

Sonoma Valley Agriculture Department
November 2nd 7pm

Members in Attendance:

Christina Story, Dan Aschwanden, Karen Ernsberger, Robert Clark, Pat Stornetta, Becky Larson, Emily Pitts, Steven Jackson (ROP), Patricia Biagi (ROP)

ROP Report

- Steven Jackson introduced himself and gave a brief overview of the ROP program
- There is a push to make CTE courses meet career and academic standards as well as be an A-G course.
- Ag Mechanics course outline is up for revision this year. Copies were passed out to review
- Forecast for Agriculture employment – Jobs are steady
 - Robert mentioned many labor companies are cutting back and learning to work with less people
 - Becky mentioned that trained personnel is still in demand
- There was discussion of changing the course of Plant and Soil Science to Viticulture to draw more students and encourage more students to take part in the vit program at the JC
- Our department is well off with so many A-G courses approved

Review of Current Course Offerings

- Christina passed out a sheet listing courses offered at SVHS and what they counted for. 4 year pathway charts were also passed out which demonstrated a path that college bound students could take and a path for JC bound/graduation bound students could take.
- This year the following courses have been submitted for A-G approval: Ag Earth Science (G), Ag Engineering (G), Ag Government and Econ (A)
- Plan to change Plant and Soil Science to Viticulture but would need A-G approval and if a new book is used it would need to go to CAC
- Next year we will not offer Applied Life Science and all sophomores would take ag biology as it is a college prep class

Tool List for Shop

- Danny passed out a current list of all tools needed to make our shop well equipped to teach various levels of ag mechanics
- Some items listed were for a more specific welding class that is currently not offered
- The current welding equipment is really light duty
- Discussion was made about obtaining a cargo container for storing materials. Emily Pitts is looking into finding one at a good price
- Idea came up to have friedmans have a fundraiser for us where 10% of the sales go to the ag shop
- Idea came up to have sponsorship signs in the shop for larger donors
- Idea came up to approach Kiwanis and Rotary
- Danny will work on more specific requests with Robert before the next meeting and have more specific costs.

5 year plan

- One year and five year plans were made and discussed – see attached document

Misc

- Becky and Emily offered to help train some of the officers to do more specific jobs

- A budget should be made for the department and the officers should be given an amount to budget

Next meeting date was set for January 4th at 6:30

Fundraiser dates will be looked at during this meeting

Election of Advisory officers will be held during this meeting

Market animal meetings were tentatively set for January 18th