

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

February 6, 2009  
Northeast Wisconsin Technical College

*Minutes*

Members present: Shannon Niccum, Beth Dulak-Smith, Brian Diermeier, Christine Van Vreede, Jim Dennis, Kelly Foth, Bobbi Miller, and Ann Franz

**Topic 1: Goals for 2009**

Shannon shared that the Steering committee would like each task force to designate a “chair” and identify 2-3 goals and metrics for the upcoming year. Shannon has agreed to chair the task force this year.

The goals for 2009 will be:

Produce a portable K-12 assembly program  
Present 4 high school assembly programs  
Present 2 middle school assembly programs  
Produce two career pathways in CNC Machining and Industrial Maintenance

**Topic 2: RISE 2**

Two facilitated meetings will be held on February 24 and 26 from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. There will be two career tracks:

Electro-Mechanical/Industrial Maintenance

Employers participating: Arrowcast, Coating Excellence International, Georgia Pacific, Little Rapids, Johnsonville and Paper Converting Machine Co.

CNC Machinist

Employers participating: Centerline Machining, Lindquist Machine, Velocity Machine, Robinson Metals, EMT International, Fox Valley Metal-Tech, Paper Converting Machine Co., Innovative Machine, and World Class Manufacturing.

Companies were asked to fill out a spreadsheet listing the occupations in each pathway, wage, skill sets needed, difficulty level in filling position and skill gaps. Representatives from each technical college are also invited to participate in the focus group. The facilitator will compile all of this information into a career pathway with different entry points for individuals and what education is needed for each entry point.

Jim suggested contacting some of the companies he works with that specialize in electro-mechanical technicians (i.e., Boldt, Vos, Miron Construction).

**Topic 3: Educational & Career exploration Outreach**

On January 14, the Alliance addressed CESA 6 Tech Educators. Educators would like to see manufacturers support is allowing employees to go to the school during the day for school conferences related to career planning.

The task force would like to develop a K-12 assembly program that can be used. The program will include:

- Power Point on the facts about manufacturing
- All Star video clips
- Alliance member company information
- Employees from member companies discussing their careers
- Company products/tools used/other hands-on items used by manufacturers

- A visual showcase of all of the items made by member companies (member companies will be asked to send a graphic of their product to used in this piece)

The task force will work on this project for presentation this fall. Each representative agreed to participate in two events (total of 6 events in fall 2009.) Jim said that his company does a presentation at West De Pere High School. Member companies will be contacted that do career speaking and determine what they do at these presentations.

The task force thought it would be helpful to have some guidance counselors discuss their jobs and what they do related to career counseling and career pathways. Bobbi will invite a middle and high school counselor for the next meeting. Bobbi will also find out more about the GEMs event in the Fox Valley.

There may be some money in the federal stimulus package related to a summer youth program for people age 14-24 years old. The workforce boards has requested the task forces assistance, if this bill is passed.

The task force was asked to speak to the NEW ERA "Faculty Dialogue Group" on Feb 13 at 12:30 p.m. A teacher from Forward Bound at East High School in Green Bay invited the Alliance to present in late February or early March.

Nancy Schopf wanted the task force to consider an educator summer plant tours. There was interest in having educators visit manufacturers. Shannon stated that his company has done this in the past. One suggestion was giving the educators some real-life examples of manufacturing work skills/problem solving that can be incorporated into their lesson plans. Members of the task force will send Ann their pre-employment tests, which will be used in developing curriculum for the classroom.

#### **Topic 4: Next steps**

The next K-12 Outreach/Training task force meeting will be held on Friday, April 3 at 2 p.m. at FVWDB.