

# MINUTES

The Upper Mississippi Manufacturers Alliance (TUMMA) K12 Taskforce  
Thursday – February 11, 2021 2pm-3pm **ZOOM Meeting due to COVID-19**

## Attendees:

Kevin Ruetten (TUMMA, Western Technical College), John Belmonte (Mitotec), Lindsey Seipp (Holmen), Tyler Ludeking (Western Technical College), Matt Simpson (Trane), Kelly Lauferberg (INLAND), Ed Johnson (NECAL), Jared Schaffner (Onalaska High School), Erik Sjolander (WKBT), Joel Mindham (CESA5), Amanda Langrehr (CESA4), Chris Wehrle (DuraTech), Andy Kazmierczak (LB White), Stacey Everson (La Crosse School District), Brian Cashman (SE MN), Nick Wobig (SE MN), Mary Ann Smith (SE MN), Brad Heinrich (TRANE)

John Belmont called meeting to order at 2:02pm

## 2021 K12 Taskforce Planning Key Areas

John Belmont opened the meeting to discuss and finalize the key areas the group would like to focus on for 2021

## **New key areas for 2021 discussed and finalized for 2021**

- Educate and update TUMMA members on INSPIRE
- Continue Tech Ed / TUMMA events in spring and fall. Spring 2021 virtual and possibly in-person in Fall 2021
- Collaborate and communicate on the manufacturing Seven Rivers Regional Career Pathway
- Award TUMMA scholarships and attend scholarship award nights at high schools to present them
- Communicate virtual format to educators on the opportunities of Q&A sessions with students and manufacturers

## Agenda Items

### CESA 4 Updates

Amanda reported an Inspire Coordinator is now in place to assist that initiative move forward.

Amanda Langrehr gave an update Regional Career Pathways grant presentation on the new template being developed with the assistance of regional manufacturers.

The template will list job titles and the education or certificates needed to obtain those positions.

Very positive feedback of the template and educators excited about the simplicity of it!

YA program and updates on placement of students; Amanda shared many YA students getting ready to be placed in spring and summer YA employers to complete their on the job hours.

### CESA 5 Updates

Career pathways and program update

Joel reported that they now have a manufacturing, construction, health care, and new IT pathways developed and continue to move forward to learn tips that he can share with CESA4 as they develop their templates and pathways.

YA program and updates on placement of students is still strong; about 75% of normal, but still great numbers in placing high school students.

Workforce Development Board you tube channel being used to communicate programs.

New TUMMA website being designed ...

What items would educators like to see on this web site to be a valuable resource?

Brainstorming session as we are developing the new web site right now; so great time to add things

John Belmonte lead discussion with below results:

Recording meeting presentations to share and maybe create blog

Link to Career Pathway templates at CESA4

Link NEWMA's Real World Math videos

Link to NEWMA's new STEM videos

Link to Western Technical College course offerings

Apprenticeship (Youth and Adult) information to students and parents

Youth apprenticeship locations where they are taking place; success stories

Spot Light success stories of youth working in the manufacturing sector "how they got started"

FAB LAB information for educators

Videos of regional manufacturers and the products they produce

K12 grants and infrastructure assistance TUMMA stories of supporting these

Links to area colleges

Contact availability to Kevin Ruetten to direct parents and educators to the right resource

Manufacturing month activities or calendar

TUMMA Scholarship taskforce beginning to promote 2021 TUMMA scholarships

10 - \$500 scholarships being offered to those seeking careers in manufacturing

Kevin to send out posters and information to CESA4 and CESA4 to distribute to schools

Kevin to send to current email contacts within K12 Taskforce

Work with Western Technical College to make sure all their web site information is accurate

Reach out to 2020 scholarship winners for testimonials for web site

Deadline is roughly the end of March to get results out for high school scholarship nights; but will keep scholarship applications open until end of April or May as technical school students sometimes wait until late to decide on their future education path.

Western WI Workforce Development E3 WORKS!

Reminder of the work experience program that is available to 16-24 year olds that are not quite sure what career they want to go to school for.

The program places young adults with an employer for 6 to 8 weeks where the Workforce Development Board pays the wages and workman's comp insurance during that timeframe.

Ryan and Kevin will share success stories within manufacturing for the new web site.

Manufacturers Q&A offered to high school and middle school classrooms via ZOOM

Kevin reminded educators that TUMMA members are open to host virtual meetings with classrooms

Matt Simpson reported that he has done multiple sessions with regional high schools

INLAND has also attended virtual events in SE MN with students

"Round the room"

K12 school COVID 19 updates

Kevin just stated that if any schools need assistance to reach out

Meeting adjourned 3:00pm

**Next meeting**

**Thursday, April 15, 2021 – Virtual ZOOM meeting due to COVID-19**