

MINUTES

The Upper Mississippi Manufacturers Alliance (TUMMA) K12 Taskforce
Thursday – June 11, 2020 2pm-3pm **ZOOM Meeting due to COVID-19**

Attendees: John Belmonte (Mitotec), Kevin Ruetten (WDB/Western Tech College), Joel Mindham (CESA5), John Zimprich (Western Tech College), Lisa Chellew (SE MN), Kelly Laufenberg (INLAND), Amanda Langrehr (CESA4), Steve Johnson (Logan High School), Tyler Ludeking (Western Tech College), Steven Schauf (Sparta High School), Lindsey Seipp (Holmen High School), Erik Sjolander (WKBT), Stacey Everson (La Crosse School District)

2020 K12 Taskforce Planning Key Areas

Group achievable goals for 2020 reminders

The following were identified as areas of focus:

- Educate and update TUMMA members on INSPIRE and XELLO
- Continue Tech Ed / TUMMA events in spring and fall. Spring 2020
- Target students with manufacturing career info at HS class registration time (Sept, Oct, Nov, Dec timeframe) and look for community events and school events to promote manufacturing careers at these events
- Award TUMMA scholarships and attend scholarship award nights at high schools to present them
- Continue to penetrate high school and middle school career pathway discussions with students, teachers and parents about manufacturing career benefits and opportunities

Agenda Items

FAB LAB support and updates

All schools that applied seemed to be awarded dollars for the first time; about \$1Million distributed
TUMMA will continue to communicate with schools in our region on assisting them with decisions

CESA 4 Updates

XELLO / INSPIRE update as part of the State Grant a Inspire Coordinator will be developed
Regional Career Pathways grant has been approved to proceed with a manufacturing and health care career pathway. Amanda will begin working on this grant in late August and then ongoing.
YA program remains strong throughout the COVID 19; currently 10 in manufacturing YA placements

CESA 5 Updates

They are beginning to work on an IT Pathway which is new; they have had the manufacturing career pathway for a few years; along with construction, transportation.
Joel will be focusing on virtual job shadows and virtual interviews for the fall school year.

2021 TUMMA Scholarship discussion to pass along to scholarship taskforce

5 Scholarships were awarded in spring of 2019.

Tyler Ludeking talked about the new two plus two programs through Western Technical College.

K12 Taskforce will be asking the scholarship committee to consider other Tech colleges and possibly even Viterbo's engineering program.

Connect with more high schools to let them know about the scholarships

Make the scholarship non-college/tech school specific

K12 school COVID 19 updates

Stacey from La Crosse School district shared ideas that are being discussed

Teachers travel and students stay in groups and same rooms

Small group tours – guest speakers (maybe outside presentations)

Steve from Logan stated they will have to follow county health requirements. Hoping to have at least small groups do “hands on days” as it is critical to the learning process for some students

Manufacturers are going to be asked “What are you willing to do?” as far as visiting schools or having small groups to your facility.

Possibly bring in logistic experts and get creative on interacting with students, teachers, and parents.

Steve from Sparta envisions a hybrid approach in the fall with on line learning and hopefully some small groups of hands on for certain days each week. Students stay on one machine.

John Zimprich from Western Technical College BIS stated they are working on training to do virtual tours and invite anyone from this K12 Taskforce to come with and follow process.

“Round the room”

Steven Schauf from Sparta is concerned about machining in the high schools.

Sparta will have no CNC program this fall. Right now metals and welding are separate and most students normally choose welding because that is what they know.

Suggest “canned projects” that a portable CNC project that can move around to multiple schools.

Portable traveling table top or small desktop machines that can promote the program.

Need to get machining into curriculums and TUMMA will work with CESA4 new grant to address.

Machining as a class with ¼ doing welding and ¾ doing machining

Course of action needed! “Titans of CNC” or something to market to get kids exciting.

Kevin will follow up with Steven and Amanda as CESA4 pathway grant develops.

Meeting adjourned at 3:01pm

Next meeting Thursday, August 13, 2020 – Virtual ZOOM meeting due to COVID-19