

**Southeast Area Education Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes January 10, 2011**

Meeting called to order: 7:03PM

Advisory Council Members: Bill Bafitis, Robert Berkshire, Jackie Brewster, Steve Crum, Jeanie Jung, Bonnie Saul, Sandra Skordalos, Bud Staigerwald & Katie Staigerwald

Attendees: Matt Corner (AP CHS), Devin Crum, & Sue Hahn (Parent Support Services)

Presenters: Ron Conner (Teacher CHS), Leonard Foust (Teacher CHS), Reese Glidden (Student CHS), Maya Holt (Student CHS), Maria Lowry (Principal CHS), Dan Scroggs (Tech. Office), & Case Seibert (Lab Manager)

Virtual Learning Lab at Chesapeake HS

Mr. Scroggs began the presentation in the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) lab. The VLE was designed to be very similar to a lab at a high tech. company. Computers stations are grouped together. Each station has a CPU, three flat panel monitors, keyboard, and yoke joystick. There are arranged in various size groups – three or four student stations. There are also additional monitors mounted from the ceiling in groups of five and a 92” Promethean board (first in Maryland) in the front of the lab. There is a control station up front. All wiring is under the flooring. The room is air conditioned and humidity controlled. There are cameras for video conferencing.

The lab is open to all students. All Environmental Science and Geometry students use this facility. There is a Mount St. Helens simulation program that students use for those classes. Environmental students work on why are the fish dying off while everything else is recovering? Math students work on the best way to evacuate the mountain and where to place shelters. In the future they will be adding an English and Social Studies component. Future simulations will be the Lunar Project and the Chesapeake Bay.

We then moved to the Arena. The Arena includes several large monitors to create a panoramic view on both the front and back of the room. There are several rows of chairs with tablets facing each panoramic view. There is a large workstation in the front of the room that is used to control both sets of monitors. Reese Glidden was at the control center running the simulation. He had control of the vehicle which could change from land to air or water. Reese is a senior at Chesapeake who has been working on developing software for future use in this lab. He has been accepted to Cornell University. Reese is very knowledgeable about the lab and software.

The Arena is used for group work, teaching and video conferencing. It is very impressive looking. Many business partners are involved at Chesapeake HS including the Applied Physics Lab at Johns Hopkins, Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman and the gaming industry. Business partners are involved in many ways like lunch with an engineer and video conferencing.

Many questions were asked by the advisory council members including curriculum connections, availability for use by other schools (Sparrows Point HS SPECIES students), opening the lab on weekends to accommodate additional users, the possibility of creating similar type labs in other high schools, etc.

Presentation Period Ended

Advisory Council Meeting began at 8:02PM.

We began our meeting by discussing the presentation at the Board of Education meeting, and both the past and upcoming Joint Advisory Council meeting. Other topics included student mobility in our area and scheduling.

Southeast Educational Advisory Council members were concerned that Board of Education members do not appear to be concerned over the loss of our area superintendant at our meetings. We understand the change in structure of BCPS, but feel the need to have BCPS personnel at our meetings to address our concerns or questions.

EASI system is scheduled to roll out in January. This is the new student data tracking system.

We are also concerned about the student mobility rate at our area schools. Discussion included how does a student move from one school to the next when each of our local high schools have different schedules: Chesapeake HS has a 4 Period AB schedule, Dundalk HS has a 6 period schedule, Sparrows Point HS has a 4 Period AB schedule, Patapsco has a hybrid schedule - including 4 periods (some AB, some everyday- some one semester and some full year) and Sollers Point is a half day program in conjunction with another local high school. It was decided to send a letter to Dr. Hairston to request a BCPS representative be present to discuss this at our next meeting.

Meeting Adjourned

Next meeting: February 7 at Eastwood ES Library Information Services