

Interface

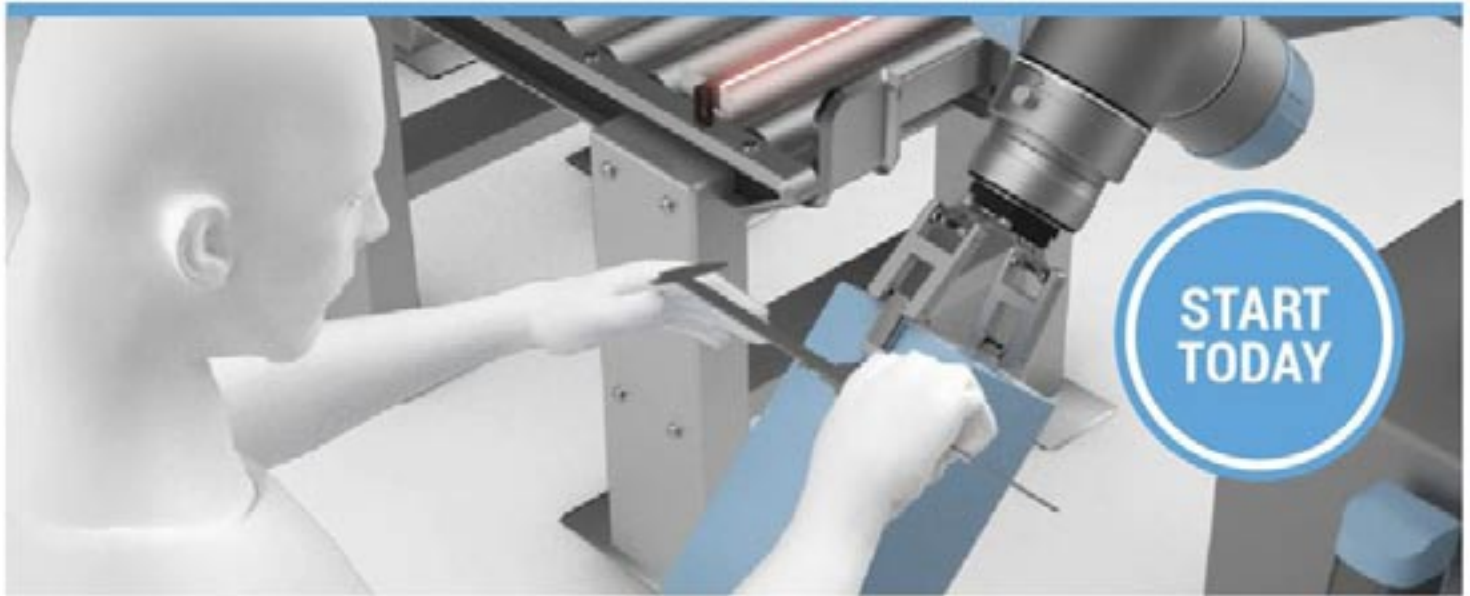
Journal of the WTEA

Volume 60
Number 1
Fall 2020

Technology Education: Building Wisconsin's Workforce

2021 Conference Information
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(7 min)



Module 2
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robot task
(6 min)



Module 3
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a tool
(17 min)



Module 4
Creating a
program
(12 min)



Module 5
Interaction
with external
devices
(11 min)



Module 6
Controlling
conveyors
(10 min)



Module 7
Safety settings
(18 min)



Module 8
Optimizing
(6 min)

Pro track



Module 9
Program flow
(16 min)



Module 10
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(13 min)



Module 11
Force control
(12 min)

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Articles for publication should be sent to: Doug MacKenzie, 960 Yuma Circle, Stoughton, WI 53589, doug@wtea-wis.org.

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WTEA Refund Policy

The WTEA Membership fee is not refundable. The WTEA School Subscription fee is not refundable, but is transferrable to other staff in the same school district. The portion of the non-member conference registration fee equal to the amount of the WTEA membership fee is non-refundable. Refunds for Conference Registration and/or Awards Banquet must be received by US Mail or by email at least 15 days prior to the event. Exhibit space cancelled after Jan. □

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2020 WTEA Board of Directors

WTEA Home Page www.wtea-wis.org



PRESIDENT - Dave Stroud
(C) 920-217-7439
dstroud@ashwaubenonk12.org
Ashwaubenon High School



VICE-PRESIDENT - Bob Morehead
(C) 715-704-0850
bmorehead@cwasd.k12.wi.us
Chetek-Weyerhaeuser High School



SECRETARY/TREASURER - Matthew Schultz
(W) 262-359-8155
mjschultz@kUSD.edu
LakeView Technology Academy,
Kenosha



PAST-PRESIDENT - Phil Bickelhaupt
(H) 715-570-9376
(W) 715-424-6715 x 1036
phillip.bickelhaupt@wrps.net
Wisconsin Rapids School District



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - Joe Ciontea
(C) 920-904-2747
(FAX) 920-239-8948
joe.ciontea@wtea-wis.org
WTEA Office: P.O. Box 531,
Rhineland, WI 54501



EXHIBIT COORDINATOR - Tom Barnhart
(W) 920-492-2955 Ext. 2089
(C) 920-615-1939
tb.wtea@gmail.com
Ashwaubenon High School



PROGRAM COORDINATOR - Steven Johnston
(H) 608-689-3033
(W) 608-789-7700 x 3306
johnston@mwt.net
Logan High School, LaCrosse



PROJECT SHOWCASE COORDINATOR - Steve Meyer
(W) 920-735-5668
meyerst@fvtc.edu
Fox Valley Technical College



BUSINESS/ADVISORY TEAM LEADER - Bryan Albrecht
(W) 262-564-3610
(C) 262-496-4592
albrechtb@gtc.edu
Gateway Tech. College

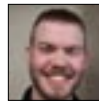
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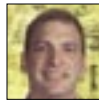
CESA REPRESENTATIVE - Tom Martin
(H) 608-874-4414
(W) 608-822-3276 x 242
tmartin@cesa3.org
CESA #3, 1300 Industrial Dr.,
Fennimore, WI 53809



TECH COLLEGE REP. - Mike Cattellino
(W) 920-735-4887
cattelin@fvtc.edu
Fox Valley Technical College



ITEEA REPRESENTATIVE - Mason Pautsch
(C) 715-651-1028
mpautsch@wisheights.k12.wi.us
Wisconsin Heights High School



WEBMASTER - Michael Beranek
(C) 715-579-2273
mkberanek@gmail.com



UNIV. REPRESENTATIVE - Frank Steck
(W) 608-342-1246
steck@uwplatt.edu
1 Univ. Plaza, 411 Pioneer Tower,
Platteville, WI 53818



UNIV. REPRESENTATIVE - Barb Bauer
(W) 715-232-5493
(C) 715-672-5719
bauerb@uwstout.edu
222D Comm. Tech. Building,
Menomonie, WI 54751



DISTRICT A DIRECTOR - Emily Fransway
(H) 715-459-4120
(W) 715-684-3321 Ext. 4137
efransway@bwsd.k12.wi.us
Baldwin-Woodville High School



DISTRICT B CO-DIRECTOR - Brian Schiltz
(H) 715-453-2947
(W) 715-453-2106
schiltzb@tomahawk.k12.wi.us
Tomahawk High School



DISTRICT B CO-DIRECTOR - Pete McConnell
(H) 715-536-2691
mccConnell.pete@gmail.com



