NEW Manufacturing Alliance  
K-12 Outreach Task Force – WebEx Meeting Minutes  
Friday, July 17, 2020  
8:30 – 9:30 AM


COVID-19: ALLIANCE & MEMBER UPDATES
The Alliance updated its COVID-19 Directory. 40+ member companies are featured. School districts are starting to reveal how they will be conducting fall classes. Most plans will be announced by August 1. Schools have been varied in their response, as the State is leaving COVID changes in local control.

UWGB classes have been sorted in tiers to establish the method they can be taught – online, hybrid, or in-person. Synchronous online learning gives students a more in-person class experience. There has been a lot of movement with schedules and space as modalities change. Masks are required. UWGB has been working with CESA administrators to roll-out their new online academy. This allows high school students to not miss out on dual credit.

GBAPS has formed nine work teams to solidify their opening plan. They hope to have their proposal finalized by the end of the month. Elementary school students will likely be face-to-face in the classroom. Middle and high school students will have blended learning. Transportation is a major issue.

GPS is planning to begin classes in-person, with masks required. New juniors have four in-person days, one virtual day. New seniors will have three in-person days, two virtual days. Returning students will have two in-person days, two virtual days, and one day at the workplace. Contingency plans are being made in case GPS must go fully virtual again.

FVTC is trying to keep their in-person classes at 50% occupancy, roughly nine students to one instructor. A lot of students have not registered for classes yet, making it very difficult to predict what is happening. Steve shared that some K-12 teachers have expressed anxiety due to the different structure. Kids are not going to the cafeteria for lunch and will be eating in the classroom. The schools are enacting different mask requirements. Schools are also concerned about what happens if a teacher or student contracts COVID. The number of K-12 substitute teachers is limited.

NWTC is focusing on getting students to register for classes and physical distancing. Masks are required. More time than ever has been spent on scheduling and moving classrooms. This can mean teaching math in a fabrication lab. Welding, machining, health, and public safety programs require students be on campus. The College wants to limit congregating and minimize how much time students spend interacting. Furniture has been spread out and/or removed. Without knowing the final student count per class, it is difficult to know if the chosen rooms will be sized adequately. Blended classes are being offered as much as possible. The cafeteria will continue to be kept closed.

Students will complete a brief health survey each morning before coming to class and encouraged to stay home if they are ill. There are concerns if a student or instructor tests positive for COVID and are trying to plan as best they can. Some NWTC programs have only one instructor, making good health essential.

EXCELLENCE IN MFG/K-12 PARTNERSHIPS AWARDS VOTING & PLANNING AWARD RECOGNITION
Excellence Awards (Education-Manufacturing-Community Partnerships) voting concluded. Ann will contact the winners. Members are asked not to share the voting results until August 1.
The Manufacturing First Conference will be conducted virtually this year. Members discussed the possible format for this year’s Awards Dinner. 2019 hosted 425 attendees; however, this year having that many people would be difficult. Even if the venue can accommodate that many people, it may be uncomfortable to have that many people in the room. One option is to only allow up to 6 people per winner, which would be approximately 80 attendees. Each table would seat attendees from the same company or school.

In the past, each winner received two free tickets, purchasing more if needed. Ann will ask the winners if they would likely attend an in-person event. The video compilations will still be done. Ann will coordinate with A to Z Machine Company the manufacture of the awards. The auction will be conducted virtually. 2021 All Star award winners will be invited to next year’s event, combining 2021 and 2022.

Ann will need to confirm the event with the KI Convention Center by the first week of September. If the State or County mandates the event cannot take place, the Alliance would not be charged. If the event must be cancelled, it could be combined with 2021’s Awards Dinner. In addition, another venue could be used for this year’s event due to Manufacturing First Expo not being part of the Awards dinner. An online magazine could be published that shares the 2020 winners’ stories. There will be more clarity by the next K-12 Task Force meeting on 8/21/2020.

**EVENT/PROGRAM UPDATES**

- **Get Real Math (GRM)** videos were not filmed this year.
- **Earn & Learn Draft Day** is being postponed until May 2021, as Lambeau Field will only allow 50 attendees. A handful of Earn & Learn students are working in the FVTC and NWTC regions. Although the employability skills app that was discussed is no longer being used, Allyson shared that they are moving forward with teaching these skills utilizing the Strengths Finder theme.
- **ACP Roundtable, October 20** – The roundtable is usually hosted as part of the Manufacturing First Conference and is a premier educator/manufacturer collaborative event. Schools will need more help than ever. Members will explore hosting the event virtually.
- **Student Career Exploration at the Manufacturing First Conference** – Members would still like to expose students to careers. INSPIRE Sheboygan County held virtual job shadows last spring that the Alliance is looking to replicate for our area. The STEM Task Force will be conducting virtual job shadows for STEM careers. The virtual job shadows can be recorded and embedded in a unit. Lunch and Learn sessions could be hosted. The Booth Central platform can be utilized to host virtual events.

Ann will contact the schools to get feedback regarding their needed programming and what days would work well to host an event.

**K-12 OUTREACH SURVEY**

The survey will be administered to member manufacturers in early August to identify their partnership interests (including virtual) at their desired school districts. This data becomes part of the ACP manufacturing careers toolkits.

**NEXT MEETING DATE/LOCATION/TIME/AGENDA**

The next K-12 Task Force WebEx meeting is on Friday, August 21, 2020, 8:30 to 10:00 a.m. Agenda:

- COVID-19 Updates
- 9th Annual Excellence in Mfg./K-12 Partnerships Awards - Format
- Student Programming in Fall
- Earn & Learn Updates
- Upcoming Alliance Events & Programs
- Next Meeting Date/Time/Agenda