

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

August 13, 2010  
Great Northern Corp.  
9:30 a.m.

*Minutes*

Members present: Brian Diermeier, Megan Crary, Beth Dulak-Smith, Nancy Schopf, Ann Franz and Bobbi Miller

Topic 1: Boys and Girls Club/Youth outreach

John Benberg from the Boys & Girls Club of Green Bay explained programs that used to exist independently have now become part of a comprehensive program called Teens 2 Work. The goal of this comprehensive program is to get youth involved in work. John explained that the timing of this program was critical given that the economy has hit disadvantaged youth especially hard.

The curriculum for the Teens 2 Work program is based on a national program and teens who are ready for work placements are working in entry level positions. In addition to the work component of this program, John stressed that students are encouraged to stay engaged with education (rather than succumb to the pressure to get a job and stop pursuing educational goals).

John said it would be beneficial to get input from Alliance members about the skills that should be taught within the Teens 2 Work program. Additionally, he felt that youth might benefit from technology training if that would be something the Alliance could facilitate.

Topic 2: Incumbent worker skills sets project

Ann gave an overview of the results of the July employer session to identify the vision, mission, and goals of the skill set project. Ann will distribute the results of that session with the minutes from the August 13 task force meeting.

Members discussed the skill sets that were identified in July and recommended that a survey be sent to the full Alliance membership in September. In that survey, members will be asked to identify the top 3-5 skills for incumbent workers; then, this task force can dive farther into the competencies that support the top skill sets identified by the full membership.

Topic 3: Trade journals distribution

Ann showed members a label that will be attached to trade journals that will be collected from Alliance members for distribution to regional high schools (through CESA organizations and also available to Nancy Schopf). The labels will identify the company that provided the trade journal and also the NEW Manufacturing Alliance. In addition, the label will prompt students to visit the Alliance website.

So far, Ann has received two big boxes of trade journals from Coating Excellence International. All Alliance members will be encouraged to give trade journals to either Ann (for Bay Area employers) or Bobbi (Fox Valley area employers).

Topic 4: Topics for Alliance Facebook page featuring Jack Ignatowski

This topic was tabled for discussion at the next meeting.

Topic 5: Manufacturing Your Future documentary

Alex Zacharias has now completed the *Manufacturing Your Future* documentary and it is being reviewed by public TV. The Alliance helped fund this documentary and Alex hopes that we will also help in developing some curriculum ideas that teachers could use based on ‘snippets’ of the documentary. Members discussed watching the video in October and the potential of inviting a high school teacher or two to watch the video so we could discuss possible curriculum ideas that could be used by teachers. Nancy said that this should also fit into the youth apprenticeship program and she would bring that document in October.

Topic 6: Next steps

Bobbi mentioned that she had recently been approached by Act2Teach program coordinator, Mike Beeth about a program to get ex-industry professionals with math or science related bachelor degrees to enter a program and become certified teachers. Members felt this topic was of interest and asked if he attend our November task force meeting; Bobbi will check on his availability.

Ann asked the group for their feelings about requesting \$5,000 from the Steering Committee to create 10 \$500 sponsorships for youth programs (FIRST robotics, Project Grill, Mini Chopper, etc.) that support learning more about the manufacturing industry. Members felt this idea has potential but would like to discuss the criteria that would be used to choose events to support prior to receiving sponsorship requests. This topic will be discussed in more detail in November.

Due to scheduling difficulties, it was decided that this task force will meet the third Friday of the month at 8:30AM in the future. Because we do not meet as a group in September, the next meeting will be scheduled for Friday, October 15 at 8:30AM at NWTC in the Business Assistance Center Classroom.