DISTRICT C DIRECTOR - Brennan Mickelson
(W) 920-755-3329
(C) 920-323-7614
bmickelson@mishicot.k12.wi.us
Mishicot High School



DISTRICT D DIRECTOR - Jon Larson
(W) 920-788-7600
jlarson@littlechute.k12.wi.us
Little Chute High School



DISTRICT E DIRECTOR - Alan Mamerow
(C) 262-957-6022
mameal@hamilton.k12.wi.us
Hamilton School District,
Sussex



DISTRICT F DIRECTOR - Eric Sutkay
(W) 262-359-8155
esutkay@kUSD.edu
LakeView Technology Academy,
Kenosha



DISTRICT G DIRECTOR - Stephen Hadfield
(W) 715-884-6412 Ext. 310
HadfiSte@pittsville.k12.wi.us
Pittsville Area School District



DISTRICT H DIRECTOR - Art Pronschinske
(W) 608-943-6312 Ext. 2017
apronschinske@igs.k12.wi.us
Iowa-Grant School District,
Livingston



DIRECTOR AT LARGE - Angela Arneson
(W) 920-833-7199 Ext. 355
arneson@seymour.k12.wi.us
Seymour Middle School



DIRECTOR AT LARGE - Doug Dimmer
(C) 262-388-0660
doug.dimmer@huhs.org
Hartford-Union High School,
Hartford



DIRECTOR AT LARGE - Doug Kugler
(H) 262-790-9128
(W) 262-548-8031
dkugler@waukesha.k12.wi.us
Waukesha County Juvenile Center,
Waukesha

DIRECTOR AT LARGE - (Currently vacant)



INTERFACE EDITOR - Doug MacKenzie
(H) 608-873-9479
doug@wtea-wis.org
960 Yuma Circle,
Stoughton, WI 53589

We Can Get Through This Together

By Dave Stroud, WTEA President

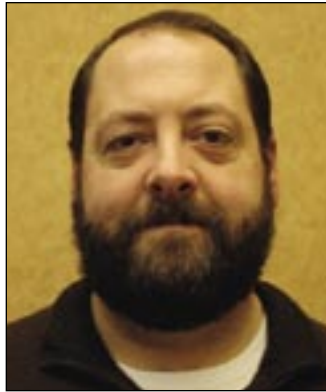
I think most would agree that the 2020-21 school year may be our most challenging yet. School is back in session, and we are either teaching class like we did before Covid-19 became a global pandemic, teaching in some sort of hybrid model, or teaching virtually. The way we are teaching today could change in an instant if your school learns that students or staff have tested positive for the virus. This means that teachers have to be prepared to teach in all three models and have to be able to switch between them with little to no warning. For Technology & Engineering teachers that help their students learn primarily through hands-on activities, that's a big ask in my opinion.

But I'm confident we can do this. Teachers are resilient, hard-working, and creative. Teachers want the best for their students and do whatever it takes to help them be successful. This task can be easier if we all work together. Last spring the WTEA compiled all of the resources that were being shared on the Tech Ed listserve and posted them on our website. We would like to continue to grow that list. If you have any resources you would be willing to share, please send them to me at dstroud@ashwaubenonk12.org, and I will add them to the list. A group of Madison area teachers have been working on developing curriculum for the various pathways that exist in Technology & Engineering. They have agreed to share their curriculum with teachers from all over the state. At the time of this writing, it is being finalized, and will also be accessible on the WTEA website. I would like to thank all involved in that project, and commend them on the work they are doing to further our profession.

Personally, I'm ready for the challenge. While I'm looking forward to the days when we can safely go out in public again, these last six months have allowed me to rest and relax a bit. Instead of constantly running between summer school, coaching duties, camping trips, and a planned vacation out west to visit some national parks,

I was able to relax at home with my family and take the occasional trip to the beach, Door County, and even chase waterfalls in Marinette County. I'm as ready as I'll be for what lies ahead.

Now for some updates:



- We've had some changes to the WTEA Board of Directors. First off, Emily Fransway has moved from her Director-at-Large position to being the District A Director. Next, Brennen Mickelson is our new District C Director. I would like to thank Emily for making the change, and welcome Brennen to the board. These positions opened due to Dr. Sylvia Talia and Louis VandeHey stepping down from the board to pursue other career opportunities. I would like to thank both of them for their service to the board.
- Elections are coming up again soon, and this time we are looking for nominees for Secretary/Treasurer, and President-Elect. If you or anyone you know would be a good fit for either of these positions, please contact Past-President Phil Bickelhaupt at phillip.bickelhaupt@wrps.net.
- Watch for a survey we are sending out concerning the 2021 WTEA Conference. We are trying to determine if we can safely hold an in-person conference, and if not, what a virtual conference might look like. Please complete the survey when we send it out around the middle of September.
- I have asked the district directors to hold district meetings by the middle of October. More than likely these meetings will be virtual, with the goal of dispersing information and obtaining feedback. Look for your invitation, and plan to attend!

I hope you and your families are doing well, and I hope the start of the school year goes as smoothly as possible. If ever you have questions, comments, ideas, or concerns, don't hesitate to contact your district director or myself. Take care and good luck.



Plan now to attend the 52nd WTEA Annual Conference

Technology Education: Building Wisconsin's Workforce

March 3 - 5, 2021 • Chula Vista Resort • Wisconsin Dells

WTEA BOARD NEWS

2020 WTEA Annual Membership Meeting Highlights

By Matt Schultz, WTEA Secretary/Treasurer

The following summary highlights the WTEA Annual Membership meeting held March 6, 2020 during the annual conference at Chula Vista in Wisconsin Dells.

- Re-elected: Bob Morehead Vice-President.
- WTEA is looking to partner with supporting companies/organizations to sponsor different events at the Conference. There are plenty of opportunities for companies to get involved.
- Transcript high school credits with local Technical College. Contact your technical college to get this opportunity for your students started.
- The WTEA is encouraging members to host a "High-

Tech Weekend" in your area. Topics can include a wide variety of subjects; CNC, Lasers, 3-D printers, Carpentry, Auto, Machining, etc. For more information contact Joe Ciontea:

- WTEA is kicking off a new program called the WTEA Student Ambassador Program. This program will support high school students interested in a career as a Technology Education Teacher. The WTEA Board of Directors has appointed a committee to lead this effort. If you are interested in learning more or being a part of this committee and efforts, contact Matthew Schultz at mjschult@kUSD.edu.

*For additional information about this meeting contact any member of the Board of Directors.
Complete minutes are available from Matt Schultz at mjschult@kUSD.edu.*

CALL FOR PRESENTERS

2021 Conference Theme:

"Technology Education: Building Wisconsin's Workforce"

52nd Annual Spring Conference • March 3 - 5, 2021 • Chula Vista Resort, Wisconsin Dells

Presenter form must be submitted by December 1, 2020 by mail, website submission or e-mail.

Directly submit via online form at: http://www.wtea-wis.org/wordpress/?page_id=9699

E-mail: johnston@mwt.net • Phone: 608-689-3033

Note:

At this time the WTEA is soliciting input from regional health authorities, state officials, teachers, school districts and other stake holders to allow us to make an informed decision regarding hosting an "in person conference" or an "all virtual conference" in 2021.

The WTEA will make a formal announcement in the fall to publicize its decision.

