

# MINUTES

## A-TECH GOVERNANCE BOARD MEETING

**DATE: November 15, 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.

### **Present:**

Mark McQuade, Jared Bailin, Jerry Clish, Paul Lindberg, Steve Haas, Cathy Pfister, Chris Linn, Kari Christoph, Steve Meyer

### **Unable to attend:**

Phil Sabee, Wes Feitzer

**OPENING REMARKS:** (President's Report) Jared Bailin

Jared to speak on other following topics below.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Approval of previous minutes:

Motion: Jerry Clish

2<sup>nd</sup>: Steve Haas

Motion passed unanimously

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Principal report: Mark McQuade

Recent open house for businesses provided and opportunity for quality time spent and great conversation. Much interest expressed from attendees in the A-Tech program. Gary Janke, AEF President, gave great insight on the win-win experience regarding internships.

Much thanks to Chris Linn and Paul Lindberg in the assistance of preparing for the open house as they did a wonderful job!

The next Business Advisory Board meeting will be looking into Career and Life and skills.

**Budget**-Considering we are at 1/4 way through the school year, the budget is in a good position right now. There was a slight decrease in the overall budget, due to a small decrease in the student enrollment numbers, as previously predicted.

**Lead Teacher Report:** Paul Lindberg

The A-Tech teachers are working to fine-tune the rating scale approach, as previously discussed, with the students. Students are to grade themselves, every quarter throughout the school year and provide explanation for the rating. Through conversation with the teacher, they will mutually discuss the rating level. Conversations are changing to include the employability mindset. This helps the student to understand where they are in the growing process as there is always room for improvement to prepare them for the working world.

**Marketing/Student recruitment:** Chris

NEW Manufacturing Expo experience was a success, from the banquet held the night before, to time spent with peers during the expo. Contacts made for potential high school partnerships. Two of the businesses contacted at the Expo were attendees at the November 7<sup>th</sup> A-Tech open house. A generous donation from Greater Northern Corporation was one of the positive outcomes of the event!

Paul Lindberg and Jared Bailin were guests at the awards banquet. Each was a nominee for an award.

Insight on Manufacturing-IOM magazine, featured a wonderful article on A-Tech. The magazine is currently available online and will be in print by next week! The magazine featured a picture of an A-Tech female student, creating a positive image of women in manufacturing jobs!

As a result of this publication, Paul Lindberg was contacted by someone who would like to offer some assistance in marketing the A-Tech program!

Steve Meyers mentioned that he will send a link of the article to members on an technology education list-serve, which is a contact list that includes contact information from 700 companies.

**Curriculum:** Steve Meyers, from FVTC-presented on behalf of Steve Straub

FVTC-has budgeted to continue offering the Pathways program: funding for teachers regarding training in Dual Enrolment classes. As a school, they are trying to be proactive and be in line with high school course offerings.

Steve mentioned that there is a WTEA conference that he is involved with, and felt it would be great if A-Tech would consider being a presenter at the conference.

At the NEW Manufacturing Expo, Steve found a common thread within the manufacturing companies, stressing the need for employees to be trained in the Automation field.

FVTC will be offering classes for teachers to learn about several topics, including 3D printing.

Chris and Steve both spoke about the possibility for A-Tech to host summer camps. This would be an attempt to reach out to younger students to increase interest in the A-Tech program.

**Budget & Finance:** Steve Haas

Mark will create a summarized report, to be presented at the next board meeting, with the A-Tech account balance information.

MIT Invest Grant-giving the opportunity for an educator to attend their campus. After attending, the educator would receive grant money to use in their school

setting. They would return to MIT at a later date to make a presentation of how the grant was used at their school.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **CNC Capital Campaign update:** Chris Linn and Paul Lindberg

Paul was pleased to announce that to date, \$29,000 has been pledged toward the purchase of the CNC machine, so he will be placing the order. The machine should arrive in 6-7 weeks. Preparations are in place to be prepared when the machine arrives. Paul anticipates that formal instruction will begin in the Fall of 2018.

With the additional donations still a possibility, discussion ensued regarding creating a maintenance/tooling account. Paul will reach out to other high school programs who have similar machines, to see what their yearly tooling/maintenance costs are, to be able to plan on how much should be set aside in that newly created account.

Paul would like to see the next focus expanding A-Tech program offerings to be in the area of Robotics, Automation, Laser, etc., thus, creating excitement among the A-Tech students and to encompass a broader base of students.

## **STRATEGIC PLAN REVIEW:**

Review and update SWOT analysis-(strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats)

Jared spoke about that many items on the Strategic Plan have advanced or been completed, making the plan in need of a revision.

Several considerations:

- 1) "Champion" designations need to be revised as some people are no longer involved with the A-Tech program.
- 2) Several current board members were not involved in creating the original plan.

Discussion continued, the majority of the board members felt that a larger amount of time should be set aside to review the plan. The opinion was that it might be difficult to just address one section at time.

Mark suggested that since the A-Tech teachers should be involved in updating the plan, time could be set aside on February 19. This is a scheduled staff development day, making the A-Tech teachers more readily available.

Mark will look into the possibility for someone from the district to serve as a potential facilitator, to take the lead during the Strategic Plan update meeting. This person would help with the process of updating the plan along with the A-Tech team. Suggestion made to meet with this person prior to the scheduled meeting in February, so that they would gain valuable insight to the goals and achievements of the A-Tech program.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN: Chris Linn**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: Jerry Clish**

**Motion passed unanimously**