

Notes for Manufacturing and Skilled 3-29-16

Panel...

Ronnie Adkinson-Cloyes

Carrier

Joe Kirby-Supply Co.

Mike Williams-UACCM HVAC

Zachary Freeman-UACCM Welding

-As far as welding...a big thing the students are lacking in prep is how to read a tape measure. High school is doing a pretty good job, but are learning the basics only..safety, straight line..

-Manufacturing....basic computer skills a must...everything is controlled by computers now. Positions are automated..including robotics...Need soft skills...communication, team work, being there and coming to work

-Carrier-it's not just about duct work...so much more even the people at front desk need to understand basics of a HVAC unit, CAD drawings, basic computer skills needed. May need to be a welder and basic electricity. Need to know basic etiquette..be polite, communication skills, use apps on phone, even taking pictures and sending them, be punctual and dresses appropriately, and not on drugs, presentation skills for selling

Mike-apps again how to use them, phone as a tool not a toy, soft skills of how to stay calm, not get easily irritated at people, communication, good driving record, appearance, respectful, be prepared for interview

Joe Kirby-skill of sauntering. Young people need to look at and understand the big picture... high schools need to show students programs and what the work is like...Refrigeration techs are in the highest need at this point.

-it's hard to replace people retiring..young are lacking skills needed...must be willing to move where you are needed

All participants agreed for high school teachers to bring students to their companies.

Are certifications recognized?

-electronic repair, not many out there, but open to certifications, EPA cert., NATE cert., HVAC license

-there are really no standards for industries set across the state because each advisory board may be different...Senator English added we need this so that everyone has the same standards for training across the state.

-Discussion about the licenses not being equal across the state led to discussions about seat time and time on task...the partnership with UACCM and schools in Conway County was discussed. Jrs. And Srs. Will be on UACCM campus taking classes after requirements have been met.

-Tech ed is very expensive all the way around, and there isn't a lot of money.

-Class size was discussed and also don't put kids in these classes just because of bad behavior

Ways to convince parents that tech programs are good choice

-it's skilled living, makes good money, the more honed in skills means more money, it's about accomplishing a task, or solving a problem and making customers happy, not everyone in the tech field gets "dirty" on the job, students need to find something they enjoy doing, if you like working with your hands and using your mind to solve problems, the tech field is where to be

Session Two

Things to work on immediately without more money...

1. In high school teaching soft skills like teamwork, attendance, respect for self and others, problem solving, critical thinking, communication, etc.
2. Teach basic computer skills, robotics in high school, excel, presentations, proposals
3. High School Lean Manufacturing
4. High School can do more manufacturing tours or industry to schools
5. Industries explain what they do
6. Frameworks, competencies
7. Letters to legislators
8. Time on task-project based learning
9. Convince parents to send students to tech program training
10. High schools require group work

-attendance major issue needs change...

-high school dress codes

-be pro/be proud initiative

Needs to educate parents...

-open houses include information on taking responsibility so students can take opportunity in programs available

-educate during athletic events

-feed them

-bring in parents from industry

Other Frustrations...

1. Too many required courses that don't bring anything to the table. Re-evaluate regulations...add more flexibility especially in high school level
2. K-8 have to learn literacy and math so 9-12 can focus on career tech. Students are not writing essays in some places until upper high school grades
3. Need flexibility between districts, but legislation needs to be specific for state-wide flexibility.

4. Need industry to step up and be the voice to show legislators this is a priority
We all know what we need to do, but we can't do it.