- Dates to Remember -

| | | |
|---------------------|---|---------------------|
| Oct. 15 - 16 | Career Pathways Network National Conference | (Virtual) |
| Nov, 7 | WTEA President-Elect & Secretary/Treasurer Nomination Deadline | |
| Nov. 14 | WTEA Awards Nomination Deadline | |
| Nov. 30. - Dec. 4 | ACTE CareerTech VISION 2020 | (Virtual) |
| December 22 | Early Bird Deadline - WTEA Conference Registration | |
| March 3 - 5, 2021 | Celebrating our 52nd Annual WTEA Conference | Wisconsin Dells, WI |
| March 24 - 27, 2021 | ITEEA Annual Conference | Denver, CO |

From the Desk of the Vice-President

By Bob Morehead, WTEA Vice-President

Teachers are blessed with the ability to take a ten week hiatus from their profession every summer. It gives us a chance to relax, unwind, and recharge for another school year. By the time August rolls around, I usually can't wait to see my students and start another year. This summer, my wife and I accepted part-time jobs at a small mercantile/bakery in the middle of nowhere Montana. Our roles had very little stress and our family gained an unforgettable experience. We worked and played hard, had no lessons to develop, and no papers to grade. It was amazing! I should have been recharged and ready to start the new year, but this year was different. Covid!

The hardest thing to prepare for is the unknown. Will we be face-to-face, virtual, or some blend of the two? Will there be sports and extracurriculars? How do we make sure everyone is safe? How do we teach welding online or do we teach it at all? Will the kids wear their

face masks? Will the teachers wear their face masks? By late August the excited anticipation of a new school year was replaced with anxiety and apprehension. I was in a funk and school hadn't even started yet.

Perspective - We have jobs, great jobs! Yes, this year will be a challenge, but we will get through it. Moreover, we will be better because of it. We are developing new curriculum, learning new technologies, and collaborating like we have never done before. We are creating partnerships and tearing down barriers. When Covid finally breaks we will return to some form of normal teaching, but our pedagogy will forever be changed. The strategies that we have cultivated will remain part of our teaching arsenal, ready to draw upon whenever the situation arises.

We will get through this! Good luck, and don't forget to check the WTEA website for great curriculum ideas.



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NOMINATIONS



Be Part of the WTEA Team

We are currently accepting nominations for the office of **WTEA President-Elect** and **WTEA Secretary/Treasurer**. This is your opportunity to serve your profession in a leadership position. The Board of Directors works together as a team to plan and coordinate professional development activities, give association awards and promote the advancement of our profession. The Board meets up to four times per year; meetings are held both face to face and electronically as appropriate. If you have questions please contact any member of the WTEA Board of Directors.

Secretary/Treasurer

(2 year term): Spring 2021 - Spring 2023

President-Elect

(4 years): 2021-2022 as President-Elect, 2022-2024 as President, 2024-2025 as Past-President

Nominations should be sent to WTEA Past-President Phil Bickelhaupt, phillip.bickelhaupt@wrps.net.

Ballots will be mailed to members approximately February 1st.

If candidates run unopposed, a unanimous ballot is cast by the Board and no paper ballots are mailed.

Nominations will be accepted until December 7.

WTEA Awards Nominations

Each spring the WTEA recognizes Technology Educators, Industry, and Technology Education Programs that have demonstrated outstanding achievement at our annual awards banquet held at the WTEA Spring Conference.

The WTEA needs your help, as educators, to identify these worthy teachers, programs, and other professionals that deserve recognition. The WTEA is looking for educators that are going above and beyond in their classroom. The WTEA has a variety of award categories that cover teachers, programs, and examples of classroom excellence. Members are encouraged to visit the WTEA Awards page on the website. There you will find the criteria for each award. You are encouraged to nominate a colleague or nominate yourself. As a profession, we need to continue to recognize greatness in our profession. The WTEA Awards Banquet gives us that opportunity.

The awards committee will contact the nominee and request information regarding the nominee's curriculum, achievements, and contributions to Technology Education along with letters of endorsement. To nominate a teacher, program, or industry, contact Matthew Schultz, Secretary/Treasurer or Joe Ciontea, Executive Director and tell us who you wish to nominate, where to contact them, and why you feel they deserve recognition from our association. You can also make a nomination on the WTEA website by visiting the Awards page. The awards ceremony will be March 3rd, 2021 as an important part of our 52nd Annual Conference.



Notes:

- Nominations must be received by November 14th to be considered for recognition the following spring.
- Technology Educators must be a member of the WTEA to be considered for award recognition. However, recipients of the "Special Recognition Award" do not need to be members.
- For a detailed description of the awards, please visit our website or contact any board member.

Lakeview Technology Academy

Attn: Matthew J. Schultz

9449 88th Ave, Pleasant Prairie, WI 53158

awards1@wteafoundation.org

WTEA Awards Committee

Joe Ciontea

P.O. Box 531, Rhinelander, WI 54501

joe.ciontea@wtea-wis.org

WTEA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

From the Desk of the WTEA Executive Director

By Joe Ciontea, WTEA Executive Director

What a wild ride we've been on since the conference last March. I am thankful that our conference took place before everything started shutting down. I want to commend all of you for your efforts to ride out the storm and find ways to teach T & E in a virtual setting. Your willingness to share ideas, resources, and techniques via the listserve and our association website is a testament to our shared mission of providing meaningful instruction to prepare our students for career success.

Hopefully the summer provided you with a much deserved break from the challenges of virtual teaching. I spent my summer fishing, reading, and working around the house.

Speaking of wild rides, my wife and I recently purchased a used Harley-Davidson Tri Glide Ultra Classic. We are looking forward to exploring the backroads of northern Wisconsin as we ride this fall.



In closing:

- Don't forget to renew your membership, the mailing address on the back cover indicates when your membership expires. We rely on membership dues to support the continuing work that the Board does throughout the year.
- Please considering nominating a colleague or administrator for recognition through our annual awards program.
- This winter we will be electing a WTEA President-Elect and a Secretary/Treasurer. This is a great opportunity for you to use your leadership skills and help our profession.
- If you need assistance or recommendations for the new challenges that arrived with the start of school this fall, please reach out to your WTEA District Director or any Board member and we will do our best to help you find some additional resources.

An advertisement for Epilog Laser systems. The background is blue with white splatters. At the top left, the text "LASER IT!" is in large white letters, followed by "Cut it. Engrave it. Mark it." in smaller white letters. Below this, it says "Laser Engraving, Cutting and Marking Systems from Epilog Laser". Further down, it says "From creating and personalizing 3D models, to engraving photos on keychains, to marking high-tech gadgets, our laser systems create the products you see here and more!". In the center, there is a white Epilog Laser machine with a wooden airplane model on top. To the right of the machine is a keychain with a white car photo. Below the keychain is a smartphone with a cartoon character on the screen. At the bottom left, the logo for "FIRST TECHNOLOGIES INC." is shown, with the tagline "Putting Education ... FIRST". Next to it is the website "www.firstteched.com" and the phone number "1.800.787.9717". At the bottom right, the Epilog Laser logo is shown, with the text "Contact Us Today!" and "MADEINUSA" below it.

ARTICLE

Who's Ready to Rumble?

