

MINUTES

A-TECH GOVERNANCE BOARD MEETING

November 28, 2018

4:30 pm

APPLETON WEST HIGH SCHOOL – RM 136

MISSION

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

WELCOME:

Present: Paul Lindberg, Mark McQuade, Jared Bailin, Steve Haas, Cathy Pfister, Wes Fietzer, Chris Linn and Jerry Clish

Unable to Attend: Phil Sabee, Kari Christoph and Steve Meyer

OLD BUSINESS:

Approval of previous minutes

Motion to approve: Steve Haas

2ND: Wes Fietzer

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Principal Report: Mark

Steve Haas and Mark are working to solidify the budget accounts and expenditures, so that detailed information is available to present to potential business owners when soliciting supplies and funds for the A-Tech program. Mark discussed the budget, attached.

The activity account balance has increased by \$5,000, due to the generosity of Jared Bailin and Eagle Performance Plastics. Jared has also pledged an additional \$10,000 over the course of the next two years! Thank you!

AASD provided temporary funds to be used to purchase the CNC Mill that was installed earlier this year. Mark is confident that the district will be repaid by the end of the year with the many donations pledged and received by community partners!

The district is creating an online general application for families that will be used when registering for any of the district charter schools.

Mark spoke again about the need for extensive consideration regarding applications submitted for potential A-Tech students, particularly 11th and 12th graders. This will be done to ensure that they will be a good fit with the A-Tech program! If a student is credit deficient, for example, it can be nearly impossible for them to be successful in the rigorous A-Tech program.

Lead Teacher Report: Paul Lindberg

The students have been on numerous field trips: Murphy Concrete, Luvata, the N.E.W. Manufacturing Fair and Career Day in Oshkosh. Students had to prepare a resume for the career day experience!

Paul made some adjustment to the field trip schedule, to allow for more opportunities in the late winter/spring to keep the students more engaged!

Senior A-Tech and House Construction students earned first place, in their category, for a float well done for the Appleton Christmas parade! It was sponsored by Boldt Construction and the Children's Hospital.

The students continue to work on the table order for the men's hair salon that was mentioned previously!

Paul Endter and Paul Lindberg went to Optima, which makes packaging machines for food service. They have expressed interest in being a part of the A-Tech program. Concerns expressed about the distance that students would have to travel to get to the facility regarding potential internships and it's primarily an engineering firm. Paul invited them to come see the A-Tech facility.

Bayside from Green Bay is planning to visit the A-Tech program next week.

Paul will be visiting a parent open house at Kaleidoscope soon. Einstein offers a "Charter School Day" in which all students gain information regarding all of the high school

charter school opportunities within the district. Paul will be going to Wilson and Madison in the near future.

The STAR Program (Scholars on Target to Achieve Results) at Appleton West is led by: Enya Roach and Sherman Calloway. This program was developed by the Boys and Girls Club to narrow the achievement gap. Mark and Paul have been working with the leaders to try and encourage minority students to consider being a part of the A-Tech program.

The new Haas machine has not been used by students yet. Paul anticipates about 2-3 students will be able to use it within the next few months.

Mark showed board members the new A-Tech website that is being created with the assistance of the Stellar Blue Company. The hope is that it will be more user friendly, informational, readily accessible and appealing! Also, internship opportunities will be highlighted.

Overall, the board was pleased with the new look and the suggestion was made to continue to have a news feed on the website to highlight current information! Discussed also the need for keeping the website up to date!

Marketing/Student recruitment: Chris

Chris spoke about the success at the N.E.W. Mfg. Expo, once again, thanking First Business Bank for their sponsorship. Also a thank you will be sent to Alliance Manufacturing, who covered the cost of the transportation.

Appleton West teachers, Kelly Barkovich and Paul Endter, met with Chris Linn to work on creating an A-Tech profile for the Xello program, which is a career planning program used at West!

There will be a parent open house in January or February.

In the near future, Mark and Jon Meidam (AWHS/A-Tech School Counselor) will be meeting with the middle school Guidance Counselors and Tech Ed teachers to give them a good idea of what a future A-Tech student profile would look like! This will give them well-rounded knowledge, as they work with their middle school students in planning for high school. Perhaps Mark and Jon will be given names of potential A-Tech students as well! Consideration being made for having an informational table set up in the middle school cafeterias to peak student interest! The hope is that they will be able to gain interest, perhaps even prior to the district registration time frame!

The business contact list is in need of updating. Jared's administrative assistant, Lori Eaton, from Eagle Performance Plastics played an integral part in the assisting with the

updating process! The hope is, that the list will be “coded” into groups, to know the level of participation of each of the businesses within the A-Tech program. Chris would also like to add key city/state officials, such as the Appleton Mayor and State Representatives to the contact list as well! Discussion needed regarding who will be responsible to keep the contact list up to date.

Curriculum: Steve Meyer-not present

Budget & Finance: Steve Haas

Steve and Mark McQuade have been working together to gather historical data and analysis of the budget/needs of the A-Tech program.

NEW BUSINESS:

Strategic Plan “Re-Frame”: Jared Bailin

As Jared reflects over the past 5 years of A-Tech, he is pleased how the program has progressed, the curriculum has been solidified etc.! However, as he considers the future, he sees a critical time approaching, such as: board member terms expire, student enrollment becomes stagnant, potential staff changes in the future. He made the suggestion that the board “revitalize the strategic plan”, and he presented a format, (see attached) which he feels is: more visual, easier to comprehend and puts topics in a more relatable format. With a more simplified plan, Jared feels that a board member would be assigned to each one of the areas of focus! This would allow a more concentrated effort to achieve desired goals!

He sees some of the top goals as:

- 1) Build up student enrollment
- 2) Financially self sustaining
- 3) Building strong brand awareness
- 4) Solidifying board member commitment

Overall the new format was well received. Jared suggested that the board members review the new format, and come to the next meeting with input/revisions/suggestions.

The suggestion was made for creation of a Program Director position for A-Tech, as that has been their experience with other Charter School programs. It was stated that this person sole focus could be to oversee the entire A-Tech Program, including all the points of interest in the Strategic Plan! Jared stated that he would be willing to serve as a Program Director, due to the unavailability of funds to support a paid position, as he has adjusted his own daily work schedule to allow time to support the A-Tech program.

It was also suggested to create a procedure manual, of sorts, so that as board/staff members change in the future, the school continues to run efficiently.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

Chris Linn

2ND: Wes Fietzer