

**NEW Manufacturing Alliance
K-12/STEM taskforce meeting**

February 11, 2026

Teams

8:30 a.m.

Minutes

ATTENDEES: **Aria Ard**-Georgia-Pacific, **Cindy Bailey**-NWTC, **Kurtis Butrymowicz**-Hart Design & Mfg., **Brian Conrad**-Great Northern Corp., **Becca Droessler**-CESA 6, **Ann Franz**-NEWMA, **David Gordon**-CESA 7, **Ben Krull**-Wolf River YA , **Pete L'Empereur**-AK Crust, **Emily Morris**-RGL Logistics, **Cyndi Paveleski**-CESA 6/Inspire WI, **Melissa Samuels**-ErgoFactor/Brown County First Robotics, **Shannon Seamen**-Oshkosh Chamber, **Christina Stelter**-Alliance Laundry Systems, **Emily Tietyen**-NEW Water/Brown County First Robotics, **Michelle Todzy**-LaForce, **Eric Ward**-Wrightstown High School

Topic 1: 2026 Winter/Spring NEWMA sponsored events

January 28 & 29 – NWTC STEM Expo – 2,500 middle school students

February 19 & 20 – FVTC's Mind Trekkers – 1,500 middle school students

March 6 – Empowering Women in Manufacturing at Pierce Manufacturing – new event 60-80 students

March 7 – SeaPerch Underwater Robotics competition – 100 plus students – **volunteers needed**

March– Nominations go out for YA Award

April 15 - Future Fox Cities Career Expo – 2,000 high school students

Topic 2: Plan Future All Star YA Awards on May 6, 2026 at WI Timber Rattlers

This is the 3rd year of the Future All Star Awards. New this year is a special Awards dinner in conjunction with the 2026 All Star Awards. The event is May 6 at the Wisconsin Timber Rattlers. The taskforce brainstormed some ideas for the Awards dinner. Between 5 p.m. – 6 p.m. have fun activities that would include All Stars at:

- Batting cage available.
- Career Pitching Mound
- Putt – Putt competition
- Career trading cards
- Name that tool
- Behind the scene tour of the ballpark
- Employability Skills Home Run Derby
- Brat cannon

This year we will award 4 Future All Star YA winners. Members discussed updates to the past nomination form. After the meeting, Cyndi suggested having a question around the DPI Career Readiness standards specific to Career Ready, Learning ready and Life ready skills through their YA experience. 2 sample questions:

1 How has this Youth Apprentice demonstrated Career Ready, Learning Ready, and Life Ready skills through their Youth Apprenticeship experience?

Please provide specific examples that show their growth in career awareness and preparation, problem-solving and applied learning, professionalism, communication, leadership, or responsibility.

2 In what ways has this Youth Apprentice made a meaningful impact on your workplace while preparing for their future education, training, or career?

Please share a story or example that illustrates why this student deserves recognition.

Nominations open on March 3, due April 1, taskforce votes April 8. The Communications taskforce will be also working on planning the May 6th Awards dinner.

Topic 3: New STEM event: drone competition

There may be an opportunity to fund a high school drone competition through the Pentagon.

Brown County First Robotics presented, see attachment of their PPT.

Topic 4: 12th grade hiring fair

Ann is working with Green Bay schools to determine a date for the hiring fair that will also be available to other students throughout the region.

Topic 5: Next agenda for March 11 at 8:30 a.m. via Teams meeting