By Angie Arneson, Seymour Middle School



I know that I am not ready for another go of virtual teaching, but the reality is that we are once again faced with teaching in the virtual realm this school year. One thing that got me through the virtual realm last Spring was being able to collaborate with other Technology and Engineering teachers from around the state. With knowing how important it is to

work together as much as possible, area CESAs are preparing for a Technology and Engineering virtual training on September 23. The training will be an all day professional development just for us!

The training will be a great way to network with other teachers from around the state. This training promises to help us as we embark down this virtual platform once again. So mark your calendars for September 23 and get ready to rumble with some of the best trainers out there to help set the course for an amazing school year!

CESA 7 Learning Services

Presents



VIRTUAL Technology and Engineering Network EdCamp

Facilitated by Colleen Timm Ph.D. Learning Service Director

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Date: | September 23, 2020 |
| Time: | 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. |
| Place: | VIRTUAL, Zoom |
| Objectives: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CESA 7 is the registration host • Teachers indicate work groups they want to be in their registration notes Future Meetings: Sept. 8, 2020, Oct. 19, 2020, Nov. 16, 2020, Jan. 18, 2021, Feb. 15, 2021, Mar. 15, 2021, Apr. 19, 2021 (Meetings held 3:15 - 4:00 p.m.) |
| Registration Fee: | Fee for Planning Day <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$20 • Still waiting August announcement of OER Grant awards for a possible stipend to compensate teachers |
| Registration Link: | https://login.myquickreg.com/register/event/event.cfm?eventid=27304 |

Cancellation Policy: Cancellations must be faxed or e-mailed to the appropriate program assistant at least five (5) working days prior to the date of the event to avoid the district being charged for the registration.

Contacts: Chris Larson - clarson@cesa7.org 920-617-5628 or Nancy Schlies - nschlies@cesa7.org 920-617-5613 fax: 920-492-5965

District E News

By Alan J. Mamerow, District E Director



Happy fall to all WTEA members! While the start of this school year is certainly unlike anything we have seen before, I am very excited to be back in the classroom doing what I love. I have been very happy to see the amount of resource sharing that has been taking place on the listserve in recent weeks, and to expand that, I will be hosting a WTEA Dis-

trict E virtual meeting in early October. Be on the lookout for an email with an exact date and time.

I am also working on updating the District E contact list. If you are new to District E, have changed schools, are in the areas surrounding District E, or are in District E and do not get an email from me regarding the district meeting, please let me know. I can be reached at mameal@hamilton.k12.wi.us or at (262) 957-6022. I look forward to connecting with many of you in the coming months. Start the school year strong!

District H News

By Art Pronschinske, District H Director



Hello from Southwest Wisconsin! As the 2020-2021 school year starts off, there are many different plans in place for area districts to “head back” to the classroom: all virtual classes, two days in the building and three days virtual, and four days in the building and one day virtual, just to name a few.

How do you manage the new schedule in your building for the upcoming school year?

For my school district, we are back in the building with block scheduling and some students starting out virtual. The district has gone to Google Classroom for the most part, although we have a few staff members that use Schoology. We are to post the lesson (reading assignment, worksheets, etc.) and a video of the lesson in Google Classroom so that both the in-class students and any virtual learners receive the same lesson.

My schedule is a blend of traditional woods and construction classes as well as PLTW and some graphic classes. The traditional woods and construction classes, at the time I write this, do not have any virtual students enrolled. I am sure that will change. However, my lesson learned from last spring is to be prepared with projects that can be taught virtually and completed by students at home.

What projects do I send home to students? For example, one project we did was balsa wood home design. Students were instructed to design a tiny house of their choosing and submit it, along with a rough drawing, a

drawing to scale, a CADD drawing layout (or some sort of sketch up document), and the BOM for the project. I then sent the required balsa material to them. They were to document their “build” both in writing and with video footage, and follow the house construction Gantt chart. We discussed each phase of the build with videos, question and answers. This way, we covered the majority of issues with a house being constructed and why certain aspects of building need to be done in a certain order.

My PLTW students were on the PLTW LMS, working on reverse engineering. I had them record themselves doing the reverse engineering project and submit both the assignments for the unit and the video.

Because we are scheduled to start the year in the building together, I plan to do as much hands on as I can right away. Last spring, I did manage to get a lot of my content into Schoology, so most of my notes, PPT, questions, tests and quizzes are online, leaving us more time to get into the lab.

On a closing note, don’t forget that SkillsUSA will host the SWTC Regional Event on January 28–29, 2021, at Southwest Technical College in Fennimore, Wisconsin. I plan on having a District H virtual meeting on Wednesday, September 23, 2020, starting at 6pm. I will send out an invitation. If you have a new teacher in your district, please get me that person’s information so I can add it to my email list. I did get a few teacher emails back saying that they had changed districts, and I have updated those.

I hope you have a rewarding and enjoyable 2020 - 2021 school year!

DIRECTOR REPORTS

District C News

By Brennen Mickelson, District C Director



Hello WTEA members and District C members in particular! Let me introduce myself as your new director. My name is Brennen Mickelson and I am the Technology and Engineering teacher at Mishicot High School. I am starting my ninth year teaching, seven of which have been here at Mishicot, where I also call home. I enjoy camping with my family, hunting and working in my home shop on various projects.

I hope you all found time over the past summer to get away and relax after the crazy end to the past school year. I know I enjoyed unplugging and getting away from school to spend much needed time with family. This past year showed how talented Technology and Engineering teachers are. Heck we proved how awesome we all are after being thrown into uncharted territory, for many of us going to full-on virtual overnight in a content area that doesn't translate into being virtual. I think we learned a valuable lesson on how none of us are on an island and we need to work together to make sure we are successful. From the multitude of listserve emails where many of you shared resources you found or provided answers to questions that were presented, we have shown how communication and sharing what we know and have learned with each other is important to continue moving us forward as a profession.

I look forward to collaborating with you, even if it is just on a Zoom call or over email for now. Look for a meeting invite in the near future to give you an update about the happenings in the WTEA, some resources and opportunities for you and your students and some opportunities for you to get involved. I look forward to talking with you.

If you have any questions or event suggestions please feel free to email me at bmickelson@mishicot.k12.wi.us and I will see what I can do. Here's to another successful school year!

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DIRECTOR REPORTS

District B News

By Brian Schiltz, District B Co-Director



Welcome back folks. I am Brian Schiltz, Technology Education teacher at the Tomahawk School District and your District B representative. It is my wish that this writing finds you healthy, happy, and hopeful. I want to thank all of you that have been contributing to

the discussions on the Tched Listserve. If you are not currently subscribed, follow the link <https://dpi.wi.gov/news/subscribe-email> and choose technology under the Career and Technical Education heading. Also, if you are looking for curriculum ideas don't forget about the WTEA curriculum resources. Go to <https://www.wtea-wis.org/> and click on the curriculum tab. Continue to reach out to one another as we are all in this together.

District G News

By Stephen Hadfield, District G Director



By now most of us are familiar with dual credit and the process of having students take a dual credit course in high school. To assist with this process many technical colleges are hosting summits to better familiarize high school teachers with the expectations and objectives of the transcribed

courses. High school welding teachers in the District G Mid-State Technical College region were able to gain this hands on experience through a welding summit hosted by MSTC. This was a full-day event with 12 high school instructors, MSTC staff and administration, along with area employers. Teachers were able to review curriculum, receive free welding PPE, and get in the lab to practice some new welding techniques. Thank you to MSTC for hosting.



