

NEW Manufacturing Alliance  
TECH ED TEACHER SOLUTIONS MEETING NOTES  
NWTC – Green Bay, WI  
February 8, 2017  
*Minutes*

Attendees: Tom Barnhart, Michael Beeth, Andy Bushmaker, Joe Draves, Corey Hansen, Oran Nehls, Tina Nowak, Andy Rinke, Dave Stroud, and Ann Franz

**Topic 1: Updates from technical colleges and UWO regarding courses/degree programs**

Mike reported that enrollment at UWO has increased from 4 students in the fall to 7 in the spring term. There are currently 3 people in the program utilizing the Alliance's scholarship program. He is finding that many people are learning about the program from their principals. Mike is presenting at the WTEA and the Wisconsin Science Technology Education Association's conferences. Tina asked if the WTEA provides professional learning credits that can be applied to the UWO program. Dave shared educators receive one credit from UW La Crosse for attending the conference. Mike believes that the credit can apply to the UWO degree. UWO and FVTC continue to work on a 2 + 2 degree program.

Andy Rinke asked is there value in creating an A.A.S for a degree in Tech Ed Assistant? There is currently a degree in Individualized Technical Studies A.A.S. This program is customizable and could possibly have the courses that are in the Tech Ed Assistant degree. The consensus is there is a need for the program. Andy shared document of equivalent courses between UW Oshkosh and FVTC. There is more to do reviewing equivalent programs, in which both Andy and Joe will be working on in the future. Andy also reviewed the UW Stout B.S. Technology Education (distance delivery) program. Many of the courses can be taught by the technical college. He will be reviewing this document and identify equivalent courses. All agreed that having educators enroll in courses that are transcribed courses would be of great benefit. The teachers would then be certified to teach the course for credit in the classroom.

**Topic 2: Connecting schools with the Alliance's grant opportunity**

Ann has a call out to CESA 6 about the Alliance's scholarship program. Connecting with all of the CESAs in the New North would be beneficial, since they have contact with all of the schools. Tom shared teacher job openings should be posted starting in April. The Alliance can reach out to schools seeking tech ed teachers about the scholarship program.

**Topic 3: Pilot manufacturers donating an employee to team teach**

Andy Bushmaker shared that he has an employee that might be a good fit to teach at Bay Link in the fall. Tina will be going back to her team to discuss who will pay for the individual to work at the school. Denmark High School/KI project is another example of industry working with the schools to assist in teaching content area and providing real life problems for students to solve. The taskforce discussed having a content expert from manufacturers to assist a tech ed teacher whom doesn't have expertise in a specific area. This is a shorter commitment of time. There needs to be a survey to the schools asking them what content areas they need help finding someone from industry to instruct in the classroom. The Alliance needs to encourage more companies to replicate the KI/Denmark High School project.

**Topic 4: Communication strategy about the shortage of tech ed teachers**

WTEA has developed a careers in tech ed poster that is being displayed in the classroom. Communicating to retired manufacturing employees about sub opportunities might be another way to increase the number of educators available. One issue is many of these retirees do not have a Bachelor's degree, which is required to be a sub.

**Topic 5: WTEA**

The WTEA conference will be held on March 1-3, 2017 at Wisconsin Dells. Tom shared that the Alliance is going to be recognized at the Awards dinner for its partnership with WTEA. Andy and Ann will be co-presenting at the conference. Dave is the regional representative for WTEA. The organization has 50 mentors that are helping nontraditional tech ed teachers. The WTEA is working on having a statewide advisory board. The organization is seeking summer externships

**Topic 5: Next steps and next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on April 12, 2017 at 4 p.m. at NWTC. The June 12 meeting will be held at FVTC.