



Arts Chair Meeting
Nichols School – Flickinger Arts Center
Thursday March 12, 2015
3:45 pm – 5:00 pm

Present: Sue Nowak (Timon), Caitlin Cass (Buffalo Seminary), Kevin Durkin (Canisius), Bill Parsons (Gow), Veronica Benes (Immaculata), Lisa Baco (Mt. St. Mary), Caitlin Snyder (Nardin), Rose Katz (Niagara Catholic), Kristen Kelly (Nichols), Scott Hosken (St. Francis), Catherine Ward (St. Joseph CI), Rick Bryan (EdCo), Eric Yarwood (EdCo).

Minutes

1. Rick Bryan opened the meeting at 3:55 and everyone introduced themselves. Rick thanked Kristen Kelly for hosting the meeting.
2. An overview of EdCo was given and the value of the collaborative groups that are ongoing. Eric Yarwood talked about the upcoming Mini Maker Faire in May and hoped the arts would be represented.
3. The group took turns sharing concerns and issues. Some talked about the lack of balance in the high school schedules. Some, about the lack of time or scheduling given to the arts. A few teachers talked about their isolation. There was discussion about the value of art in schools, and the need to fight for budgets.
4. The budget discussion moved into a sharing about supplies and the best places to find music or arts supplies.

5. The group moved on to the subject of collaboration. Kristen Kelly talked about past BISSNET arts festivals and some of the challenges: getting kids to participate when they were pulled by sports and other activities, and finding it hard to schedule in the spring around vacation and AP exams.
6. There was some discussion around creating a virtual site to post work by the students and connecting to other festivals at the Albright Knox. That discussion moved into the idea of a Fine Arts Week which was common among the schools, or the concept of Saturday morning workshops.
7. It was agreed that the group would meet again on Thursday May 7th at 3:45 pm in the same site – Kristen Kelly's classroom in the basement of the Flickinger Building at Nichols.
8. The meeting concluded at 4:55 pm