DIRECTOR REPORTS

UW-Stout and Technology Education

By Barb Bauer, UW-Stout University Representative



Welcome back for a new school year! What a great time to be a technology education instructor! We will be creating new and exciting lesson plans in different ways. Google classroom, zoom meetings, blackboard, etc. What does your school use? The listserve is a great place to start. Directions for

signing up are shown in the box below.

I also want to tell you what is happening at UW-Stout. A program revision was approved for technology education. The program is offered on campus as well as online. The online program is typically for people that have a previous degree or previous education, and most are working adults. It should be called a blended learning opportunity. Students take professional education courses online, (methods, assessment courses, etc.) using a sequence. These courses are offered through UW-Stout. Students use a technical college to satisfy the content area courses,

such as Welding, CADD, Auto, Construction, etc. UW-Stout or technical colleges can be used to satisfy the general education courses (English, math, etc.). Wisconsin uses Transfer Wisconsin to help students verify courses can be used in the UW system.

UW-Stout also offers a certificate. The certificate is called Practical Skills for K-12 Career and Technical Educators. This is a certificate in which the student will be taking a total of 15 credits online. The courses cover Principles of Career and Technical Education (CTE), it also provides a Classroom Management, Methods of teaching to name a few. These courses will allow success for those that are employed with an emergency license in the classroom. The certificate does not lead to licensure, however, a person with this certification can transfer most credits to the technology education bachelor's degree that will allow them to seek licensure.

If you should want more information about any of our programs, please let me know. I can be reached at bauerb@uwstout.edu.

Notice:

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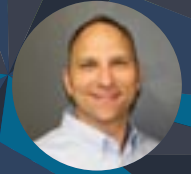
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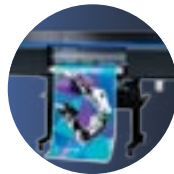
H2I Group Technical Education Products Division is here to support teachers as they navigate this school year, whether that looks like in-class instruction, distance learning, or a hybrid of the two. Our solutions are designed to supplement in-class services, enabling an anytime, anywhere style of learning. Check out our many options for career and technical education (CTE) products and solutions.



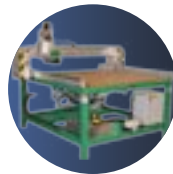
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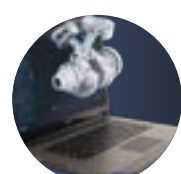
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52nd Annual Technology Education Conference & Trade Show

Tentative Conference Overview

Wednesday, March 3, 2021

5:30 - 8:00 p.m. Conference Registration

6:45 - 9:00 p.m. Awards Banquet

Thursday, March 4, 2021

7:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Conference Registration

7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Project Showcase Setup

8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Trade Show

9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Project Showcase

8:55 a.m. – 9:05 a.m. General Welcome

9:05 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. 1st General Session

10:15 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Concurrent Sessions

4:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. President's Reception & Silent Auction

Friday, March 5, 2021

7:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Conference Registration

6:45 a.m. – 7:45 a.m. Early Riser Breakfast

7:45 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. WTEA Membership Meeting

8:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Concurrent Sessions,

Demonstrations & Project Showcase

Automotive workshops/training at

Easton Motors

12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. General Session/Luncheon

2:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. WTEA Board Meeting



Thursday Keynote Speaker

Kim Bassett
President and CEO
of Bassett Mechanical



Friday Keynote Speaker

Leigh B. Estabrooks, Ed.D.
Invention Education Officer,
Lemelson-MIT Program,
MIT School of Engineering

Session Topics Include: Engineering Academies, Construction Roundtable Event, Project/Community Based Education (Automotive), Women in Woodworking, Tinkering - Building TEE Curriculum Downward, Interdisciplinary Fab Labs, Aerospace Education, Pallet Wood Projects, 3d Scanning for printing and CNC, Soft Skills for Urban High Schoolers, Apprenticeships, Cross Media Graphics, Innovation and Design, Welding and Machining, Building High Mileage Vehicles, Project Showcase, SkillsUSA, Middle School Roundtable, Manufacturing Project Ideas, New Teacher Boot Camp, and much more!



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2021 Conference Highlights

March 3, 4 & 5



Awards Banquet - Wednesday Evening

Trade Show - Thursday

President's Reception & Silent Auction - Thursday

Keynote Speakers - Thursday & Friday

Educational Sessions - Thursday & Friday

Project Showcase - Thursday & Friday

Early-Riser Breakfast - Friday

WTEA Annual Membership Meeting - Friday

Colleague Networking - All 3 Days



Note:

If the 2021 conference gets cancelled or changed to a virtual event due to COVID-19, registration fees will be refunded or credited upon request.

To complete an electronic version of the WTEA membership/registration form, go to www.tinyurl.com/WTEA-Conf

WTEA Membership Application & 2021 Conference Registration Form

Membership year runs from September 1st through August 31st

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Home Phone (____) _____ Local Tech College District _____ # years teaching _____

School Dist. _____ School Name _____

School Address _____

School City _____ State _____ Zip _____ E-mail: _____

Check the appropriate boxes below and total amount due.

Membership Fees: [] 3 year membership - \$75.00 [] 1 year membership - \$30.00 \$ _____

Spring Conference EARLY BIRD Registration (Must be postmarked by December 22, 2020)

[] \$135 members [] \$165 non-members \$ _____

Spring Conference Registration (After December 22, 2020:

[] \$160 members [] \$190 non-members \$ _____

WTEA Awards Banquet (Wednesday, March 3, 2021) [] \$30 \$ _____

[] Bill my school district - purchase order is attached [] payment enclosed **Total \$** _____

Send completed form with payment or school purchase order to: **WTEA, P.O. Box 531, Rhinelander, WI 54501**

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If your school uses ACH payment please contact the WTEA for new bank routing.

UW-Stout 2020 CTE Summit

By Deanna Schultz

MS in CTE Program Director, University of Wisconsin – Stout

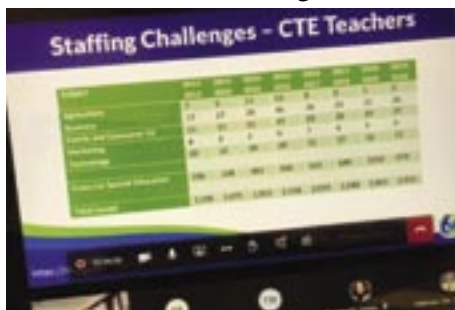
The CTE teacher pipeline was the focus of the 5th annual UW-Stout CTE Summit. The virtual format of the 2020 Summit provided an opportunity for participants from around Wisconsin and other states to learn from presenters and engage in some discussion with presenters. Welcoming participants to the Summit were Sylvia Chuey, Tamarack Institute, to remind everyone of the collective impact work that was started at last year's CTE Summit, and UW-Stout Chancellor Katherine Frank.



**UW-Stout
Chancellor
Katherine Frank
welcomes
participants to
the CTE Summit.**

Alexandra Manuel, Executive Director of the Washington State Professional Educator Standards Board, provided a keynote address that encouraged participants to consider “grow your own” strategies not only to fill the teacher pipeline but also to add diversity to the teacher workforce. She also shared strategies used in the state of Washington to provide pathways to teacher licensure and examples of how they communicate those pathways.

