

BUTLER COUNTY MANUFACTURING CONSORTIUM

Minutes for October 31, 2007

Present

Scott Docherty / CID Associates
Scott Dietz / Catalyst Connection
Doug Bartosh / Unimach Mfg
Neil Ashbaugh / Oberg Industries
Marty Mehring, Jill Campbell, Libby Roll, Rafael Lopez-Cepero / Medrad
George Wochley / GCL Inc. & Camber Corp.
Lisa Campbell / BC3
Rich Schellinger / TRACO
John Fantini / PA Career Link
Lori Harvey / TCWIB
Bruce Curry / Penna Flame
Chuck Guiste, Jim Ferguson, Kristen Bastaja / Penn United Technologies
Karms Edwards / MAC
Stephanie Karwoski, Heather Swiergol / BCAVTS
Andy Johnson / Slippery Rock High School
Mike King / Knoch High School
Judy Werner / Slippery Rock University

Jim Ferguson welcomed everyone to the breakfast meeting hosted by the Butler Vo-Tech, followed by introductions. Special welcome to new members: Medrad and On the Edge!

Special thanks to the Butler Vo-Tech and their culinary arts students who cooked an absolutely fabulous breakfast!

The minutes from the September 2007 meeting were emailed prior to the meeting and approved as written.

Doug Bartosh reported that we have \$684.44 remaining in the Treasury. Doug reminded everyone that the BCMC 2008 dues will be due in January '08.

Previous Business

1. **Training / MarketSphere**

* Jim passed around a training manual developed by MSSC (Manufacturing Skill Standards Council). Their materials include an instructor's manual, text book and CD. This training book has already been developed on a national level and touches ALL areas of manufacturing. Although Market Sphere has started a training / power point presentation, only after they started this, did the MSSC product come to light. We are trying to evaluate the best training curriculum to go with. Please provide any feedback to Jim.

2. **WedNet -**

* Lisa Campbell shared that there is still an opportunity for the consortium to apply for training funds. It was asked if we could use Wednet funds to purchase the MSSC books under their "basic skills" umbrella. Money is available and the state is strongly encouraging industry partnerships. Will look into further.

3. **Grant Update**

* Lori Harvey shared that we received \$90,000 of the grant money requested. Are still waiting to hear from the state regarding "Dream it Do it". Need to show the state that this area is really proactive (i.e. matching funds). \$105,000 received for training needs. Will work with Lisa to determine if your training needs are "Industry Partnership" or "WedNet".

Current Business

1. Schools

- a) **Career Brochures** – still in process. Are changing color scheme and inverting the career pathway chart.
- b) **Mike King – Project 720** - Knoch H.S. received a \$ 71,000 grant. They were the first in Butler to receive the grant. Plan to purchase programs: 1) Career Cruising for 8th graders, and 2) Keys to work. Programs include on-line quiz, skills rating, research careers with local contacts. Want to educate students and teachers about manufacturing. Discussed a model used in Indiana Co. – the Alliance for Business Education Leadership (ABEL) – encourage business and education to work together.
- c) **Butler Vo-Tech** – Heather Swiergol shared that manufacturing class enrollment is up! Doing NIMS in Machining classes. Also reminded everyone they have a co-op program through the vo-tech. There will be a tour and chance to meet the machining instructor after today's BCMC meeting.
- d) **H.S. Connection** – Career Days – discussed school schedules and if there are any bad times. There are lots of PSAT and other tests in February and we need to work around their test dates. We have 5 schools who are interested: Karns City, Moniteau, Slippery Rock, Butler and Knoch! What kind of schedule/commitment would the manufacturers be willing to do? A Career Fair per month? After discussion, those in attendance agreed that once a month from Jan – May is do-able.
 - * Andy J. from Slippery Rock H.S. shared that they would like to see a 1 page fact sheet on employee skills need for students to take with them (ie. things like drug free, on-time, neat appearance, reliable, able to complete application, etc...) We could have a more generic section of skills, and then company specific section? We will try to have a draft of something for the next meeting.
 - * Andy also shared that the Butler Guidance Counselors theme/focus for this year is Manufacturing!!
- e) **Slippery Rock University** – Judy Werner, from SRU's Center for Math, Science & Technology Education spoke. The Center was started 8 years ago to focus on restructuring math & science curriculum. Focus on not just how, but why do you do what you do behind math and science. Use "World in Motion" kits from SAE, and plan workshops for teachers.
- f) **Teacher Award?** – Annual basis recognition for "Teacher of the Year" to recognize teachers who promote manufacturing. Discussed teacher/school recognition. Need to identify criteria for evaluation. Decided we need to develop an Award Committee. The following people agreed to be on the committee: Scott Dietz, Lori Harvey, George Wochley, Lisa Campbell and Chuck Guiste.

2. **New BCMC Chairperson for 2008** – please consider who you would like to nominate for the next meeting.

Image

1. **Tri-County Manufacturing Video** – Lori H. has been working to help put together a manufacturing video for all 3 counties. CBT is making the video to show all aspects of manufacturing, from sales and engineering, to machining and shop floor work, to accounting and shipping/receiving. Still need 3 companies per county. Total time for video should be 20 minutes. Shooting is to start Dec/Jan. See Lori Harvey if interested.
2. **Career Gates Video** – due to be released in November.

3. **Armstrong Show** – “Get to Work” video. Oberg has completed filming. Need to know who else wants to participate. Will be approx. ½ hr. show. Time commitment would involve ½ day of shooting stills, 1 day of interviewing, another ½ day to shoot extra film needed. Armstrong abides by all confidentiality, safety standards that the company would want. Again, this is all done FREE – at no cost to the manufacturer and will be aired across 7 states! Will try to have a pre-view of Oberg’s video at the next meeting for members and guidance counselors to see. PennaFlame has already committed and will begin shooting in the Spring ’08.
4. **Postcards** – can use as invitations to the schools. If we provided the postcards, can the schools send them out? Could also use to invite other manufacturers to a BCMC meeting, invite parents to career fairs.
5. **Mall Recruit** – will look into Clearview Mall in the Spring. Will have tentative dates for the next meeting.
6. **Need to aggressively recruit** – need to invite to manufacturing facility, have kids sign up or send letter to parents inviting them to tour manufacturing facilities.
7. **Lego League** – if anyone is interested in helping sponsor (at Knoch middle school). See Jim if interested.

Growth

1. BCMC members currently represent over 5000 employees!
2. Will invite Butler Commissioners to January meeting to share with them what we’re doing and get their support.

What’s In It For Manufacturing

1. News
 - a) Medrad – Marty shared that their new building is done. Adding more automation. Plan to hire 40 people by the end of this year / 138 by the end of 2008 / and 300-380 by the end of 2009.
 - b) John Fantini from PA CareerLink reminded the group of the Job Fair they will be holding at the Butler Days Inn November 9th from noon – 4 pm.
 - c) MAC – starting a new Machining class starting Jan. 7th
 - d) Scott Dietz shared that Doug Hall will be speaking at a breakfast briefing on innovation in marketing.
2. November BCMC meeting will be held at Penn United – November 30th. Guidance Counselors will be attending as well as coming for a tour of Penn United.
3. BCMC Holiday Meeting – Friday December 14th at the Succop Conservancy. We will hold our meeting followed by hors d’oeuvres

Next meeting will be Friday November 30th at Penn United Technologies. We will tour Penn United, along with the Butler Guidance Counselors who will be our special guests at our November meeting. Lunch will be provided.