

**N.E.W. Manufacturing Alliance**  
**K-12 Outreach/Training Task Force Meeting**  
May 7, 2010  
Coating Excellence International

*Minutes*

Members present: Beth Dulak-Smith, Christine Van Vreede, Mark Grassman, John Knickerbocker, Tania Kilpatrick, Dave Reiter, Mary Hayes, Susan Moublow, Nancy Schopf, Bobbi Miller and Ann Franz

**Topic 1: FIRST Leagues promotion**

There was discussion on how to promote the different build projects/competitions at the various schools. It was decided to have link on the Alliance's website for the following programs: FIRST, Formula High School, and Project Grill. The committee will research other potential websites to promote including, a youth/inventors club and Junior Achievement's Titan program. Ann will ask a representative from JA to come to the next K-12 meeting to talk about their programming and how our organizations can align.

**Topic 2: Alliance Facebook page directed at youth featuring All Star**

The Communication taskforce is working on an Alliance Facebook page. A former All Star, Jack Ignatowski an engineer at Manitowoc Cranes, has agreed to provide weekly content. The K-12 taskforce will work on providing themes for Jack to use each week. The committee will shape the content around the STEM National Career Pathway Standards and Wisconsin Career Pathways. Tania will bring this to the next taskforce meeting. It was suggested that there should be some content tied to 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills.

**Topic 3: Trade journals cover sheet**

The taskforce decided to create a sticker that would be attached to the trade journals that are donated to the schools. The sticker will have: "compliments of" with the Alliance's logo, Alliance's website address, along with the company that donated the magazine. Members are encouraged to bring in their trade journals to the next meeting. Tania and John will distribute magazines to math, science and technology teachers.

**Topic 4: Next steps**

Tania shared information about the youth apprenticeship program. Students, who participate in youth apprenticeship, first enroll in courses that prepare the student for work in the field of their choice. The program is either one or two years long with either 450 work hours or 900 work hours. Most of the students are juniors or seniors. Tania needs more businesses to participate in the program. She said that one out of every seven students interested in an apprenticeship program are not placed, due to not having enough businesses involved in the program. Reasons why some companies choose not to participate are: lack of awareness, bad economy and hesitance to hire students. Employers pay for the students' wages. The taskforce reviewed the manufacturing skill sets covered in the apprenticeship program. Mary suggested that some of the skills may not be relevant to the paper industry. The curriculum may need some enhancement, in order to meet the needs of the paper industry. The manufacturers that developed the curriculum were not in paper manufacturing, which is one of the reasons for the discrepancy. Tania encouraged that industry should get involved in the youth apprenticeship curriculum, so it better reflects their needs.

**Next meeting: July 9 at 8:30 a.m. at Coating Excellence International**