

MINUTES

A-TECH GOVERNANCE BOARD MEETING

DATE: October 18, 2017

TIME: 4:30 PM

LOCATION: Appleton West High School- Room 136

MISSION:

The Appleton Technical Academy graduates students who possess the knowledge and skills necessary for successful entry into the career pathways of modern advanced manufacturing.

OPENING REMARKS: (President's Report) Jared Bailin

Unable to attend: Phil Sabee, Steve Straub and Paul Lindberg

Eagle Performance Plastics had a booth at the Career Fair at FVTC. Many companies were represented and many are looking to fill machinist positions! There were quite a few attendees that expressed interest in welding.

Jared introduced Mr. Steve Meyer, from Fox Valley Technical College. Steve, originally from Iowa, whose background is in Math, took some time to introduce himself to the board members. His wide range of work experiences, include most recently, establishing the STEM education program in Brillion. The program has been extremely successful in the Brillion School District. Including extensive community involvement and contributions, creating two new Engineering Facilities. This experience lead his journey to the FVTC as the STEM Education and Development Manager. He is looking forward to this newly created position, and excited about new and challenging opportunities, both within FVTC as well as the Fox Valley community, including A-Tech! Steve's involvement with A-Tech is uncertain at this time, but he is hoping he can be a part of the A-Tech program in some capacity! He is a strong proponent of Technical Education at all grade levels. He feels that technical education is extremely important for a well-rounded education! Not only does it excite students, helping education be more enjoyable, he also believes that technical education, with the engineer thinking and problem

solving aspect, can be an asset to whatever career path a student may choose. He feels passionate about trying to eliminate the misconceptions about the manufacturing world. He is working with teachers and the AASD to improve and implement curriculum.

OLD BUSINESS:

Approval of previous minutes:

MOTION: Wes Fietzer

2ND: Chris Linn

Motion Pass unanimously

CNC Capital Campaign update: Chris Linn

Chris spoke about the continued fundraising efforts.

Potential sources:

\$10,000 Grant from Kimberly Clark

Harbor Freight Grant

Perkins Grant

Appleton Education Foundation

Mark McQuade felt confident that with all of the potential possibilities, the fundraising goal will be reached. If indeed, the grant comes through from Kimberly Clark, then the fundraising total would only be \$5000 short of the goal, and plans could be made to move ahead, with the assistance of the AASD, to purchase the CNC machine. The hope is, that it will be installed by the second semester, January, 2018. Students will be introduced to the processes on a minimal basis, with formal education beginning the Fall of 2018.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Principal report: Mark McQuade

Mark mentioned that representatives from Ashley Furniture toured A-Tech and were impressed with the program. He received positive feedback from their experience. It would be wonderful to be able to have them get involved with the A-Tech program, in some capacity.

Website: Still working on arranging updates to the A-Tech website:

News Feeds etc.

Steph Gorges, one of the tech coordinators at AWHS, is out on maternity leave, so patience is needed for updates to be completed. People are visiting the site; a family from DC Everest area visited A-Tech because of information on the site.

Working on have a “video invitation” for Wilson Jones, the CEO of Oshkosh Corporation to increase interest in A-Tech from businesses. May have to outsource project, as Joe Gorges, who has assisted in the past, is overwhelmed at this time with other projects.

Internship opportunities continue to be a challenge. Some companies have expressed concerns of internship students, working within the manufacturer, if they are under 18 years of age.

Budget: At this time, the budget from the district remains the same, he is waiting for a potential budget adjustment.

A-Tech Open House: Businesses will be invited to attend. Hoping to encourage more company involvement, in particular in the area of Mechanical Design. Striving to have more connect between employer, community and student.

The ACT scores have come in, and although A-Tech scores could have been better, he felt positive with the success of the A-Tech program in particular:

100 % Graduates

83% FVTC-Post-education

7% Military

3% 4 year college

7% Direct Employment in field of studies

A true benefit of the program is that college credits are being earned while attending high school.

A-Tech offers engaging curriculum to encourage student success.

Academic Career Plan Program-‘Xello’, assists with different career and learning paths. This will help students, who plan to continue their post high school education path, to pursue a degree in areas of experience and interests. Some students tend to pursue further education, in areas that they haven’t had any exposure to with classes while in high school.

Professional Development: Teachers are working with Understanding by Design (UbD) to continue to use best teaching practices. One of our points of emphasis is in the delivery model, Gradual Release of Responsibility (GRR) to encourage students to have “productive struggle” which is when students learn best.

Lead Teacher Report: Paul Lindberg-not present, no report at this time

Marketing/Student recruitment: Chris

Advisory Committee will be meeting soon. Items they will be discussing:

- 1) Internship opportunities
- 2) Interview process
- 3) Regulation/safety concern of businesses: how to solve
- 4) Connecting businesses with students

The NEW Manufacturing First Expo will be next week. First Business Bank will be sponsoring a booth for A-Tech.

Chris Linn and Jerry Clish will be present, as well as three A-Tech students and Paul Lindberg. Having the students present at the expo has been a great asset in promoting A-Tech, as visitors then get the students perspective.

The team at the booth are hoping to gain more interest from companies. Special thanks to Exhibit System, for their assistance in designing the banner that will be used at the booth!

The Marketing committee is in need of more members, interested people should contact: Chris Linn at: clinn8197@gmail.com

Curriculum: Steve Straub-not present

Steve Meyers shared information he received from Steve Straub:

Efforts being made to increase Automation (AMS) Program. Dual enrollment classes are affecting FVTC enrollment.

Community Partnership: No report.

Budget & Finance: Steve Haas-no report

NEW BUSINESS:

Strategic Plan:

Many of the original items in the plan are coming to fruition. Will need to consider rearranging some topics as several points may be under several different sections.

Discussion for updating the plan:

Since it would be difficult for the entire board to reconvene for an extended amount of time, to update the whole plan, it was suggested that the plan could be divided into sections, to be discussed at future board meetings.

The Strategic Plan will be e-mailed to all Governance Board members, and the board members will re-read the Strategic Plan on their own time.

Prior to each board meeting, Jared will notify the board members, regarding which section of the Strategic Plan will be discussed. He will also include his own thoughts and ideas up for discussion. Everyone can then review that specific information and be prepared to discuss it at the upcoming board meeting.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

Chris Linn

2ND: Wes Fietzer

Motion passed unanimously.