

**DELTA COLLEGE DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
DINNER MEETING
August 11, 2009
Delta College Main Campus**

Board Present: R. Emrich, K. Higgs, K. Houston-Philpot, T. Lane, K. Lawrence-Webster, J. MacKenzie, D. Wacksman

Board Absent: E. Selby, R. Stafford

Others Present: J. Goodnow, B. Baker, P. Clark, J. Gonzalez, C. Drake, B. Heyart, P. Graves, T. Grunow, D. Halog, J. Knochel, T. Kubatzke, D. Lutz, J. Miller, S. Montesi, C. Morley, M. Mosqueda, L. Myles-Sanders, J. Nash, G. Przygocki, P. Seidel, J. Stahl, T. Stitt, A. Ursuy, K. Wolf

Press Present: Andrew Dotson, Bay City Times

Chairperson K. Houston-Philpot called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. She introduced the topic of the meeting, the Delta College Summer Arts and Sciences Camp. Kirk Wolf introduced himself and the other presenters, faculty members Judy Gonzalez, Cynthia Drake, and Beth Heyart, and the Principal of the Saginaw Arts and Sciences Academy (SASA), Janet Nash.

Kirk said there are 14,415 middle school students in the tri county area and he developed the Delta College Summer Arts and Sciences Camp as a way to keep them alive intellectually over the summer, and to introduce them to new topics. He attempted to plan a camp last summer but the logistics proved too difficult. This year Delta teamed with SASA, which has students enrolled from 26 different zip codes throughout Delta's district. Classes were free.

Classes included "Body Mysteries Unraveled: An Introduction to Human Anatomy and Physiology" with Cynthia Drake, "Play Production" taught by Beth Heyart and Judy Gonzalez, "Portrait Drawing with Mixed Media" led by Bonnie Lalley, "Sociological Explorations via Material Culture" with Donna Giuliani, "Video and Multimedia Production" with Jim Gleason, "Graphic Design: Exploring Digital Imaging with Adobe Photoshop" with Randy Crawford, "The Many Faces of Creative Writing taught by Jeff Vande Zande, "Philosophy's Big Ideas" with Kirk Wolf, and "Understanding Our Environment: A Fusion of Biology and Chemistry Explorations" led by Mike Garlick.

Beth Heyart described how the students produced a play, "Not So Grimm Tales," in four days from auditions on Monday to performance on Thursday. Each student had to memorize twenty to fifty lines. She also brought her public speaking class to the play, and they wrote about the students' performances in the play, and their verbal and non-verbal communication.

Judy Gonzalez spoke of the many plays she has directed and the numbers in attendance over the years, noting that this Fall "Hide and Shriek" will be presented in October. She estimated the audience for the Summer Camp performance as approximately fifty, including parents and the students in Beth's classes.

Cynthia Drake described how she presented a complete short form science class, with lectures, dissections of sheep and cow organs, experiments and a 20 question test on which most students did quite well. She used a water pistol to demonstrate how the aorta would spray 27 feet, getting some students a little wet, and helped them dissect eyeballs and brains. Students won prizes ranging from skeletons to key chains with bones to a real skull complete with brain.

Kirk Wolf provided an overview of the ten question evaluation of the camp that the students were asked to complete. Ninety-six per cent thought they learned the subjects and 94% said the camp deepened their interest in the subjects. Seventy-nine per cent thought it stimulated their interest in learning and 63% thought they were intellectually challenged. Eighty-four percent of the students thought the camp developed their creativity and critical thinking. Seventy per cent thought the camp had a positive influence on them outside of class. Ninety-four per cent found it rewarding and said they would recommend it to a friend, and 97% said if it were offered next summer, they would come back. Students were also asked for suggestions on what topics might be covered next year, and what they would improve.

Janet Nash was enthusiastic about the participation of the SASA students this summer and would participate again; she also pointed out that her husband Jack is a Delta graduate.

Dee Dee Wacksman commented on the excellent choice of faculty for the camp, and asked about costs and how they were handled. Don Halog responded that he and Trevor Kubatzke visited SASA after Kirk developed the concept two years ago and said that the cost was approximately \$5,000 in honoraria, plus some supplies. Kirk Wolf, Janet Nash and Bob Emrich commented on the commitment of Delta and SASA. Dr. Emrich also suggested adding a question to the assessment, about whether the students would consider attending Delta in the future. Janet Nash also suggested that high school students might help out, and earn community service hours by doing so.

There being no further business, the dinner meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Myles-Sanders, Board Secretary