



UPDATING A GRAPHIC ARTS CURRICULUM

Mark Lobes Adam Weis Trevin Ziel
Consolidated High School District 230

ABOUT US...

○ Adam Weis

- Applied Technology Teacher
- Illinois State University (B.S.)
- Fifth Year in Education

○ Mark Lobes

- Applied Technology Teacher
- Eastern Illinois University (B.A. & B.S)
- Aurora University (M.Ed.)
- Ninth Year in Education



ABOUT US...

- Trevin Ziel
 - Applied Technology Teacher
 - Eastern Illinois University (B.S.)
 - Second Year in Education



THE PROGRAM INHERITED

- Staff/Curriculum
 - Two teachers close to retirement
 - Vastly different teaching styles
 - No agreement on curriculum
- Four Room Set-Up
 - Renovated in 2001
 - Space Doubled
 - No New Equipment Additions
 - 20 Student Computer Stations



THE PROGRAM INHERITED

- Equipment
 - Mac-based Filmmaker
 - 3-Process Film Developer
 - Two Mercury Image Makers
 - NuArc Image Burner
 - Two Offset-Presses
 - Two color ink printers
 - One laser printer



THE PROGRAM INHERITED

- Materials
 - Rubylith & Yellow Grid Paper
 - Metal Plates
 - Film
- Chemicals
 - Film Developing (4)
 - Off-Set Press Wash & Preparation (3)
 - Screen Wash & Emulsion (3)
 - Plate Developer (2)







ISSUES WE FACED

- Old Equipment
- Desire for Better Lab Procedures
- Inadequate Plumbing and Wash Area
- Integration of College Learned Applications
- Discussions with Division Chair
- Budgetary
- Stale Curriculum



PLAN OF ACTION

- Year One (2005-2006)
 - Immediately installed a vellum-capable HP LaserJet
 - Immediately installed two HP PhotoSmart printers
 - Discard Filmmaker, Developer, and Plate Burner
 - Request Adobe Software Update
 - Budget request for remodeling of screen-printing room
 - Introduce non-toxic screen wash chemicals by Franmar
 - Review entire curriculum and make necessary changes
 - Prove budgetary savings



PLAN OF ACTION

- Year Two (2006-2007)
 - Add teacher station to computer lab with LCD projector
 - Push for district-wide Adobe site license
 - Discuss Dual Credit opportunity with MVCC
 - Install a second NuArc Image Burner
 - Install a 24" Roland Vinyl Cutter with Cut Studio
 - Renovate screen-print room:
 - Two Deep Well Sinks
 - Non-Slip Floor
 - Second Lawson Power Wash Booth
 - Two Four-Color Screen-Print Machines





PLAN OF ACTION

- Year Three (2007-2008)
 - Install the Adobe CS3 Suite with new site license
 - Remove the two off-set presses and install a Riso RZ990 digital off-set press
 - Activate Dual Credit opportunity for Graphic Arts through Moraine Valley Community College
 - Participate in course name and description updates
 - Continue the enhancement of the curriculum
 - Continue to increase the awareness of the program
 - Introduce an Independent Study option





PLAN OF ACTION

- Year Four (2008-2009)
 - Review curriculum for additions and revisions
 - Unit Guide development
 - Plan for further equipment requests
 - Review the student demographics in the program over the past 5 years
 - Use ideas and lessons learned to other areas of the Department and to sister schools
 - Successful Dual Credit renewal at VJA and CS with MVCC
 - Develop a Dual Credit agreement with Illinois State University for Advanced Graphic Arts





REJUVENATING SANDBURG

- Issues Faced:
 - Much Smaller Space
 - Revolving Door of Division Leadership
 - Older Faculty Resisting Change/Updates
 - Equipment Behind the Times
 - Risk of losing Dual Credit with MVCC



REJUVENATING SANDBURG

- Andrew Curriculum Model
- MVCC Agrees to Keep Dual Credit Agreement
- Purchase of RISO MZ for digital-offset
- Redevelop the Screen-Printing Process
- Removing older equipments to free vital student workspace
- Develop action plan to utilize space efficiently
- Add additional computer lab to handle increased sections of classes
- Increase promotion of the program and student involvement with co-curricular activities





STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

- 8th Grade Step-Up Days
 - Feeder district middle-schools bring their 8th graders to tour elective areas of the high school during the school day
- Parent Open House
 - Held during the evening a week after 8th Grade Step-Up Days, enables parents to tour the school with their children



STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

- Curriculum Fair
 - Opportunity for Freshmen through Juniors to sample the high school elective areas during the school day before registration begins
- SkillsUSA
 - National organization that specializes in CTE area competition and qualification testing
- GraphExpo / Print World
 - Held every year at McCormick Place Chicago in September



WALTER PAYTON CANCER FUND



SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY

- Public Relations
 - Student competition awards
 - Program word-of-mouth
- Return on Investment Possibilities
 - Vinyl Banners & Signs
 - Screen-printing projects for school and community
 - Image transfer-based sales
 - Digital offset-press projects for school
 - Engraver (laser or carbide bit) projects for school



WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD?

- Upgrading the labs to accept Windows 7 and Adobe CS5 (64-bit)
- Looking at other products offered by RISO in digital offset ink-jet printing
- Look at reevaluating the capstone course, develop a 3D Animation & Design course
- Look at adding additional Dual Credit agreements



WHAT IF...

- Starting from Scratch
 - What is needed?
 - How can you propose it?
 - What if you have space limitations?
 - What can be your main selling point to students?
 - Can I promote the Green aspects?
 - How should I budget?



PLEASE REMEMBER...

- Do not take on more than you can handle
- Expect your ideas to take 4-5 years to reach completion
- You are an educator, they are your students
- Graphic Arts is continually changing, do not fall behind
- Ask your alumni what they would have wanted in the curriculum based on their college experiences



QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION



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