

**Polaris Career Center
Advisory Council Minutes, High School and Satellite
Fall Meeting – October 11, 2016
Program: Medical Professions and Exercise Science**

Council leaders present

1. Liisa Coldiron
2. Lori Dodds
3. Patricia Eden
4. Allen Orlandi

Members in attendance:

1. Jennifer Kolasinski
2. Chris Faciana

Members Absent

1. Dr. Eric Friedrich
2. Dr. Marcia Columbro
3. Amanda Gordon
4. Paula Minch

Welcome and introductions: All leaders and committee members present have been acquainted through previous meetings.

Review spring advisory council meeting minutes

Reviewed spring meeting minutes. Minutes were approved by members present.

Review purpose and scope of advisory councils:

Discussed the importance of member involvement. Stated we value their service to the school and the Medical Professions/Exercise Science programs specifically. Providing guidance to our program students in the form of shadow experiences, help with mock interviews, and attending open houses are invaluable to the success of our programs.

Polaris Mission Statement – Made members aware of new mission statement and values of Polaris career Center. Explained how mission and values provide a vision for our students as well our teachers and staff. Pointed out mission and values in the committee folders.

Program Review – Revisited discussion of curriculum with transition to courses, creating pacing guides, and on-line binders for access to new course materials offered by each program. Also, mentioned WebXam and impact on teacher evaluation as well as Polaris report card.

PROGRAM DATA DISCUSSION

Current enrollment in Junior Medical Professions: 67 total students

Current enrollment in Junior Exercise Science: 22 total students

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Current enrollment in Senior Medical Professions: 51 total students

Current enrollment in Senior Exercise Science: 18 total students

STNA is the certification offered by the program

56 students in STNA with 43 passing the test to become STNA certified

The Advisory members present were not aware of any new certifications that were appropriate for our students at this time. Liisa Coldiron did mention Serve Safe and Blood borne Pathogens certifications as possible options.

Drug testing and the Medical/EXERT programs

The topic of drug testing students prior to acceptance to the medical and EXERT programs was discussed. Members who were present were adamant about the need for testing as it is industry standard. Also, the members stated that students should be responsible for paying for any subsequent testing due to a dilute sample or a missed testing date. Currently, Polaris pays for retest of students with dilute samples. Further, members believe a “3 strikes” policy should be implemented if students miss a test, fail a test, or have a dilute sample. If any student has a combination of the 3 situations listed above, they are removed from the program or not allowed to enter.

The committee was advised of the Polaris policy of allowing students into programs 10 days into the school year. They felt that a 10-day window was quite long considering program classes are in session for 3 hours per day. If a student comes in on day 10 they have missed 30 hours of instruction which includes orientation and base knowledge necessary for success in the program. The committee felt that this policy should be reevaluated and possibly revised. It was recommended that students be allowed to enter class no more than a maximum of 5 days after the start of the school year.

Additionally, it was mentioned that teachers have input into the acceptance of late arriving students.

E-Books

E-books were discussed as an option to hard copy. Chris Faciana from Cuyahoga Community College stated that he finds his students prefer hard copies of books for highlighting and reference. Although he believes e-books will be used extensively, if not exclusively, in the future. Jennifer Kolasinski stated that her daughter uses e-books at her high school and likes using them. The cost of purchasing hard copies of books was an issue with Chris saying that e-books are not significantly less expensive than hard copies and it may not be as financially advantageous to the students as originally thought.

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Equipment Needs and Recommendations

Reviewed equipment needs with committee members. Committee members are aware of needs and made suggestion to add new electronic medical record scanning software similar to current programs available in hospitals. However, members are also aware of district awaiting results of levy to determine if equipment needs can and will be met.

Patricia Eden stated that she uses Sim EMR for electronic medical records portion of the curriculum. Jennifer Kolasinski did state that the technology for patient identification and medical record information has advanced to a point where scanners are used on patient ID bracelets and information is automatically loaded into EMR. She felt this would be good technology to have at the high school.

Additional program specific agenda items:

Lori Dodds stated that Polaris will be hosting the Regional Skills USA competition to be held on February 25, 2017. Asked members to assist with Regional Skills USA competition as judges or competition directors.

The number of judges and competition directors needed was estimated at approximately 15-20 for the medical competitions. It was explained to the committee that judges do not need to be advisory council members, but they must be in the field since medical terminology and specific medical information will be used during the competition.

Chris Faciana and Jennifer Kolasinski tentatively volunteered to be judges and Jennifer stated that she would ask other nurses in her unit if they would be willing to volunteer for the day

Council member feedback, questions and comments.

Committee members had no further questions or comments.

Lori Dodds again reiterated the fact that Polaris is on the November 8 ballot for a levy to improve facilities. Encouraged members to pass the word on to community members as no members in attendance live in the district.

Spring meeting will be held March 7 at 4:00 PM