

Fall 2017 Advisory Meeting Minutes

CARPENTRY

17 October 2017

Carpentry Shop

Attendees:

John Alden, Sr. - Chair, General Contractor
John Alden II - General Contractor
Joseph Alden -
Robert Carbone - OSHA administrator
Roy Silva - Carpentry teacher
Robert Conard - Carpentry teacher
Lydia Koyle - student representative
Brad Morgan - Principal (present for part of the meeting)

Meeting:

Opened: 6:25pm
Adjourned: 7:55pm

Agenda Items

Subject: Spring 2017 Advisory Meeting
Discussion: Spring minutes reviewed and approved.

Subject: Outside projects
Discussion: The work at Habitat for Humanity (Hamilton, MA) and the upcoming project for HFH in Danvers, MA.

Subject: Inside projects
Discussion: In house projects continue with many shops, and the school, asking for work. Most requested is work accepted.

Subject: Co-op Program
Discussion: Agreement amongst committee that Co-op is a critical path to a student successfully transitioning in the trade and that we need to advocate for and generate more interest in our students for Co-op. Ms. Berube spoke earlier in the evening with an overview of the Co-op program, highlighting her goals for the program.

Subject: Exploratory Week

Discussion: Exploratory weeks are up and running. Hoping to build upon last year's success Mr. Conard shared that his freshman class (presently sophomores) actually grew to 17 as the new year began.

Subject: Peer to peer teaching

Discussion: It was shared with the group that peer to peer teaching was used as suggested in the last meeting. Mr. Silva is allowing two of his juniors work with Mr. Conard for 4 days during each freshman exploratory week. The two juniors are rotating each week so as to give all interested students a chance. The peer to peer teaching is a great success, benefitting all involved. It will be implemented until further notice.

Subject: CPR/First Aid certification

Discussion: (Same note as SPRING 2017) - still working on implementing into program) It was agreed that all students, and at the very least the carpentry students, should be CPR and First Aid responder trained. The group agreed student safety is paramount (especially if we are to start being off campus) and spoke to the myriad benefits of such essential training. No down side was presented, save the cost of said training. Mr. Conard to discuss implementation with administration.

Subject: Shop Safety - specifically attire

Discussion: As broached during the administration's opening welcome to the evening, shop attire was addressed by the group. Pros and cons were discussed at length. It was asked of Mr. Carbone, an OSHA official, the position OSHA has in regards to "hoodies" specifically. He stated there is no regulation that prohibits workers from wearing hoodies. While all seemed to be in agreement that within a school environment/campus not all areas or classrooms avail themselves to hoodies, a construction shop should be exempt. Further, it was noted that the current student handbook, a product of the school committee (and others), has no restriction to hoodies, hence, no exemption should even be considered.

Subject: OSHA live training

Discussion: (Same note as SPRING 2017) The difference between learning in front of and via a computer versus a trained individual was discussed. Mr. Alden Sr. and Principal Morgan discussed merits of live vs. computer generated training, impacts to school wide OSHA program and fiscal impact (pro or con). Mr. Silva is a certified OSHA trainer and offered to teach the 10 hour class. Details of/if implementation will be followed up by Mr. Conard with the administration.

Subject: OSHA - live field inspections

Discussion: The idea of a mock inspection at one of the Habitat houses as presented by Mr. Carbone is still in favor by the group. Mr. Silva and Ms. Holman will reach out to Mr. Carbone to put this plan into motion.

Subject: Qualified substitute teachers

Discussion: (Same note as SPRING 2017) It was suggested again that the school needs to hire shop qualified substitute teachers. While uncontrollable circumstances may dictate the nature of the hires, it needs to be acknowledged that student learning is greatly diminished in a shop with a non licensed substitute teacher. It was suggested that in those cases the daily needs of the shop/students be considered so that the substitute teacher is assigned within the shop based on the needs of the carpentry department.

Subject: Dust Collection System

Discussion: (Same note as SPRING 2017) Please see last minutes notes. Further, acknowledging to the serious nature of the air quality we subject our students to for 4 years and our carpentry teachers to for....a suggestion was made that a formal letter addressing this issue be penned and sent to the Superintendent and School Committee. Mr. Conard to follow up.

Subject: Mandated paperwork

Discussion: Mr. Alden, Sr. conducted the school/district questionnaires: Annual Programmatic Review, Bias Review Checklist, Updated Membership form. Completion of these forms took a bit of time, with the Bias Review Checklist still to be completed. Questions regarding student's information and privacy were brought up. Mr. Conard said he would speak to the administration to get clarification.