



## ***East Greenbush Central School District***

### **ADMINISTRATION CENTER**

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**Lynne Pampel Ed.D.**

*Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction*

### **Education Committee Meeting**

**November 7, 2016 - 9:00 a.m.**

### **MINUTES**

#### **I. Attendance**

Jill Barker - Assistant Principal, Goff Middle School  
Michael Buono – BOE Member  
David Clarke – Parent Member  
Patricia Farnan – Teacher, Goff Middle School  
Sarah Hoffman – Interim Assistant Principal, Columbia High School  
Allison Milazzo – Guidance Counselor, Columbia High School  
Jennifer Oropallo- Guidance Counselor, Goff Middle School  
Lynne Pampel – Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction  
Ashley Rickson – Guidance Counselor, Columbia High School  
JoAnn Taylor – BOE Member

#### **II. Tour of Tech Valley High School and Program Overview**

The invited members of the Education Committee were given a tour of Tech Valley High School by Principal Jim Neidermeier and School Outreach Coordinator Sarah Fiess. The tour began with an overview of Project Based Learning (PBL), the philosophical foundation of the program. All learning begins with an engaging and authentic task developed by regional businesses that work in partnership with the school. These activities begin with a project launch, followed by problem solving activities and benchmark checks that include student reflection on their problem solving progress. All activities are student driven and the teachers act as facilitators.

All of the content is aligned to the CCLS, and the rate of graduates who attend college is high. There are college credit bearing courses and half of the students go into STEM fields, while the other half pursues diverse courses of study. All students take Chinese. The instructional focus is on agency, self-direction, collaboration and communication for College and Career Readiness. Students are required to take four years of math and science. Students with disabilities are enrolled in the program. Students are accepted through a lottery and commit to 100 hours of community service. There is an experiential learning session of one week for 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students, and two weeks

for 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students. Participating districts may receive professional development in project based learning.

### **III. Progress Report on CTE/STEM Program Review**

A copy of the CTE/STEM Program Review schedule was provided to the Committee, and members discussed the process. The final report had not been received yet and will be shared in January.

### **IV. New Project Lead the Way Course Selection and 3M Donation**

The Committee was provided with the preliminary recommendations made by the Project Lead the Way (PLTW) Specialist associated with the CTE/STEM program review regarding course selection for 2017-2018. A copy of possible courses that the high school will be considering for a third option in the PLTW sequence was provided.

### **V. Preliminary Data for CHS Program of Study**

The Committee reviewed some initial data collected from regional school districts that focused on:

- a. The number of periods in the day.
- b. Online courses for high school and college credit.
- c. Lunch and AIS.
- d. Independent study.
- e. Study halls.
- f. Early dismissal and arrivals.

The report is anticipated to be completed and ready for review by the Committee in January, 2017.