

**DELTA COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
DINNER MEETING
December 9, 2014
Delta College Main Campus Room N7**

Board Present: R. Emrich, K. Houston-Philpot, K. Lawrence-Webster J. MacKenzie, M. Nash, M. Rowley, R. Stafford, D. Wacksman

Board Absent: E. Selby

Others Present: A. Anderson, B. Baker, L. Brown, T. Brown, W. Burns, J. Carroll, E. Crane, R. Curry, C. Drake, C. Dzurka, A. French, M. Gmeiner, J. Goodnow, L. Govitz, T. Heinz, D. Lutz, D. Middleton, M. Moore, M. Mosqueda, D. Peruski, G. Przygocki, L. Ramseyer, K. Schuler, L. Ullrich, A. Ursuy, S. Witzke

Press Present: G. Horner, Delta Collegiate; K. Skrzypczak, Delta Collegiate

Board Chair R. Stafford called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

D. Peruski introduced C. Drake, Associate Professor of Biology and coordinator of the Mind Trekkers event. C. Drake gave a presentation on the recent Dow Chemical Great Lakes Bay Regional Science and Engineering Festival that was held on Delta’s Campus. The event helps to bridge the attraction gap. She noted that 1/3 of students with a STEM interest will be the first in their family to attend college. Male students are more likely to pursue STEM fields than females with the gap increasing.

Around 28% of high school freshman will declare an interest in STEM. By graduation over 57% will have lost interest. It’s easier to retain them to acquire new students. In 2012 there were some 7.4 million workers in STEM. It is estimated to grow to over 8.6 million by 2018.

C. Drake provided a comparison from last year’s event:

2013	2014
32 School Groups – afternoon was less than half full	32 School Groups – morning was wait listed
2751 middle school students and chaperones	3556 middle school students and chaperones
1000-200 more people on Saturday	Several thousand more on Saturday
70 Mind Trekkers	70 Mind Trekkers
81 Delta Volunteers	140 Delta Volunteers
33 Partners	29 Partners

C. Drake emphasized that the entire Delta College campus participated. There were several additions which included: the Photography Club, Psychology and the Health and Wellness Division. The number of volunteers almost doubled from the previous year. She also thanked J. Goodnow for sponsoring the t-shirts that made the college look very professional and cohesive.

Some other improvements that were made included a teacher's lounge for networking, providing learning resources to the teachers and the redirected flow of incoming students. There was a 29% increase in school participation. C. Drake also shared with the Board pictures from the different areas at the event including: Science; Health and Wellness; Technical Trades & Manufacturing; Math; and Psychology.

The Dow Chemical Company sponsored the event with additional sponsorship from: 1st Robotics, MDOT, and the American Chemical Society. There were also partners such as the Chippewa Nature Center and the CMU Medical School.

Review of the student's post surveys indicated that the majority of them want to go to college. C. Drake also shared the following testimonials from some of the 8th graders present at the event:

- ...The Dow robot was awesome and amusing, especially when he conversed with students...
- ...thank you for letting us come, observe, learn and even participate in your projects...
- ...I had fun looking at the exhibits and experiencing once in a life time activities such as talking to robots, looking at homemade robotics and much more!
- ...I would like to come to Delta College and learn there. I would like to get a job in the field of engineering. Thank you Delta for the festival. Everything else about it was great!!

STEM Outreach is continuing in various ways including talks with Dow Chemical for a repeat event; the recent \$4 million STEM Explorer Grant that was recently received; the MSME Program; the annual Math Competition and this recent event being used as an example of "best practices" by Michigan Tech when arranging other events.

There being no further business, the dinner meeting was adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Talisa Brown, Assistant Board Secretary

Andrea Ursuy, Board Secretary