

DATECH GOVERNANCE BOARD MEETING

Meeting Minutes

January 20, 2021

4:30 PM

MEETING WAS HELD VIA GOOGLE MEET

Mission

The Appleton Technical Academy graduates students who possess the knowledge and skills necessary for successful entry into the career pathways of modern advanced manufacturing.

Opening

The regular meeting of the ATECH Board was called to order at 4:30 pm.

Roll Call - Present

Ryan Scherer, Board President, Director of Operations - Miller (ITW)
Scott Ascher, Board Member, Director of Robotics, Werner Electric
Steve Haas, Board Treasurer, North American PMC Controller - Asten Johnson
Steve Meyer, Board Secretary, Manager STEM Education & Development - FVTC
Kristin Comerford - Coordinator, Career Based Learning & Career and Technical Education-AASD
Jerimiah Janssen, Board Vice President, VP, First Business Bank
Mark McQuade, Principal -ATECH
Paul Endter, Lead Teacher - ATECH
Amy Davis, Secretary - ATECH

Not Present

Dave Buss, Board Member, Parent Representative, Thrivent
Ron Buchinger, Board Member, Director of Operations - CMD Corp.
Jon Schloesser, Board Member, Training Center - Oshkosh Corp. (Pierce)

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the previous board meeting were unanimously approved as distributed.

Board Members

One vacant position remains open. Someone with an HR background is preferred. Also, a new parent representative is needed as Dave Buss does not have capacity at this time. Mark and Paul will identify a new parent representative by the next meeting.

Staff/AASD Updates:

Principal's Report: Mark indicated the fully hybrid learning method is underway as of 19 January. Many of ATECH students who took advantage of the Virtual Plus learning method have a leg up after being in the building for many weeks already. Work is beginning on the FTE for staffing for the upcoming school year. We will have a better idea on enrollment in another month. Great to see students in the building!

Lead Teacher's Report: Paul indicated there is work being done to adjust some schedules to allow more shop time as students who are here want to participate. Direct mail piece was sent out just before Christmas to families of 8th graders in the District to increase awareness and enrollment. Virtual meetings with counselors being conducted to increase awareness. Need to continue to find ways to reach parents and AASD staff and educate them about career clusters. Paul and Kristin partnering to help parents and students make informed decisions about high school options. Paul shared that Ron brought a small crew to WHS for HAAS mini mill

project, a small piece “drill and tap”. This program is ready for students as they integrate into classes. FVTC working on a mini-mill project as well. It would be ideal if there can be enough tooling for students to work on multiple projects for real-life simulations. Paul also introduced his vision for more professionally produced video narratives that can be used in West’s Launch Studio. These stories would be used to help students look at career pathways. Goal to capture the stories in “this room”, which could help in piloting initiatives and programs in the District. Everyone here is on a journey and we need to share this with students. The process is not always a straight line. Need funding options. Ryan will check into the small video film company via United Way that came into Miller.

New Business

- 1) 2020 Reflection – Start Doing, Stop Doing, Keep Doing - Discussion on what to keep, what to modify and what to stop. There was a general consensus to: keep Goal #1 - Student Enrollment, replace Goal #2 (formerly Hands-on learning outside the classroom) with ATECH Summer Camp, keep Goal #3 - Student Success Rate and enhance Goal #4 by adding social media takeover elements and video narratives.
- 2) Sub-committee Updates – 2020-21 Action Plans (A3s)
 - i. Goal #1: Student Enrollment – Steve Meyer (Leader), Jeremiah Jansen, Scott Ascher. Steve Meyer updated “what can we do to help with recruitment and enrollment.
 - ii. Goal #2: Summer Camp – Paul Endter (Leader), Steve Meyer, Ron Buchinger, Kristin Comerford (non-board member). Paul indicated the summer school opportunity did not happen in 2020 and he’s looking for partners to make that a success for 2021. Summer camp gets students interested before they start school. Previous experience with half-days summer camp was a success. Scott Asher offered up guest speakers for demos seeing it also as a marketing opportunity to get students excited about technology. Ryan indicated Miller is on board too. Ron will be on board with CMD. Steve Haas also offered up a paper making option.
 - iii. Goal #3: Student Success Rate – Jon Schloesser (Leader), Steve Haas - no updates at this time.
 - iv. Goal #4: Social Media Presence - Mark McQuade, Jon Schloesser, Amy Davis, Chris Burns (non-board member). Continue the batch work of posts to Kylie for FaceBook posting. Mark suggested doing a corporate takeover of a social media page, for example a day in the life of “a machinist” – what a machinist likes about the job for example. Ryan will check with their machinists who are ATECH graduates. Paul will reach out to former students, which highlighted the need to maintain an alumni database.
- 3) Kristin shared that she has connected with Tracy at Miller and also with a similar counterpart at Menasha Corp to build awareness and expand partnerships in the community.

Meeting Adjourned

Board Officers:

President: Ryan Scherer

Vice President: Jerimiah Janssen

Secretary: Steve Meyer

Treasurer: Steve Haas

Next meeting February 17, 2021 @ 4:30 pm via Google Meet