

**NEW Manufacturing Alliance**  
**STEM TASK FORCE – MS TEAMS MEETING MINUTES**  
**February 15, 2023 – 3:00 to 4:00 PM**

**ATTENDEES:** Daniel Angell-KI, Brian Conrad-GNC, Cassy-MTU, Claudia Damiani-Atlas Science Center, Katelyn Desrochers-NWTC Student/Advocate, Kacie Gossens-Alliance Laundry Systems, Peter L'Empereur-AK Crust, Steve Meyer-FVTC, Keith Polkinghorne-AriensCo Museum, Ann Franz-NEWMA, Debbie Thompson-NWTC

### **YOU CAN MAKE IT CAREER EXPO**

350 7<sup>th</sup> graders from Greenville and Hortonville Middle Schools will be participating at the March 21 event. 28 organizations will be providing hands-on activities. Students rotate six times, in 15 minute intervals. After the break, another group of students will participate in the afternoon using the same format.

### **GET REAL MATH/SCIENCE**

Two \$5,000 sponsors are needed to fund two science and two math videos. Instructors work with the sponsor companies to identify problems and create the lesson plans. Filming takes place in June, while the Premiere is held in October. The sponsorship funds also provide two \$500 prizes awarded to a school's math or science department. At last October's Premiere, EMT International won the filming of two GRM/S videos for this year. Ann reached out to companies that sponsored last year and will be sending an email notification to the entire membership tomorrow to solicit sponsorships for this year's videos.

### **MIND TREKKERS – A MICHIGAN TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY PROGRAM**

Cassy, of MTU Mind Trekkers, discussed their flagship program. Events have been held in 15 states and 2 countries, reaching 2.5+ million people. Their mission is to spark curiosity in students of all ages through STEM hands-on engagement, career exploration, critical skill-building, and leadership development. They address the skills gap and are built on self-discovery. Students chart their course, mingling to what grabs their eye, at each event that can host up to 100 exhibits. Here is a link of some of the demonstrations: [Demonstrations | Mind Trekkers | Michigan Tech \(mtu.edu\)](#). Another link from a past event: [This video](#).

#### **Overview**

- Model: Mind Trekkers (wraparound concierge service), Local Partners (connection to students), Industry Partners (funding & support)
- Events are held in a convention center, gymnasium, or other large venue. Typically, venues are 10,000 sq. ft. with high ceilings and hard floors.
- Serve 2,000 to 10,000 people – This is dependent on venue size.
- School field trips & open to the public – Events are usually scheduled for 2-3 school days, including a Saturday public event.
- Powered by MTU students – Anywhere from 20-50 Mind Trekkers run the event.

The cost scales with the event's length and size. Ann is looking to potentially host a Mind Trekkers two day event at NWTC or another technical college. Both NWTC and LTC have hosted the event in the past. Day one would be held on a Friday, with the following day (Saturday) open to the public. The College will let Ann know next week if they are interested in being a host site. If not, she will reach out to some other colleges to see if they would be interested in serving as the host site. MTU has spring 2024 dates available. Thousands of students would be expected to attend.

Six presenting \$5,000 sponsors would be needed. The cost is free for attendees. Our own components could be added to the day. Marquee sponsors would have their own space at the event. Weather dependent, some activities could be held outside. Other activities, depending on their requirements, could be held at various locations within the college.

Katelyn Desrochers shared she served as an MTU Mind Trekker. It was a great leadership experience for Katelyn, while promoting STEM to students. Questions included:

- How many students can get through the event in a designated timeframe? Members would like to get as many kids through the event as possible.

- Can food be brought in?

Ann will follow-up with the STEM Task Force and contact other potential venues should NWTC be unable to serve as the host site. She will also follow-up with Cassy, of MTU, when more details have been confirmed. The goal would be to host this each year at a different technical college in partnership with NEWMA.

### FEMALES IN STEM EVENTS

Ann had a meeting with the Girls Scouts and they are excited to work with the STEM Task Force. A couple of opportunities were offered.

- **October 21, 2023** - 50 to 70 Girl Scouts (4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> Graders) can be hosted at a company on Saturday, 10/21/2023 morning. Girls would rotate three stations. Completers would receive a participation badge. The Girl Scouts would help determine hands-on activity ideas. There is no cost for a company to host the event. Another location could also be accommodated. Members are encouraged to contact Ann if they are interested in serving as a host site.
- Virtual Boat Build – The Girl Scouts would be given a kit to construct a boat. A live, virtual presentation will discuss how to construct the build. A North Coast Marine Manufacturing Alliance member will discuss boat building and the industry. Two virtual boat build events, fall and spring, will be held.

The females in STEM event at the PAC for 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> grade girls has been put on hold. This will be dependent on the Mind Trekkers event being confirmed, as these events require significant funding.

### TECH ED TEACHER SUMMER EVENT

Members are looking to host a one day, tech ed teachers event on June 13 or 14, 2023. With the WTEA onboard, Steve Meyer feels a one day event will result in greater attendance. Last summer's event, cancelled due to a lack of registrants, was going to focus on airplanes.

Potential fun/exciting event activities were discussed. Ideas included touring Gulfstream Aerospace and the FVTC | SJ Spanbauer Aviation & Industrial Center. Steve will be meeting with EAA reps that could provide a great tour of some of their new items. Ann will follow-up with Gulfstream Aerospace. A venue will be rented to host an evening social. The date will be finalized soon so the event can be promoted at the March WTEA Conference and in *Interface* magazine.

### UPCOMING NEWMA EVENTS

- February 22 NEWMA Lunch & Learn – Change Management, 12:00 to 1:00 PM
- March 3 Winning with Wisconsin's Workforce - FVTC, 8:00 to 9:30 AM
- March 8-10 [WTEA Conference](#) – Wisconsin Dells
- March 14 Quarterly Full Membership Meeting (Virtual), 8:30 to 10:00 AM
- March 21 You Can Make It Career Expo – at Greenville Middle School
- April 1 SeaPerch Underwater Competition – at Ashwaubenon Community Pool – Volunteers are needed.

### NEXT MEETING

The next STEM Task Force meeting is scheduled for 4/26/2023, 3:00 p.m. This meeting is being planned as an in-person gathering at AriensCo Museum in Brillion.