

Fall 2018 Advisory Meeting Minutes

CARPENTRY

18 October 2018

Carpentry Shop

Attendees:

John Alden, Sr. - Chair, General Contractor
Robert Carbone - OSHA administrator
Danielle Skilling - Gilbane Construction
Robert Williams - Star Construction
Lydia Koyle - Student representative
Susan Bagley-Koyle - Parent representative
Roy Silva - Carpentry teacher
Robert Conard - Carpentry teacher
H. Riccio, K. Holman and M. Teixeira - present for part of the meeting
S. Donnelly - present for part of the meeting

Members Absent:

Albert Talarico
Kody Paszkowski
Brian Connearney
John Alden, Jr.
Juan Juan

Meeting:

Opened: 6:36pm
Adjourned: 8:01pm

Agenda Items:

Subject: Spring 2018 Advisory Meeting
Discussion: Spring minutes reviewed and approved.

Subject: Career and Technical Education Quality Assessment Tool(s)
Discussion: The committee completed the forms:
Bias Review Checklist
Annual Programmatic Review

Subject: Outside projects

Discussion: The work for Habitat for Humanity - Danvers, MA - was reviewed. Further, the projects we are engaged in with Essex Elementary School, Peabody Institute Library and Nahant Middle School were presented by Roy Silva and discussed.

Subject: Inside projects

Discussion: In house projects continue with many shops and for the school. Currently the inside projects include: school committee conference room, conference room table, shelving unit(s) for Cosmo, Reframing and installation of entrance sign, tortoise enclosure, 3 sheds for the athletic department, the Eco Challenge, and a pier with dock and bridge for Natural Resources as part of the school's pond restoration project.

Subject: Co-op Program

Discussion: Mr. Silva discussed carpentry students on Co-Op. We currently stand at 42% of eligible carpentry students out on Co-op. 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.

Subject: CPR/First Aid certification

Discussion: It was agreed that all students, and at the very least shops that leave campus to work, should be CPR and First Aid trained. The group agreed student safety is paramount (especially off campus) and spoke to the myriad benefits of such essential training.

It was further discussed that a mobile first aid kit should be put together and travel with students while working on campus. Mr. Conard to discuss with administration.

Lastly, An off-site information card was suggested. Said card would list information about job, i.e. address, and be available to every student working an offsite project. This idea will be implemented in carpentry but the group felt it should be standard procedure for all shops working off campus.

Subject: OSHA live training

Discussion: The difference between learning in front of and via a computer versus a trained individual was discussed. Again the committee discussed merits of live vs. computer generated training, in person training much preferred. Mr. Conard shared with the group that he is taking the OSHA training program in the hopes of joining Mr. Silva and begin live training the students. It was asked if there was value to teaching the students the 30 OSHA class, the committee felt the 10 hour OSHA suffices nicely the students' schooling, thus 30 hour certification superfluous at this time. However, some argue the 30 hour certification has merit to high school students. The matter will be revisited at a later meeting.

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. Carbone, or his representative, and Mr. Silva and will coordinate to put this plan into motion SY 18/19.

Subject: Qualified substitute teachers

Discussion: (Same note as Fall 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 Fall 2017) Please see last minutes notes. The committee acknowledged the serious nature of the air quality we subject our students to for 4 years and our carpentry teachers to for.... It was agreed that this issue is a critical health/safety issue and that the committee is disappointed with the lack of discussion or movement by the administration. The committee stands resolute to the importance of said collection system and will continue to mention and highlight their concerns in the minutes.

The group was told by the Superintendent during her walk through to get 3 quotes and to begin the procurement process. Mr. Conard and Mr. Silva will initiate investigation.

In the meantime it was requested that the standard air filters, and the AirMax filters be cleaned and/or replaced more frequently.

Subject: Air Compressors

Discussion: It was suggested that a large capacity, freestanding compressor be installed outside of the building for at least carpentry (but landscape and masonry as well if interested). Issues of safety and health (OSHA decibel limits) of multiple in-shop "pancake" compressors turning on and off all day create an unsafe and unhealthy environment for learning. It was suggested the school investigate a system that can be setup out-of-doors.

Subject: Needed equipment

Discussion: Shop still in process of updating and expanding trade equipment and tools. We shared recently purchased equipment and discussed what was still needed, i.e. 12" jointer planer. Further, it was suggested we add all manner of cordless tools to our inventory so that the students will be familiar with tools they will encounter in industry. Teachers to review remaining monies in budget and make appropriate purchases and/or reach out to administration for assistance/guidance.

It was reiterated that demonstration and training on the school's new scissor lift would be beneficial to the students, as the students will be often exposed to such equipment on a construction job.

Subject: Increasing industry exposure/ career options

Discussion: It was suggested that we should take our students to as many relevant trade events as possible. We shared with the group that last year we were invited to attend the annual New England Roofing Industry's trade show in Boston (this year the event is in CT). And that annually we participate in field trips involving NARI and the Carpenters Union. Events like JLC Residential Construction Trade Show and local Home Shows would be worthwhile field trips.

Further it was suggested we try to bring more trades people into the shop to meet and share with our students. Relationships within our Advisory Group Mr. Conard and Mr. Silva will begin to mine for possible presenters.

Subject: Soft Skills:

Discussion: It was suggested that our students need to be better trained with the necessary soft skills of the trade. It was further recommended that not only soft trade skills, but also general employability soft skills need to be taught. We explained that such topics are part of the frameworks and that we consistently instruct such topics. Mr. Conard and Mr. Silva will reach back to our AG members to begin fine tuning this subject/GC needs and relating it all to the curriculum.