

**N.E.W. Manufacturing Alliance  
K-12 Outreach/Training Task Force**

January 9, 2009  
Fox Valley Workforce Board  
8:30 a.m.

*Minutes*

Members present: Beth Dulak-Smith, Mary Beth Zeller, Shannon Niccum, Brian Diermeier, Christine Van Vreede, Jim Dennis, Mike Cattalino, Sue Doell, Ann Franz, and Bobbi Miller

**Topic 1: RISE 2 grant**

Two facilitated meetings will be held (February 24 and 26 from 8-noon) to have employers help develop a career pathway for underemployed adults as a result of the \$35,000 Rise 2 grant award.

The goal of these meetings will be to have background information from participating companies, list of resources from technical colleges, identify gaps, and identify minimum requirements for selected career paths. A box lunch and morning break items will be provided.

**Topic 2: Tech Prep Council meetings**

Brian Diermeier (Great Northern), Mark Grassman (Bassett Mechanical), and David Kettner (Outlook Group) will address CESA 6 Tech Educators on January 14. They will be participating in a panel discussion about the skills they look for from employees and introduce the All Star Publication.

December 12 at NWTC 30-40 educators attended a session with representatives from Georgia Pacific, Arrowcast, EMT, and Coating Excellence. In addition to introducing the All Star publication, members showed the link to employee videos.

**Topic 3: Manufacturing careers insert**

The committee discussed working with the Communications Committee to create a “How to Talk to Your Kid About Career Planning” handout to accompany the All Star publication when it’s distributed to employees at member companies.

Sue explained Passport for Success and said that they typically discourage distribution of materials at that event. However, volunteers at the Manufacturing cluster table could distribute it to students who are interested in a manufacturing career (Sue suggested a cover page that highlights the salary page and online version of the publication). This year, Passport for Success expects to serve 5,500 students at four events (Fox Cities, Oshkosh, Waupaca, and Calumet County). Volunteers are still being solicited for Passport events and Sue invited members to contact her at 720-0406.

Sue will distribute the All Star publication to students as she goes to area middle and high schools.

Ann said the publication distributed at the apprenticeship conference in Green Bay.

Other avenues to distribute would be tech prep meetings and orientation nights at area schools.

#### **Topic 4: Career Exploration Outreach (Green Bay and Manitowoc Career Expos)**

December 2 Ann attended a career expo in Green Bay and spoke to students about manufacturing careers. At an event in Manitowoc, 1,800 students (over 2 days) attended an expo and talked to educators about careers.

Ann mentioned that 100 eighth graders are looking for plant tours on April 17. Members discussed how this could be accommodated (splitting up the group, etc.).

#### **Topic 5: Next steps**

The next K-12 meeting will be February 6 at 8:30AM at NWTC.