

ATECH GOVERNANCE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

FEBRUARY 17, 2016 4:00PM

APPLETON WEST HIGH SCHOOL ROOM 136

WELCOME:

Present: Greg Hartjes, Steve Straub, Chris Linn, Tim Mc Keag, Jerry Clish
Unable to attend: Jared Bailin, Wes Fietzer, Phil Sabee, Steve Haas, Katy Kornowske

OLD BUSINESS:

Approve minutes-Greg

Greg mentioned that the Governance Board Meeting minutes need to be placed on the ATECH website, per Charter School guidelines. He will mention that to Paul Lindberg.

The District has decided (due to student enrollment) that next year, a .2 FTE teaching position will be added. This would equal 1 teacher, teaching one class for the entire school year. The final numbers will be realized the 3rd Friday of September. Part of this position (.1) will teach a Health class (offered every other year, to maximize class numbers) Suggestion made that 1 month of health class curriculum should focus on safety training) If the ATECH student numbers would increase, more staffing hours would be added.

Motion to approve: Tim

2nd: Jerry

NEW BUSINESS:

Budget Report-see attached. Greg used the information from the district budget report and created a more user friendly report. Some reimbursement, for supplies purchased, will be received through the Tim Mayer Fund. District budget money CAN be carried over to next school year, however, Greg mentioned that the board

may question why, however, carry over could be justified by stating a long term saving goal for larger future purchases.

SCHOLARSHIPS:

Greg provided 3 scholarship applications as examples, see attached. He would like board members to review the applications and give input to help create an ATECH scholarship application. A suggestion was made to simplifying the scholarship application form. Greg personally, sees little value in asking for letters of recommendations. He would prefer to hear directly from the students, stating their future career goals etc. Greg asked for board members to make suggestions so that an ATECH scholarship application could be created. Suggestion made that volunteers could help the students complete scholarship applications in the future.

Greg stated that Renaissance School has hired a part time coordinator to oversee student's activities: such as: field trips, post- secondary goals, community experiences. He suggested that ATECH should consider hiring a coordinator such as that, as the current instructors are having difficulty juggling all aspects of giving a well-rounded education experience to the students.

ATECH MACHINE SHOP VISIT (2/10/16)-Jerry Clish:

Jerry stopped in, unannounced, to visit with ATECH students working on a toolbox project. Very impressed with students attitude and behaviors. Very focused, self-driven and knowledgeable of task on hand. Students he spoke with, felt challenged in ATECH program. He was well received by students. Students expressed having challenges with applying learned math skills to problems encountered when working on project. Jerry also mentioned that a student struggled with how to "hold piece" when working on it.

Suggested that perhaps a lesson could be taught about work holding techniques to help see the overall picture of task at hand. This experience shows a positive example of a volunteer helping students with projects. Great experience for both "teacher" and students!

The question about teaching units of measure was brought up. Greg said the subject is taught in science. Units of measure are important in the manufacturing trades.

BUDGET/FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Trying to create a frame work of a 3 and 5 year plan. Comparing expenses and donations. "Planned Capital Expenditures". Once plan in realized, can start to raise donations for specific purchases, vs. a "general donation".

MARKETING/STUDENT RECRUITMENT COMMITTEE:

Two areas of focus:

Students; Influences considered:

Peers, parents, neighbors and teachers

Businesses; Influence considered: Benefits

Greg mentioned that there are 13 new students registered at this time, he felt that was on the right path as 15 seniors will be leaving the program this year. Felt this was a strong number as no real strong pitch has been made to area schools at this point. Paul will be going out into the community as time progresses. Great turnout at student/parent Open House. Will have one open house every month for the remaining of the school year.

Positive reactions to the Governor Walker mentioning Manufacturing Charter Schools in recent article and speeches.

Greg mentioned that AASD school curriculum should be more geared for use of day to day math, vs. trying to achieve the highest level of Math (Calculus) when not needed/applied in workforce. Introduction of Technical Math to the curriculum would be beneficial. Once you can apply learned math skills in the working world, it comes to life!

(Also, side note: 48 % of 2010 Appleton West graduates attended FVTC)

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE:

Welding path laid out from handout at last meeting. Consideration made to bring in instructor from FVTC regarding Automation, to transition from high school to tech program. Concepts of programming; basics. Some of these ideas being presented to ATECH instructors. A 3 day summer institute will take place at FVTC. Further details to follow.

COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE-(4/28/16)-Chris Linn:

Chris would like all Governance Board members present. Leadership team has been in touch with business contacts to attend the open house. They wrote an announcement regarding the Open House for Insight Magazine. However, it references the ATECH website, but open house information is not available on webpage. Kari will be in touch with Paul to arrange that. Suggested that there should also be an RSVP to know the numbers of attendees that are expected.

MASTERCARD STATEMENT: Paul was not present at meeting, so this was tabled.

CONSIDERATION TO PURCHASE A NEW BENDER MACHINE: This idea is being tabled until overall picture is realized with budget goals and constraints etc.

SKILLS USA-FVTC COMPETITION:

This is an all-day event-4 ATECH Students will be participating. 2- Math, 1- Welding and 1- Machining. Paul will be taking the students to this event, but cannot help the students at all. This is a new experience for ATECH students. Gives an opportunity for students to join together with fellow colleagues. Competition is a motivator! It was suggested, that afterwards, students should be highlighted to peers and on the ATECH website for their accomplishments. It was asked that for Paul Lindberg should attend the next meeting to give a report on this experience!

FTGOTG:

Paul Endter, an ATECH instructor, stopped in the classroom as the meeting was taking place and he gave VALUABLE feedback to improve the ATECH program. Encouraged board to find quality students. Felt there was a missing piece to the

education process: Community! “Kitchen to Job” aspect! Encouraged to get students out in community to see things firsthand! Gets students excited! Consider once a month field trips, rotating shifts, so as not to overwhelm business. Interaction and involvement with FVTC as well!

FVTC has two opportunities for students:

Manufacturing Job Fair

Engineering Preview Night

Jerry suggested highlighting local businesses. People who succeeded in the business world by attending a technical school vs. a university. Those who stayed in the area and are very successful!

Chamber of Commerce offers job shadowing opportunities. ATECH students have taken advantage of this opportunity!

Decision made to have instructors attend the next board meeting: from 4-4:30. The Leadership team will make a presentation from 4:30-5:00.

MOTION TO ADJORN:

Jerry Clish

2nd Tim McKeag

Respectfully submitted:

Linda Bunge

ATECH Secretary