

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

November 19, 2010  
Great Northern Corp.  
8:30 a.m.

*Minutes*

Members Present: Paula Pecore, Cecil Streeter, Brian Diermeier, Mary Hayes, Mark Weber, Amy Seehafer, Megan Crary, Beth Dulak-Smith, Ann Franz and Bobbi Miller

Topic 1: Special guest: Dr. Beeth & Dr. Ladwig from UW – Oshkosh presentation “Alternative Careers in Teaching Program”

Dr. Michael Beeth, UW Oshkosh, and Dr. Tammy Ladwig, UW Fox Valley discussed the Alternative Careers in Teaching Program (act!). They stressed that they are not trying to have people leave careers in industry; however, for some people who have always wanted to pursue a career in education or would like to be trained as an educator, this program offers the ability to do so. The act! Program is specifically geared toward people who have a math or science degree and at least 5 years of industry experience.

The program takes approximately 18 months to complete for people who are working full time and can be somewhat shorter for people who are currently unemployed. Mike and Tammy said they have had people with a wide variety of past work experience apply for the program. The course work is provided as a collaborative effort with a number of public/private colleges and where the student receives the educational credits is not a primary concern for the program (it simply has to be at an approved educational entity). The program is approved by WI DPI and costs approximately \$13,000. the courses that need to be completed are unique to each student based on his/her educational and professional background (most people do not need to take all 37 credits for this program; however, some people will need to complete some ‘base’ courses if they have not had that education/experience in the past).

There are three phases to the program and Phase I is admission; Phase II is PRAXIS I & II (a state requirement) and completing a professional portfolio; Phase III consists of 18 months of student teaching (full time, full days).

Since 2006 there have been 63 completed applications and 24 people have completed the program. The average age of participants is 41 and the student mix is roughly 50% male and 50% female.

Through the National Science Foundation, participants can apply for a \$13,000 stipend (based on eligibility) and most attendees do receive funding. There is also access to a SMART grant that could award as much as \$15,000. To receive funding, students must agree to teach in a high need district (based on free/reduced lunch) but most regional schools fall within this category.

Topic 2: Review Alliance's Facebook featuring Jack Ignatowski, discuss implementation

Ann said that the Alliance Facebook is ready to be released. Initially, a class in Green Bay will be piloting this and will provide feedback to us regarding the usage. Jack Ignatowski will create updates for the followers and we should all consider becoming a fan (you can engage in conversation too!). Jack can post items of interest that will demonstrate to students how math and science relate to real world work. To become a fan, search: Northeast Wisconsin Manufacturing Alliance.

Cecil said he believes there is an Oshkosh North physics teacher that would be interested in using this in his classroom.

Topic 3: Trade journals distribution – magazines will be given to John and Tania

Some trade journals have been received and will be distributed. When they are distributed through CESAs, a label will be affixed to the journal that gives recognition to the company that donated the journal and also lists the Alliance website.

Topic 4: Manufacturing Your Future documentary

Ann will ask Alex to a future meeting to discuss curriculum development.

Topic 5: Incumbent worker skills sets project update

UW Oshkosh is writing the survey and the timeline for distribution is spring, 2011. Mary said that it would be good to have a one page overview of the purpose of the survey and what we hope to learn from it.

Topic 6: Next steps

Joan Turbo had previously connected with the Alliance about a business idea she had for creating job shadowing videos. At this time, she is currently employed by NWTC but continues to work on the video concept and would consider doing something in conjunction with the Alliance as part of her 'side business.'

At a Steering Committee strategic planning session, the committee suggested that this group target 5 school districts which should make our marketing/engagement efforts more manageable and would also make it easier to collect data on our outcomes.

Ann was contacted by a parent of a Green Bay area robotics team regarding funding. Potentially, funding programs like this could be added to our scope of projects in 2011.

Next meeting: Friday, January 21 at Fosber America. Address is 1333 Parkview Road, Green Bay.