entrepreneurial programs already in place in the high school (computers, culinary, language, and greenery).

In order to expand further and welcome students from other districts, we would need to review the additional resources needed to ensure we are able to meet the needs of all learners in the program, including students with 504 and IEPs (individualized educational plans). Regionalization would include the need to address transportation, current teachers and support staff, as well as scheduling. The goal would be to maintain smaller class sizes to achieve a more personalized learning environment. While fees would have to be discussed, other districts who have regionalized programs may expect fees in the range of $10,000 - $20,000 per student, depending on the costs needed for staffing, resources, technology, specialized supports, and transportation.

Computer Science Offerings

In the last several years, we have brought in computer courses that are relevant for students and prepare them for future college, career, and vocational opportunities. The following computer courses and technology-based programs are currently offered at the high school:

Digital Academy (STEM) – our science and technology courses are offered through a blended learning environment. Students are expected to engage in an inquiry-based approach to solve real world problems and utilize technology to investigate, collaborate with peers, create products, and present their findings to a panel of judges in a culminating exposition in Hartford, CT in May each year. This

experience is both relevant and meaningful for students. Blended learning courses offered include the following

Earth & Energy Essentials (E3)
Bio 21
Media Skills
Foundations of Health, Science & Technology
Public Health

Project Lead the Way – Engineering (Freshman Advanced Partnership)

This year we introduced the first course in a series of courses designed to introduce students to Engineering. This is technology-based and equips students with the basic skills and knowledge required for future study in Engineering. Students may obtain college level credit for passing an exam at the end of each course to be transferred to the college of their choice. This engineering program offers students a highly relevant experience for pursuing engineering or similar fields in the future. Two courses are offered so far in this program:

Introduction to Engineering Design (IED)
Principles of Engineering (new course for 2017-18 for sophomores continuing on in the program)

In addition, we have the following technology-based courses in the BEAT (Business Education and Technology Department) that provide students with a variety of digital experiences for college and career:

Mobile App Design
Mobile App Design
Computer Applications
Computer Repair - Hardware
Computer Repair - Operating Systems
Newtek - The Enterprise
Video Game Design 1
Video Game Design 2
Web Design
Honors JAVA 1
Honors JAVA 2
AP Computer Science Principles

Math:
AP Computer Science