David DeGuire, Director of Teacher Education, Professional Development, and Licensing at DPI provided data that reflects the decline in completers from traditional CTE teacher education programs and the increase in alternatively licensed educators. He mentioned changes to PI 34 that have removed some barriers for licensure programs, and he reiterated Alex Manuel's charge to consider alternative pathways toward teacher licensure including dual credit and 2+2 programs between technical colleges and universities.



A panel of early career teachers provided some insights about recruiting teachers and retaining teachers in the profession. They included teachers who completed traditional 4-year teacher education programs and one who entered teaching directly from industry through experience-based licensure. Tracie Nielsen, a business/marketing teacher in the Kenosha Unified School District, suggested that districts look to volunteers in the schools to recruit future teachers. Recognizing high school students' strengths and asking them to teach their peers is how Andrew Kleiber, Technology Education teacher at Winona (MN) High School, got interested in teaching, and he continues that practice with his own students. To help retain teachers, Scott Sayles, Business and Marketing teacher at Eden Prairie High School, suggested that asking new teachers to be part of committees helps them feel valued and part of the school community which is important for retaining teachers. Kathleen Thorn, Business Education teacher at Colfax Middle School, shared that supporting professional growth is important, and using the Educator Effectiveness model as a coaching process can enhance retention.

Continuing the theme of collective impact from the 2019 CTE Summit, Dr. Sylvia Tiala led participants through activities with collective impact tools that could be used to advance teacher recruitment and retention initiatives.

The Summit concluded with presentations by UW-Stout graduate students who shared results of research they conducted related to experience-base licensed teachers, effective student engagement in online instruction, CTE leadership knowledge and skills, and employer-sponsored online certification training. Graduate students Pete McConnell, Tricia Makowiak, Greg Benz and Alyssa Haynes discussed their research related to CTE issues. Names of presenters and their topics are included on the CTE Summit web page: <https://www.uwstout.edu/outreach-engagement/lifelong-learning/educators/cte-summit>.

While this was the first time the CTE Summit was offered virtually, participants shared that “the content kept me engaged, which can be difficult with virtual conferencing” and “topics were relevant, presenters well-informed, and it held my interest.”

You Need to Keep Them Separated

By Rich Hemler, Portage High School

There are very few Technology and Education teachers in Wisconsin who don't have some kind of a side business. Many of us swing a hammer, make sparks, or turn a wrench outside of our roles as classroom teachers. If you work for a district and run your own business, it is especially important to understand some of the potential risks that you may be taking.

There is a limit of damages a public school may incur financially because of a lawsuit. Therefore, if a school district is named in a lawsuit, it becomes advantageous for attorneys to name other individuals to increase the damages that they may recover. It is also much easier for lawyers to go after individuals or businesses than it may be to go after school districts. You may become a target of a lawsuit if the line between you as a classroom teacher and an outside business is blurry.

For example, if you are an auto teacher in the morning and operate your own repair shop in the afternoon, what would happen if a vehicle was worked on at both locations and was involved in an "incident" regarding the vehicle? Even if the work was completed at school, if an attorney could prove that the car was in your personal shop, this may create an issue for you and your business.

If you teach construction and run your own personal construction company, are your bids and permits completely separate? I have seen bids and permits for school projects placed in a personal name or business on these items for convenience. For example, a building trades teacher may have his personal name on the rough framing inspection for a school project and an "incident" occurs regarding the subfloor. The courts are going to ask why the teacher's business name was on the permit and not the school district's.

I can't even spell jurisprudence nor should I be giving any legal advice, but I would say that any of us who work outside of school in our individual trade should speak to an attorney. It is also important to remember that school

attorneys are there to protect the school district and not you as an individual. The advice they give may not always be in your best interest. There is no way one can cover all of the scenarios we may encounter as teachers in this regard. Please take what you may from this article and realize that this is something that could happen. If you run a business and teach a similar subject, you may want to spend some time with a lawyer to ensure you and your business are protected. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions at hemlerr@portage.k12.wi.us.

As far as your personal business and your classroom activities go... you need to keep them separated.



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Gateway Fab Lab Continues Designing, Working on PPE and Health Care Pieces to Help Front Line Workers

GTE's Industrial Design Fab Lab staff members have been busy testing, modifying and producing equipment that can be used by first responders and others on the front lines of fighting the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Fab Lab staff members John Zehren and Adam Reed moved 3D printing machines and materials to two alternate locations just as the college shut its buildings in March and have stayed busy since then by designing and testing personal protective equipment (PPE) products.

"In this time of national crisis, we need to come together to do what we can for our local community," said Matt Janisin, vice president, Gateway Business and Workforce Solutions. "We have the talent, the resources and products to help emergency responders, and we are doing what we can to see specifically in what areas we might be able to support them."

One design that has gained traction and is being used by area nurses is an "ear saver," or surgical mask tension release band. Medical professionals are now required to wear masks for an entire work shift, which are looped behind the ear and become painful after long hours of usage. Bands are worn around the back of the head and become a place to hook the masks on rather than the ear, taking pressure off the ears while still creating the needed tension to seal the mask on the wearer's nose and mouth.

The design is approved by the National Institutes for Health. Reed, Gateway's Fab Lab technician, has already

produced 80 ear savers for an area hospital and will produce more in the upcoming weeks.

Reed said he got the idea for the bands from a family member who's a nurse, who saw the design on a Boy Scout Troop Facebook site. She reached out to Reed to see if he could produce them for Kenosha hospital.

"I thought, 'Yes, this is something I can do to support area health care workers,'" said Reed. "I ran a couple of tests to make sure I had it right and to see how long it would take. I figured out I could make them for about 11 cents in materials each and make 18 an hour.

"After initial testing, the first 80 were picked up, sterilized and are being used."

Reed points out the NIH offers designs on its website for those with 3D printers who want to also support area health care and front line workers by making PPE gear.

Zehren, Fab Lab coordinator, and Reed started their work in late February on two project designs, a mask and face shield, which are being looked at by health care officials to see if they can be used during this emergency. They continue with their design work on those pieces.

They've produced 94 face shields to be used and can quickly ramp up once those are approved by area health care professionals. Some respirator-style masks yet to be cleared for medical use are still being deployed as pieces for emergency responders to train on during this time of pandemic.

Gateway Partners With Rockwell to Start Model 12-week Advanced Manufacturing Academy

Gateway Technical College and Rockwell Automation have partnered for an intense, 12-week Academy of Advanced Manufacturing program where students receive industry-leading training typically reserved for professionals already in the industry.

"More than half of the training uses existing Gateway classes, and the remaining instruction mirrors courses specific to Rockwell's Advanced Manufacturing Academy," says Steve McNaughton, Gateway Dean of Business and Workforce Solutions.

"The goal is to expand the academy nationally, where other colleges can use our curriculum to teach students in their regions. And, it will have started here at Gateway in partnership with local industry."

The academy marks the first time this training will be offered at a college and not through the company itself. The 36-hour-a-week training will run at the college's SC Johnson iMET Center in Sturtevant. The intense nature of the 12-week program allows students to earn 22 credits, which they could also apply toward a Gateway Advanced Manufacturing associate degree.

Students will gain skills in robotics, mechatronics, motor control, PLC and HMI programming, industrial controls and the industrial Internet of Things.

Graduates of this program earn certification as automation and control technicians with an estimated average annual salary of \$49,000. Military veterans, in particular, are encouraged to apply.

