

Spring 2018: Environmental Technology Advisory Meeting

6:47 - Introductions (& Attendance)

Curt Dragon - Earth Landscape

Davis Scribner - Peabody Water Treatment expert

Stephen Granese - Stormwater management

Joe Butner - Chairman - Salem State et. All aquaculture

Mike Armstrong - Asst. Dir. MA Marine Fisheries - 21e Hazardous waste classification

Sophia and Lucia Ponte - Student & parent rep

Lynn Fletcher - Salem State -

Ellen Keane - NOAA Fisheries

John Tarmac - Dir. public works/water plant directors/superfund sites etc.

Mike Kastaniotis - Weston and Sampson Engineering - GIS specialist

Mariana Coombs - Weston and Sampson

Bradley Perron - Salem & Beverly Water Supply Board

Laura Gallant, Adam Stackhouse, & Anthony Wilbur - Environmental Technology Teachers

Constant Contact System

→ Site auto-filling emails when it should not be - **Email Heidi Riccio about issue**

7:00

- Information check - Emails/phone #'s updated
- Advisory board role explanation and discussion - Why are the board members here, and what can they do?
- Meeting summary from last time - agreed that they are fine.

Senior Portfolio Review

- What is it and when?
 - May 4th, 8:00AM - 11:00AM
 - Five advisory members volunteered to review portfolios

Portfolio explanation -

Question from members

→ Why do the students have to include work from EVERY year and EVERY class when they might not be relevant, interesting, or valuable.

→ Feedback from advisory board: Reviewing work from every year and class could be a bit of a waste of time.

7:08 Co-ops & Internships

- Administration is very supportive of opportunities for un-paid internships as well as co-ops
- Each internship / co-op should have a dedicated / assigned mentor that frequently checks in on the intern / co-op student.

- Have to make sure that the internship/co-op areas understand the hours and the schedules - Wednesday-Friday, Monday-Tuesday.
 - Do students have hour flexibility within the internship or co-op?
 - Very important for some jobs

Could we do a '2 agency co-op/internship' such as Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries & NOAA? The two agency co-op / internship would be beneficial for some students

7:22 - Curriculum, Equipment, & Jobs

- Members discussed donations and pieces of potential equipment that could be given to us and that we can put on our wish lists for students to learn on
- They will get information to us about what they are currently using for equipment and what is possibly the most important pieces that we should be adding to our program.
- Look at State Surplus lists to try to find machinery and other potential supplies
- New members asking questions about student interest in various disciplines vs. what we find important to teach
- The amount of opportunity that exists in water technology industries we are focusing on (in the Environmental Technology program) is huge, we just have to tap them and explain
 - Water distribution and treatment operators for drinking and wastewater
 - Weston and Sampson are having issues getting people in with the proper qualifications - students need certifications etc.
- Suggestions as to teach drinking vs wastewater etc.
- Communities are looking for drinking water operators - test can 'get you in the door'
- Companies are often willing to pick up the tab if the potential employee has shown that they care and have taken the first step.
- Three positions currently open for water treatment operators in Newburyport alone.
- Cross-connections license is another certification that students may earn in the Environmental Technology program.
- Must instill that we have to keep adding to our credentials with more learning, testing, certifications etc. Students have to understand that having that drive is something that people notice
- From members - There are so many more experiences in water technology field to be had than the students/we realize
- Environmental Technology definitely needs to have to set up more presentations (from advisory board members) and tours of drinking water and wastewater plants.

- Dr. Joe - There are positions available in aquaculture over the summer for students with some experience - many positions start as unpaid and move into excellent paid positions. Dr. Joe shared list of current job opportunities with Environmental Tech teachers; and the list was forwarded to students.

7:44 Discussing co-op options

- Some co-ops (water tech) could also be done off site and at different hours, where the student could work part time collecting samples and then transporting and testing them either back at the plant or at school depending on the need.
- What type of students will go out on co op?
 - Environmental Tech teachers will send students that have great interest and a drive to succeed and represent themselves and the school very professionally

Quality Assessment Tool

- Sub-group of advisory group reviewed and completed the quality assessment tool rubric.

7:54 Budget talk

We have sufficient funds to get what we need, even though we could always love to have more of course.

Equipment should be inventoried and determined if equipment is operational.

--

Equipment Needs / Wish List:

- algae scan
- hand-held YSI water quality instrument
- spectrophotometer
- remotely operated vehicle
- drone
- underwater camera
- Soil food web - \$500 test (It's actually just a microscope - Count amounts of microorganisms in a teaspoon of soil; Take conventional soil tests and convert it to more advanced soil biology tests with some simple means)