

OPAS Motivate Workgroup – “Volunteers in the Classroom” Sub-group Minutes of 3/21/07 4:00-5:00 Teleconference

Attendees: Endi Hartigan, David Coronado, Ben Manny

New Action Items:

- 1) Endi: Revise draft survey to incorporate feedback
- 2) Ben: Include an Overview of the 3 Motivate Sub-groups on the agenda for the next Motivate Workgroup meeting (4/11)
- 3) Dave: Make arrangements to “test drive” the survey at the 4/14 Pre-Engineering Family Conference
- 4) All: Review the revised draft that Endi is will send out with others. The goal is to have a solid draft ready to present to the Motivate Workgroup and “test drive” at the 4/11 MESA event.

Progress on old action items:

Ben

- 1) Investigate surveying Intel volunteers both (current and retired) who log more than 100 hours/year (In process - email exchange with Morgan Anderson, who is interested in talking about volunteering models that work at Intel)
- 2) Tap into Intel Retirees as a source of potential classroom volunteers (In process - attend first Intel retiree board meeting. It will take time to develop this channel.)

Endi

- 1) Check with Di on PR coverage for general article on the impact of volunteers in the classroom, providing contact information for interested readers. (DONE. Di is receptive to PR articles on significant events, new programs or initiatives as they gain structure.)
- 2) Agreed to help compile a survey to solicit desired information on volunteers (Replaced with new 3/21 action item above)

All – Submit survey information to Endi (In process. Draft and verbal feedback have been supplied)

Key points noted from the meeting:

- 1) The purpose of the survey is to obtain information to build models of successful adult volunteer programs
- 2) Survey and models need to be focused on STEM education in the classes room
- 3) It would be useful to learn more about how schools administer adult volunteers in the classroom
- 4) Survey/Model needs to cover at least three areas:
 - a. What motivates adults to volunteer in STEM classrooms?
 - b. What logistics are needed to support adult classroom volunteers?
 - c. Needed training for volunteers/teachers/students on effectively using adult volunteers at the school

Other points noted during the meeting:

- 1) Feedback on the draft survey
 - Purpose of the draft was to initiate the process of constructing the survey. It was not meant to be close to final and committee members were encouraged to comment on any part of the draft.
 - Consider collapsing questions, especially 5, 7, & 14
 - Questions need to be more focused on STEM volunteering, narrow focus of questions whenever possible
 - Add more biographical information such as:
 - Gender
 - STEM professional expertise
 - Restructure 14 by have each sub-item scored on a 1 to 5 scale instead of asking participants to pick top 3
 - Add “Share STEM Expertise” to question 5

- Might be useful to separate initially motivate to volunteer and retaining volunteers
 - Simply ask "What are the reasons you volunteer?"
 - Survey needs to assess "the logistics" of volunteering
 - Survey needs an introductory context and a clear objective of the survey. Survey needs to include a disclaimer that this is NOT to provide feedback on a specific program they have volunteered to support. State it is to help us get more people like you interested to volunteer.
 - May want to consider specializing the survey for different groups e.g.
 - 1) Those currently do NOT volunteer but have interest in STEM based on their attending some STEM event
 - 2) Those who currently volunteer
- 2) We need to give some thought on where to use the survey
 - 3) Web surveys generally get better response rates than other methods
 - 4) We should have a pretty solid draft before engaging OMSI to help on the survey
 - 5) Mary Beth Horton (BEC) is a good source of contacts that work with volunteers
 - 6) Volunteer Model needs to include several areas (more thought is needed here) such as:
 - 1) Attracting & motivating STEM professionals to volunteer
 - 2) Training volunteers/teachers/students on effectively using adult volunteers
 - 3) Needed logistics & infrastructure