SUBSCRIPTION



Interface School Subscription

The WTEA school (building or district) subscription provides you and your local colleagues with an opportunity to keep informed about technology education in Wisconsin. The more local technology educators you sign up, the more you save. An individual subscription is \$30, but you can sign up 6 people for only \$125 - that's a savings of \$55 (see fee schedule listed below). Each additional person beyond the initial 4 is only \$15.

How it works:

Complete the form below and list every technology educator in your building. If your department has teachers in more than one building, duplicate the form and provide us with the correct school address for each educator. That way separate buildings in the same school district can be combined to increase your savings. All names listed must be employees of the same school district. Tally the fees on the form and send it along with a check or school purchase order to the address on the bottom of the form. **To be eligible for all benefits of this special pricing, school subscriptions should be sent as soon as possible.**

What you get:

Each person receives: a personal copy of the *Interface*, all association mailings and notices, invitations to attend regional technology education meetings and workshops, unlimited access to the WTEA website, discounted admission to the association's annual technology education conference, and eligibility to receive all association awards (educator of the year, program of the year, award of excellence, 25 year award). All mailings will be sent to the school address on the form. This school year subscription will expire the following fall. This form will be published in the *Interface* each fall; it is also available on the WTEA website.

Please type or print all information. Duplicate this form as necessary.

School District _____ School Name _____

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| Name and email | # of years teaching | Fee |
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| 3 _____ | _____ | \$20 |
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| 5 _____ | _____ | \$15 |

Each additional person is \$15 each; names and school address may be attached on a separate sheet.

Please note: The Interface is published 3 times per year: fall, winter and spring.

**Send this form with check or Purchase Order to: WTEA PO Box 531 Rhineland, WI 54501
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UW-Oshkosh and Fox Valley Technical College Launch Teacher Education Program in Technology and Engineering Education

By Michael E. Beeth, Ph.D., UW-Oshkosh

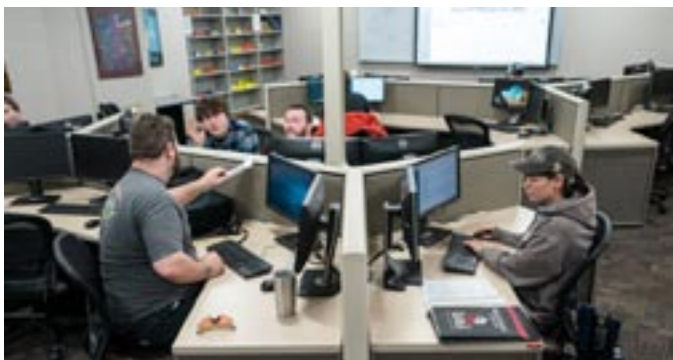
The University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh and Fox Valley Technical College (FVTC) launched a new technology and engineering teacher preparation program to help meet the ever growing demand in K-12 schools. Students enrolled in the sequential degree program will complete specific technology content courses in construction, transportation, engineering/manufacturing and communication/information technology and all of the education coursework required to receive the 1220 Department of Public Instruction license in Technology and Engineering Education.

Graduates of the program will earn an Associate of Applied Studies degree from Fox Valley Technical College and the Bachelor of Science in Education degree from UW-Oshkosh. UW-Oshkosh education professor Michael Beeth said the collaborative degree program blends and leverages expertise from faculties at both institutions to accomplish a shared mission – the production of K-12 technology education teachers in Northeastern Wisconsin and throughout the state. “Future educators will benefit from our program’s seamless pathway to gain the knowledge, skills and dispositions to be successful in the classroom. Graduates will be equipped to teach a wide variety of courses offered by school districts, while preparing K-12 students for immediate employment or continued education,” Beeth said. Appleton West High School Prin-

cipal Mark McQuade sees the demand for highly skilled jobs in advanced manufacturing in northeastern Wisconsin depends on exceptional technical education teachers. “Technical education teachers are at a premium as districts and the private sector vie for their services,” he said. “I’m excited that Fox Valley Technical College and UW-Oshkosh recognized an opportunity to train more technical education teachers and are working collaboratively to meet the needs of our schools and to support the needs of a vibrant, local economy.

The FVTC/UW-Oshkosh Technology and Engineering Teacher Education program started accepting students fall semester 2020. Andy Rinke, Dean of Transportation Technologies at Fox Valley Technical College, is excited to get this initiative started, adding that these careers are rewarding due to access to the latest technologies and innovative partnerships with industry. “Technical education is a consistent gateway to promising careers, and with a growing and changing economy we need quality teacher educators to help shape the workforce of today,” Rinke said.

For more information about this licensure program see our website (<https://uwosh.edu/coehs/departments/teaching-learning/pk12/techeducation/>) or contact: Dr. Michael Beeth (beeth@uwosh.edu) or 920.424.3326.



Introducing the Editor-in-Training - Duane Apel

We have all heard the saying, “Those are some big shoes to fill!” It will soon be my turn to try to fill the big shoes of Doug MacKenzie as he begins training me to replace him as editor of this fine magazine. I do not officially take over until fall of 2021 but have been asked to introduce myself to our readership as I begin learning the ropes now.

I grew up in Menomonie, and eventually earned my undergraduate and master’s degrees at UW-Stout in Tech Ed. I moved to West Bend and took my first and only teaching job at nearby Slinger High School in 1980. I taught building construction, drafting and architecture courses, applied technology and driver education. In 1990 I created our graphic arts program and eventually became department chairman of our Technology & Engineering Department until my retirement in 2018. I was privileged to oversee a variety of clubs including student council, yearbook, SADD, Graphics Club and SkillsUSA. I also served on the State SkillsUSA Center Board. I enjoyed officiating W.I.A.A. basketball for over 40 years. I continue to run Slinger High School’s summer Driver Ed program.



Personally, I am happily married for 40 years and am the proud father of two wonderful children. I enjoy watching the Brewers, Bucks, and Packers and as a long-time season ticket holder one of my favorite pastimes is attending UW Badger football games! I also enjoy fishing, biking, reading and volunteering. I am a very blessed cancer survivor.

I am excited to begin training as the future Interface editor! I will work hard to continue its tradition of providing a great venue to share ideas from our TE educators across the state, allow schools to showcase their great accomplishments, and provide the WTEA Board an avenue to communicate with all of us. It continues to be a great method for recognizing our highest achieving educators while also providing our vendors a chance to promote their products and services. I am learning from the best by working closely with Doug this school year, meeting our printer, and learning the ins and outs of gathering articles from you and assembling them to create a great magazine. I encourage your suggestions and look forward to working with the board and all of you!



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Building a “CNC Mill” With Donated Milwaukee Routers and VEX Robotics

By Matthew Schultz, LakeView Technology Academy

Pallets of Milwaukee power tools were shipped to Wisconsin Schools last fall courtesy of Wisconsin’s very own Milwaukee Tool. My school, like most, received pallets with high quantities of similar tools. What is one to do with 80 hand held routers better than to make small personal CNC’s? In my freshman level “Introduction to Programming and Robotics Class” I decided it would be a great project to not only teach students how to use CNC, but to actually design and build their very own. Obviously, this was before school closings due to the pandemic.



