NEW Manufacturing Alliance
STEM TASK FORCE MEETING MINUTES
Bemis Innovation Center - Appleton, WI
Wednesday, May 29, 2019 – 3:00 PM


2019 GET REAL MATH (GRM) & PREMIERE – SPECIAL AWARD
NEWMA’s new videographer began GRM filming today at Pierce Manufacturing and Oshkosh Defense. The company cost to have three videos produced is $3,500. Payments cover videographer and lesson plan writer fees. The Alliance does not make a profit but feels there is great value in providing teachers and students with these unique learning materials.

New for 2019, math teachers are currently voting for their favorite GRM video. Their #1 pick will be aired at the GRM Premiere on 10/1/2019 and the Excellence Awards dinner on 10/29/2019. Both events host many educators. This year’s GRM Premiere may include the ACP Toolkits for educators in attendance.

PAPER DISCOVERY CENTER UPDATE & FEMALES IN STEM OCCUPATIONS
The Paper Discovery Center integrates inspiring science, art and history that is connected to Wisconsin’s heritage. They are housed within a historic paper mill overlooking the Fox River. Offerings include; field trips, summer science series, and adult workshops and events. Their field trips host roughly 5,000 students each year.

The Paper Discovery Center is changing into a Science and Technology Center. They would like NEWMA companies to partner with the new Center. The plan includes a kiosk that can showNEWMA GRM and All Star videos. They would like members to think of additional resources that could be provided.

Females are needed to fill STEM roles, so the redesign will also focus on getting girls interested in STEM. They are reaching out to women to talk to them about what their STEM job is like. How their job is important and allows them to make a difference is discussed. The GRM videos featuring females are another opportunity for them to share why they enjoy their job and why their job matters. The hope is to get girls 1:1 to show how they can be creative and different on the job. Organizers are looking for grants to fund this initiative.

Another program called, “Smart Girls Rock’ has girls learning about nontraditional careers. This will be the 5th year where approximately 100 freshmen and sophomore female students from several Fox Cities regional schools will attend the one-day event at a company. The students experience group speed mentoring with 24 women in STEM-related professions, as well as participate in other interactive activities which will expose the students to in-demand STEM careers. The mentoring portion of Smart Girls Rock! allows young girls to set career goals and start taking steps to realize the realities of those goals. During the speed mentoring sessions, small groups of students will move through interactive stations, comprised of panels of professional women as well as hands-on activities that range from solving a crime scene to virtual welding and engineering to 3D print technology.

The lack of females in technical fields in the classroom and industry is very noticeable. Most females don’t place into first year calculus. They need more math when entering to get an engineering degree; otherwise, completion takes too long. Sometimes they stop taking math classes, setting them behind in whatever they end up deciding to pursue. Math is critical to a lot of other careers besides engineering. Being able to apply math to a real life scenario makes it easier to understand, especially when learning statistics. Encouragement and role models are needed starting in elementary school. Opportunities for kids to learn outside the classroom are also needed. The Alliance should focus on messaging that manufacturing careers ‘Make a Difference,’ which is important to females.

NEWMA’s ACP outreach survey will be sent to manufacturers again in August and will have questions that can further help tap their talent for the classroom setting and bridge the gaps. Targeted results are shared with each regional school
district at the 10/29/2019 ACP meeting. Teachers need to know who in the industry can teach a piece of their curriculum. In the email that announces the survey, Ann will share that NEWMA is also looking for female STEM mentors willing to go to the schools to reach out to girls.

**‘YOU CAN MAKE IT IN NORTHEAST WI’ CAREER EXPOS**
Tabled for the 7/24/2019 meeting.

**NEXT MEETING DATE/TIME/LOCATION/AGENDA**
The next STEM Task Force meeting will be on Wednesday, July 24, at KI in Green Bay from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. Agenda:
- ✓ Get Real Math & Premiere
- ✓ ACP Outreach survey
- ✓ Paper Discovery Center Update
- ✓ Females in STEM Occupations
- ✓ ‘You Can Make It in Northeast WI’ Career Expos