**WPSU Education Subcommittee Meeting**

**Monday, November 2, 2020  
5:00 pm – 6:05 pm**

**Attending**  
Board members – John Pozza, Kate Bennett-Truitt, Kelly Hastings, Donnan Stoicovy   
Staff – Toni Irvin, Kate Berardi, Tamra Fatemi

**Staff Updates**

* Received a GEERS grant from PDE to continue our Learning at Home objectives.
* Continue to do the color-coded program schedules with links to PBS Learning Media assets. Include hotlinks right on the schedules. In November, the links will become bitly links so that we can track clicks.
* Common carriage programming - all 7 PA PBS stations are showing the same schedule from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
* Kate B. – noted that our Learning at Home information and our games are being used. Kate designs the “one page” that is shared out with activities on the back that can be used without a computer or internet access once printed out. This is for elementary age children and shared widely with CenClear and other organizations.
* Shared the changes to the education website pages.
* Marketing updates – sending schedules to IUs, CenClear, PA Keys, YMCAs, United Ways, and Altoona SD.
  + Newsletters emailed out – not being viewed as much as we would like.
  + Using a lot of social media & TV promos for LAH
* Beta project funding through PDE, $50,000 grant to work with IUs to do Raspberry Pi devices to connect with off-line students – 450 devices. Toni explained that this is a pilot program that may be expanded.
* Toni talked about Datacasting; we are going to be using our broadband signal to transmit data to students – GEERS funding will pay for it. IUs recommended districts to pilot the technology with. We will provide the signal, but not the content. A 3rd party will provide the content for the pilot program.
* Kate outlined our recent educational webinars and the offer of Act 48 credits. Current need is for SEL content and assistance. Adding a webinar in December with the Jana Marie foundation. Future webinars with CenClear based on survey results in January/February.
* Toni talked about future initiatives. Meetings with IUs 8, 9, 10 and 11 set up in November and December to outline WPSU resources, LAH initiatives, explain how to use PBS Learning Media assets in the classroom and offer documentaries and panel discussions to teachers to integrate with their curricula. We’d like to work more closely with the teachers.

**Discussion**

* Virtual Field Trips Idea – How to get support and funding?
  + Donnan – historians would love to participate – loves the idea.
  + John P. thinks it’s great. Put it into the hands of the schools and students to get them to fund the field trips. Get the students to be involved. A contest? Some industries would be willing to fund it if their students could be involved in the production. Career readiness might be easier to get funded. The others might be harder to fund.
* Communication Challenges
  + John mentioned IU 6 – Dubois SD. He will try to get the word out at his IU meeting.
  + Kelly suggested curriculum directors as a direct line to the principals and the teachers - also the technology coordinators. Kelly was in IU 10. Consider putting together a committee of teachers to work with. Teachers are required in some districts to have membership in community committees. Schools are looking for Professional Development opportunities. IU 10 doesn’t have the staffing to put together a newsletter.
  + John suggested that after we get feedback from the school districts, ask school districts to host a webinar on best practices. He asked if our website could have other communities post events? Brookville is having a bookstore opening, “Watershed Books,” that will host webinars and workshops and will have PA authors do workshops and talks. John gave Carolyn all of his contacts from ELRCs.
  + Kelly – Suggested that we contact PA touristry for funding
  + Kate – The amount of work the education team is doing is astounding. Virtual field trips are a great idea but we may be taking on too much?

Meeting adjourned at 6:05 pm.