

## MINUTES

A-TECH GOVERNANCE BOARD MEETING  
DECEMBER 21, 2016  
APPLETON WEST HIGH SCHOOL RM 136 4:00 PM

### 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.

#### 1. WELCOME:

Unable to attend: Katy Kornowske, Phil Sabee

Present: Greg Hartjes, Jared Bailin, Paul Lindberg, Kari Christoph, Steve Haas, Chris Linn, Jerry Clish, Wes Fietzer, Steve, Straub,

#### 2. OLD BUSINESS:

Approval of previous minutes

Motion to approve: Wes Fietzer

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

#### 3. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**Principal Report:** Greg: Budget: current balance: \$14,000. Per Paul Lindberg, A-Tech stock inventory is at a good level at this time. Received donations of aluminum from FVTC and Muza Metal. Recent expenses: repair to damaged gears in a lathe machine. Repair made with keeping in mind the need to be more durable for student use.

Activity Fund Balances:

\$2000-Scholarships

\$3000-Money set aside for student need/safety equipment etc.

\$4000-Undesignated

Question was raised how increased enrollment affects budget. Budget allotment .1 FTE=\$7500. The charter school has the ability to "cash in" the FTE allowances to add money to budget. What is the level for an increased FTE? Greg mentioned that there is a formula, but approximately; 5 students=.2 FTE

Ideal enrollment:

Junior-24

Sophomore-22

25 would be the maximum, space could be a problem with a number increase beyond that.

Welding contact: Greg has made contact with Pierce through Chris Linn. He mentioned that he now has 3 welding contacts!

January 10<sup>th</sup>-20 students will go to the McCarty Road facility for Pierce Mfg. The instructors are making an effort to have students attend who have a strong interest in pursuing a welding career.

Health class has now been included in the A-Tech schedule. Initially, it was a course that needed to be taken through West, but it was difficult finding time in A-Tech course load. Safety in the workplace is one of the area of focus taught through the Health Class.

Open house: January 9<sup>th</sup>-A-Tech Postcards were sent to 1200 8<sup>th</sup> graders. The district may cover the postage cost. Confirmation of receipt of the postcard was provided by in-house staff family members .

The next open house is scheduled for February 28<sup>th</sup>. Consideration being made for an additional open house late April.

Greg is pleased with current enrollment numbers for the 2017-2018 school year.

### **Marketing/Student recruitment: Chris**

Hoping to build off of previous contacts, to raise awareness of the A-Tech program. Committee continues to work on promotion video with 2 A-Tech graduates. Using input of potential future employment opportunities. May also offer further education experiences, including different family histories involved. Hope to highlight how A-Tech prepared the student for FVTC success. Plan to finish filming in late January with completed project projected to be done by the February open house. Continue to work on creating an A-Tech student profile. Chris also spoke

about some ideas that the Leadership Team (from the 2015-2016 school year) suggested, that have been tabled for the time being.

### **Curriculum: Steve Straub**

A-Tech website and mobile device accessibility is appealing. Great resource for parents. Great comprehension of A-Tech program.

**Community Partnership:** Tim McKeag was not present at this board meeting. Greg mentioned he will look into updating the business contact list with Tim.

### **Budget & Finance: Steve Haas**

Committee still discussing and gathering information on capital needs/replacement cost to try to plan for future needs. Paul continues to work on obtaining this information, but struggles to determine costs etc. Some of the equipment is used by West, as well, so district money input needs to be considered. There are also yearly maintenance cost to consider, which will be different than in a production setting. Plan to contact manufacture to help determine life span. May be a shorter time span due to the inexperience of the students using the equipment. Greg mentioned that he will also speak with Dale Hanson, as a five year charter school wish list was created initially.

## **4. NEW BUSINESS:**

### **President Report:**

Jared, along with other AASD Charter School Governance Board Presidents, met with Dr. Brandt. They plan to meet every 3 months to strategize about charter school process and procedures. Every meeting will offer valuable insight. There are government changes that will be beneficial to charter schools. WISN “grant money”, in tune with state and federal laws. Two charter schools changed their status to “Magnet Schools” as they couldn’t meet the required diversity standards.

The A-Tech minutes are now available on the A-Tech website with Paul Lindberg’s assistance. Greg encouraged Paul to have Steph Gorges be involved as she is West’s IT person.

**Kari Christoph-** A to Z Machine Company, Human Resource Manager (135 employees) , introduced herself to the board in consideration of becoming a board member. Kari, along with A to Z, have been very involved in offering youth apprenticeships for high school students at A to Z. She has a strong connection to A-Tech and FVTC. She makes presentation to high school students to encourage pursuing a career in the trades. She has been a part of the grass roots movement. At A to Z, through the apprenticeship program, she teaches life skills to the youth apprentice and also works with focus groups who tour A to Z. She is excited to have the opportunity to be a part of A-Tech and looks forward to the continued success of the program! The board members felt that A to Z, which has grown tremendously over the years, has a great reputation of working with the students and the board members feel that Kari would be a valuable addition to the board. Later at the end of the board meeting, Kari removed herself from the room, as the board members voted unanimously to have her become the newest member of the A-Tech Governance board!

It was mentioned that the district is trying to move toward career based learning for students in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade and beyond. Looking for desired pathways for post-high school education: career pathway, 2 year, or 4 year college plan.

**Strategic Planning meeting: Greg**

Date set for February 17, 2017 12:00-4:00 PM at Eagle Supply and Plastics-refreshments will be provided. Due to this meeting taking place, it was unanimously decided that the February A-Tech Governance Board meeting, scheduled for 2/15/17 should be cancelled.

Mary Hanson from FVTC, is interested in offering a 10 hour OSHA 10 training course. A-Tech instructor, Marcus McGuire has expressed interest in attending this course. This may be offered to the students as well. The cost is \$15 per person. The board felt that this would be beneficial.

**Haas Machine Center for Education-Jerry**

Handouts were presented for consideration. Benefits include that it would not require a lot of floor space. It is a vertical machine, with good specifications. Auxiliary items are not included in the \$18,000 price. Paul has sent information to electricians to discuss specifications. This will offer CNC training to the students. At

the present time, none of the A-Tech instructors are CNC trained, however the Haas website offers specific training and information. Kari also offered that A to Z Machining may be able to assist with the training!

When the question was posed to Kari, if she felt that this training would be helpful with new hires/youth apprentices, she confirmed that it would be a great asset. The question was raised about the maturity level of the students to be able to benefit from this exposure. It was mentioned that it would help students in the designing factor. At the present time, Paul confirmed that 5 students would be ready for this training. It was felt by the board members that the evolution of A-Tech needs to include training on CNC machines. Tim Turner, of Haas Corporation, could highlight benefits as well. Company support is there for the educators, but it was suggested in the purchase contract to include a clause that would require a return phone call from the company within a 24 hour period.

Capital Expenditure concern mentioned. Fundraising will be needed and the board felt there was the potential to approach companies that would benefit directly from this training for our students. It is easier to ask companies for donations if they can see how their dollars are spent, vs. intangible. Maintenance costs will also need to be considered.

It was decided that a small committee (Jared and Paul) will meet with Tim Turner. The committee will make a presentation at the next board meeting. Then discussion will follow laying out a preliminary plan, fundraising, maintenance money to be set aside, etc. Discussion involved if Haas would consider paying for trip to their factory upon purchasing this equipment? Consideration to be made to purchase this prior to the beginning of the 2017-2018 school year.

In addition, it was also suggested that companies may be willing to donate specific items to the A-Tech program that are not being used in their shop.

**5. MOTION TO ADJOURN: Wes  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Chris**