

REMC 13 Advisory Council Minutes
Professional Development and Business Meeting
Williamston High School, Room B-1
October 15, 2008

Present:

Christina Alvarado, Teresa Asch, Margy Barile, Susan Bissonnette, Maryanne Boylan, Christine Danhoff, Dan Davenport, Mark Dodak, Michele Ellis, Cindy Fedewa, Sandy Fields, Phil Grimes, Sue Hornbach, Renee Hornby, Camille Jones, Kathy Kowalski, Marcia Maiville, Linda Mondol, Michele Mudar, Dionne Mumby, Mary Osmar, Debra Overbey, Annette Pohl, Lyne Roberts, Kristin Sandel, Sue Schwartz, Teri Terry, Chris Turner, Jennifer Varney, Cyndi Webster, Melissa White

8:30-10:00, Professional Development

Blackboard and Web/MAX: New Features, Melissa White

Demoed the new features of the Community System and Safe Assign (plagiarism tool). Showed the new interface of Web/MAX a portal for teachers to access all the materials from REMC.

10:00-11:30, Tour of Williamston's Smart Classrooms

Michelle gave a tour of the new Media Center and a teacher demoed all the equipment that each Math/Science teacher has in their room.

12:30 p.m. Business Meeting

Introductions

REMC Reports

Instructional Materials Collection

- Identify Gaps In Discovery to Add Content to Our Streaming Server
 - a. Last year MAME volunteers went through the content of the REMC Digital Collection and added GLCE's and HSCE's to each title. We are looking at adding the titles to our streaming server and purchasing additional content from other vendors to fill the holes that are in Discovery Streaming.
- Discovery streaming now has student access
 - a. Melissa will create instructions for student access
- Online Resource Password
 - a. Will create new logins and passwords next year to get into the online resources. Will send that out in late August before school starts. Will make that an annual activity to ensure that other schools are not accessing our materials each year.
- Connections content will now be on the REMC home page. Connections will be discontinued this year. Flyers will go out to still advertise major changes. (e.g. once we have new content and Web/MAX changes completed will send out information to all staff)
- Melissa will still add useful "cool" websites to REMC website
- Melissa/Sue will check to see how each new posting could have an RSS feed instead of just subscribing to the archives.

Professional Development

- PD Through Adobe Connect
 - Identify topics; Melissa will hold sessions (record and archive on Web/MAX) Plans to do lunch and learn and record them each week. Information on dates and times will go out in an email.
- Teaching and Learning Online Learning Course October 6 at IISD was canceled, but we will be looking for a different date in early winter or early spring
- Smartboard Training Available through Melissa (emphasis on differentiated instruction)
- Discovery Day at Haslett High School, October 25, 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

Co-operative Purchasing

- Invitation to the Face Off, November 11, 9:30 a.m. –3:00 p.m., at Lansing Center
 - Featuring Interactive Whiteboards and Multimedia Projectors
 - Register at <http://www.solutionwhere.com/inghamisd/cw/showsession.asp?41984405810/1/20087:52:26+AM> by November 4, 2008
- The project has all the document cameras available for evaluation. Contact Sue if you would like to borrow the different models to look at.
- Olevia company has gone out of business
- Online Databases – Ideas for when bid runs out after this year
 - Work Keyes will not bid (it has been submitted several times)
 - eLibrary Curriculum cumbersome, hard to navigate at times
 - CultureGrams and SIRS Researcher easier to use
 - Simple search window like Google would be better
 - Articles come up that are not relevant in some of the databases
 - Suggestion if we keep ProQuest we have examples from every discipline
 - Revisit encyclopedias again
 - Gizmos (Learning Objects)
 - Create a subcommittee for the databases (Sue will pick some dates to get together)
 - Gale Resource Center (you can look at statistics, this info can be very valuable to see how the students or teachers use it)
- Atomic Learning
 - PD technology tutorials
 - There are some REMCs who are looking to purchase subscription (buying power)

StarNET Update

- Fiber network in Ingham County
 - East Lansing and Lansing are hooked up. Haslett should be up soon. Ingham ISD is waiting for the rights to go under the railroad.
 - Once Ingham is hooked up to MMNET in Clinton County schools will be hooked up to the Discovery Server that is located in Gratiot-Isabella. (connecting to the Discovery server in this way does not take up bandwidth and schools will be able to stream and download during the day time)

Updates

- 2008-09 Meeting Dates: December 11 (Holt HS); February 24 (East Lansing); April 29 (DeWitt HS)
- 21st Century Media Center Program from MAME
 - The content will be posted on the MAME website at <http://mimame.org>
 - Will be shown at the MAME Fall conference
- MAME 35, November 5-7 at the Dearborn Hyatt Regency
 - Contact Margie about carpooling or rooming together
- MACUL Update
 - Mi-Champions
 - Approving applications for 60 teams including the 25-30 teams that did not get in last year
 - Grant covers summer training and two MACUL conferences
 - Info available on <http://macul.org> site
 - Collaborative Tools for Learning Conference, December 8, at Ottawa ISD
 - MACUL Conference, March 18-20
 - MI-Learning grant
 - All info is available on MACUL site, but are accepting applications for the development of content for the MI-Learning portal- 20 \$1000.00 stipends
- MORE (Michigan Online Resources for Educators) Portal
 - Partnering with MEL and Thinkfinity
 - Portal holds teacher resources that are mapped to the content expectations (about 8-10,000 resources on the portal currently and +55,000 resources from Thinkfinity)
 - Looking for people who were Marco Polo trainers to become Thinkfinity trainers