

Program Advisory Minutes

PLUMBING

Members Present :

Mike Guida

Jeff Beane

Brian Bilo

Bob McGlaughlin

Subject : Student enrollment/Placement

Discussion: We started by discussing the progress of students currently on Coop especially with the business owners that attended the meeting and also have employed students. Brian Bilo and Jeff Beane spoke very highly of students working for their companies and asked about additional students. We also indicated we were in the process of educating the business owners that were curious about Coop, and are considering it. We talked about the availability of Juniors.

Subject : New Trends

Discussion : We started out by discussing Covid and its impact on Shop. Brian Bilo asked what our schedule was like and also asked how we are doing in the shop with Covid restrictions in place. Jim Russell explained how the week worked and how amazingly the shop wasn't that much different except for masks. We asked for specific donations of a shower stall and other misc items. We discussed new materials specifically Megapress fittings used for gas piping. Jeff Beane liked the gas projects grade 11 were doing. We said we would email a wish list to all members. Brian Bilo said he would reach out to wholesalers. We discussed proposed changes to the shop and how it will benefit the program.

Subject: Employment outlook

Discussion: There was discussion of what skills specifically employers would want in coop students and also when they graduate. We discussed maturity issues such as cell phone use on job site, language, etc. We stressed that a big part of our program is teaching work ethics. Brian Bilo said they are anxious to get another Coop student. We discussed how the employment opportunities were excellent.

Subject : New Business

Discussion : . We talked about shop safety. Discussed parts of curriculum. We talked about the caged in area of our shop being closed in and what types of projects we might do in that area. Talked about the importance and value of outside work whether at school or off campus. They all agreed Habitat for Humanity projects were very important

and need to continue. They are still wondering about an area to install underground plumbing and i said we are working on it. They were impressed with the current work happening at Larkin Cottage. WE explained the importance of being able to expose them to commercial work. Mike Guida asked if the State Plumbing Board was going to alter the amount of credit hours given due to Covid. We said we would look into it.