

**NEW Manufacturing Alliance  
K-12 / STEM Joint MS Teams Meeting  
Friday, November 17, 2023 - 8:30 AM**

**ATTENDEES:** Carli Bostedt-Packer Fastener, Valerie Brooks-CESA 8 & 9, Leah Bruess-CESA 6, Amy Charais-LaForce, Brian Conrad-Great Northern Corporation, Karen Coonen-AASD, Becca Droessler-CESA 6, Ann Franz-NEWMA, David Gordon-CESA 7 / NEWYA, Stephanie Heinritz-Menasha HS, John Katers-UWGB, Pete L'Empereur-AK Crust, Chris Lipski-Vantage/Abaxent, Sara Peotter-Belmark, Jeff Poch-NWTC, Christina Stelter-Alliance Laundry Systems, Mark Weber-EMT International, Debbie Thompson-NWTC

**RECAP: OCTOBER - MANUFACTURING MONTH EVENTS**

**Excellence in Mfg./K-12 Partnerships Awards | 10/24/2023**

There were 262 registrants. A record \$25,000 was net for NEWMA's scholarship fund. For next year's event, members would like to increase school recognition, without extending the time of the event. This could include having winners bring a student project(s) for display during the cocktail reception prior to the Awards dinner.

**ACP Partnerships Roundtable | 10/24/2023**

Teacher externships were discussed as a way to help educators better understand industries, giving them a new perspective. Externships, usually conducted during summer, allow teachers to shadow at a business to learn how they can better prepare students. CESA 8 has facilitated educator externships, followed by having them write teacher lesson plans based on what they learned.

The task force would like to create a guide for businesses to create their own externship. Ann will work with CESA 8 on identifying best practices and will research what companies currently host externships. These best practices will be shared at the next K-12 taskforce meeting and will lead to hosting a Lunch & Learn on externships in 2024. The goal is to also host a 2024 summer externship pilot with 20 educators. The educators invited will be from both core classes like math and science along with tech ed teachers.

Another issue that was discussed at the ACP meeting was how to assist students not going on to college and directly entering the workforce. Members suggested creating a video that discusses the company onboarding process. Teach students about common company benefits (health insurance, disability, etc.), direct deposit, background check, drug screen, tax forms, the need for a state issued ID - the overall paperwork / information the company will need to add them as an employee. Teenagers and young adults may not feel comfortable saying they do not understand something. The video could be titled *Success for your First Week on the Job*. This will be a 2024 work product.

In an effort to improve the business / education connection, Ann will be sending a survey to the schools to determine their best point of contact. This information will be added to the NEWMA website.

**Industry Tours for Ripon & Laconia High School Students | 10/20/2023**

Ripon High School's principal Bill Kizinger expressed interest in getting additional supplies and materials. Please contact him if you can assist with:

- Welding coupons (1"x3") 11 gauge and 16 gauge - made from mild steel.
- Miller Maxstar 210 TIG welder(s).
- New laptops for running CAD software.
- More seats of a CAM software where students can program CNC machines from the classroom instead of the one computer at the machine.
- New Printer Head for Epson Sure Color 640600.
- Cordless power tools (drills & reciprocating saw).
- "Saw-stop" table saws (x2) - to add an additional layer of safety to the shop and upgrade the current table saws which are difficult to utilize.
- Cover bus expenses to take students out of the classroom for industry field trips.

## **Manufacturing First Conference – Student Career Exploration | 10/25/2023**

A record 1,150 people attended along with 218 exhibitors. 292 high school students participated in career exploration. The event and bussing ran smoothly and received a lot of positive feedback from industry reps, educators and students. Brian Conrad also shared that many students expressed their appreciation for having the opportunity to connect with the businesses.

## **Employability Skills Video**

There have been hundreds of views of the newly released videos. 412 views of the 12 minute video and 354 views of 30 minute video were noted. Totals do not include student numbers of those shown the video(s) in a classroom setting.

Members discussed other videos, like communication, in addition to the company onboarding requirements, which could be produced to educate students. Topics could include basic written, verbal, and phone communication skills, body language, the importance of reading emails, and communicating if they decide to not attend their scheduled job interview. Show examples of good and bad practices. This type of video could be produced in 2025, if we do not produce the *Success for your First Week on the Job* video.

Other suggested videos include promoting maintenance technicians, tech ed classes, and their related careers. Teachers may need resources and training to help make these classes fun for students. In response, Ann shared that a machining video will be created in 2024 and an industrial maintenance video will be created in 2025.

## **Get Real Video Premiere | 10/3/2023**

There were 177 registrants. Videos featuring Alliance Laundry Systems, KI and EMT International premiered. The new *How to be Successful in the Workplace* video, featuring ten member companies, was also shown.

For the 2024 Premiere, Ann would like to giveaway toolkits, as was done in 2022. This gives companies another opportunity to donate and be recognized, in addition to helping supply regional tech ed teachers.

## **PLANNING: YA SPOTLIGHT PODCASTS**

A 2024 work product will be to include YA students as podcast guests. Walker Forge employs a female welder that could possibly serve as one of the 2024 YA podcast guests. The task force will work on other ways to spotlight YA students in 2024.

## **MIND TREKKERS | FEBRUARY 15 & 16, 2024 | NWTC'S GREEN BAY CAMPUS**

Event sponsors, \$5000 each, are still needed. Sponsorship includes a booth at the event and your company's logo on the t-shirts that will be given to the estimated 3,000 student attendees. Your company will also receive recognition via the event's promotional materials. AK Crust has signed on as an event sponsor. **The deadline to register for a sponsorship is December 15. Contact Ann for details.**

## **UPCOMING EVENTS & PROGRAMMING**

12/13/2023: Quarterly Membership Meeting at Fox Valley Technical College, 8:00 to 10:30 AM. Be sure to [REGISTER](#) for this free event.

## **NEXT TASK FORCE MS TEAMS MEETINGS**

K-12: 1/19/2024, 8:30 a.m.

STEM: 1/24/2024, 3:00 p.m.