

Spring 2018 Advisory Meeting Minutes

CARPENTRY

05 April 2018

Carpentry Shop

Attendees:

John Alden, Sr. - Chair, General Contractor
Robert Carbone - OSHA administrator
Kody Paszkowski - Alumni
Brian Connearney - New England Carpenters' Union
Roy Silva - Carpentry teacher
Robert Conard - Carpentry teacher
Kathleen Holman - CTE Director (present for part of the meeting)

Meeting:

Opened: 6:35pm
Adjourned: 7:50pm

Agenda Items:

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

Subject: Career and Technical Education Quality Assessment Tool(s)
Discussion: The committee completed the remaining forms.

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. Discussed Eco Challenge and set production for school play.

Subject: Co-op Program

Discussion: Mr. Silva discussed carpentry students 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: (Same note as Fall 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. 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. Mr. Alden offered to write an email to the school administration indicating hoodies in the construction field are appropriate attire, so much so, his company allows them.

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 live teaching school to 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.

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 and Mr. Silva and will coordinate to put this plan into motion next school year.

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 hirees, 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.

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 set-up out-of doors.

Subject: Needed equipment

Discussion: Mr. Conard and Mr. Silva asked about any needed equipment/tools. We listed: 12" jointer, shop grade router setup, baker staging, pipe staging, replacement of cordless hand tools and miscellaneous. Teachers to review remaining monies in budget and make appropriate purchases and/or reach out to administration for assistance/guidance.

Demonstration and training on the school's new scissor lift was suggested, whereas the students will be often exposed to such equipment on a construction job.