Over the course of five weeks, students designed a body for the CNC in Autodesk Inventor and cut out six panels to be bonded together to make the frame of the CNC. I decided I didn’t want to rely too much on the VEX robotics for the side walls. That would require too many parts and too much time to build. Instead, 1/4”



plywood cut with the laser worked perfectly. I broke the class up into teams of four - this number was perfect to divide the responsibilities. The categories included: frame, CNC holder and Z axis, Carriage assembly with X and Y movement, and programming. Students designed and 3D printed odd parts needed to make this assembly work. We used 1/2” PVC for rails along with VEX parts for guides. The creativity in solutions for router holders and how the gantries would move was very impressive for freshmen.

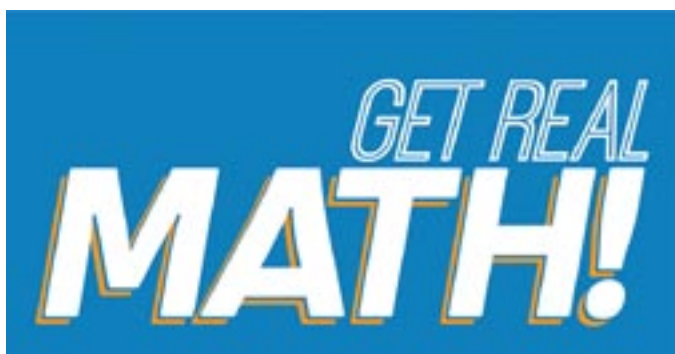
The students had to program the CNC in three modes. Mode one is “Jog Mode” which calls for button control to operate the machine’s three axes. Mode two is again “Jog Mode” but instead of using the button controls it uses the VEX joystick to move the CNC. The last mode, which was the most difficult to program, is a closed loop program to move the CNC using a shaft encoder. With the difficulty of this program we started simple and made a rectangle. As students began to get the hang of it, they experimented more with their program. When I wrote this article, we were still finishing up construction of the CNC, and working on programming. No, this CNC is not programmed with G-Code or CAM, which would require far more programming than I teach in this class. If this project is a success, I do plan to look at the DIY CNC router kits. The students loved this project, and every day they impressed me with their new design solutions and creative problem solving.

I plan to bring a few routers to the conference for the project showcase to show off just how cool and easy this project is. Stay tuned.

A special thanks to Milwaukee Tool for donating the tools used to inspire this project!

NEW Manufacturing Alliance Eager to Work with Tech Ed Teachers

The NEW Manufacturing Alliance (NEWMA) is eager to work with tech ed teachers in the 2020 - 2021 school year. Ann Franz, executive director of NEWMA, stated “Educators are needing to identify online resources like never before, due to many schools having part or all of their instruction held virtually.” She added “NEWMA has numerous free online tools to help during this difficult time including, Get Real Math videos, All Stars career videos and virtual career speakers available in the month of October.”



Get Real Math videos were created in response to a teacher’s frustration expressed at a Math Summit NEWMA hosted. The Green Bay area math teacher stated, “Can you help me answer the question I get asked all of the time from my students - ‘When am I ever going to use this in the real world?’” Get Real Math videos feature 4th through high school Common Core math skills. The real world examples are from manufacturing companies. Teacher lesson plans are included in the program. Titles of some of the videos include “What does toilet paper have to do with math?” and “What does a sinking ship have to do with math?” To view the free videos and teacher lesson plans go to <https://newmfgalliance.org/educators-students/get-real-math-videos/>.

NEWMA over the past 13 years has been featuring people that work in manufacturing in a careers magazine called the “All Stars.” There are numerous careers featured in the annual publication including welders, engineers, machinists and industrial maintenance techs. Franz shared, “I used to speak to students about why they should go into a manufacturing career, but I realized that the best person to speak about the career is someone working in manufacturing.” The 3 minute videos bring the student

into a manufacturing facility to see what advanced manufacturing is all about. The 2020 All Stars magazine can be found at <http://www.insightdigital.biz/i/1188582-2020-all-stars/0?>. To view the over 100 career videos from past All Star magazines go to <https://newmfgalliance.org/educators-students/career-videos/>.



The month of October is designated as manufacturing month in the state of Wisconsin. New this year, in addressing the issue of in-person job shadows due to COVID-19, NEWMA will be hosting several virtual career speakers. On Wednesdays and Fridays throughout October, students can hear directly from different career speakers. For more information on how your students can participate in this virtual event, contact Ann Franz at ann.franz@nwtc.edu or 920-498-5587.

The organization is committed to working with educators by holding monthly STEM and K-12 taskforce meetings. For more information about the organization, go to: www.newmfgalliance.org.

Trashbots: The Future of STEM Learning

Rohit and Sidharth Srinivasan, co-founders of Trashbots, spent their formative years fascinated by technology and the ability to change lives. During their trips to volunteer at orphanages across India, they witnessed a lack of opportunities afforded to children in accessing a STEM education. The brothers and entrepreneurs were motivated to create a platform and a solution that is accessible and adaptable to any environment. The result, Trashbots, is a community of creators pushing the boundaries of robotics and coding and has become the future of STEM learning. Trashbots is a full-service robotics platform that comes with the hardware to build, the software to code, and the training resources to support interactive learning.

Having founded Trashbots while still in school, 19-year-old Rohit and 17-year-old Sidharth offer unique per-

spectives informed by their journey through the modern U.S. education system. “The global pandemic has uprooted our education system, as we know it, making room for innovation and the opportunity to reimagine the future of learning.” The co-founders of Trashbots said, “We launched Trashbots as a way to close the gap in STEM education by creating an accessible robotics and coding platform for every student and teacher worldwide. Now more than ever, the adoption of an affordable, high quality STEM platform will be crucial to rebuilding and preparing students for the modern economy.”

Let us prepare your students for a future of success. Let us create something new together. To learn more about Trashbots and partnership opportunities, please visit <https://trashbots.co/>.

A large promotional banner for Trashbots. On the left, a green Trashbot robot is shown with a yellow gear and a black sensor module. Below it, a smartphone displays the Trashbots coding interface. On the right, the Trashbots logo is displayed with the tagline "play productively". Below the logo, the text reads: "Let us prepare your students for a future of success. Let us create something new together." At the bottom, it says: "Follow @trashbotsco on Instagram • Website: <https://trashbots.co/>".

trashbots
play productively

Let us prepare your students for a future of success. Let us create something new together.

Follow @trashbotsco on Instagram • Website: <https://trashbots.co/>

Summer Teacher Training Institute 2020

By Brent Kindred, Vice-President, The Foundation of WATDA

There is nothing normal about the summer we are having and the impact it is having on our lives. This included canceling the annual summer training institute scheduled in early July. Even though this was canceled, we knew now more than ever, teachers needed help for the upcoming school year. Ultimately, we designed a blended learning opportunity that allowed some teachers to be on-site while others could participate via live stream from the comfort and safety of their home.

The host for our July 28th event was Fond du Lac High School and automotive teacher Patrick Gaetzke. We were welcomed by The Foundation's Chairman of the Board, Mr. Lawrence Meade Jr. who delivered inspirational and uplifting remarks to start the day. Part of Chairman Meade's message was to stress the importance of the work transportation teachers are doing and how valuable it is to the entire industry. Dan Klecker, Foundation Education Director, followed by highlighting the importance for teachers to do the best they can during these unprecedented times and he outlined the agenda for the day.



Foundation Chairman, Lawrence Meade Jr. addressing the teachers.



Foundation Education Field Manager, Carl Hader teaching a session with social distancing and masks.

The rest of the day was designed to be robust, with teacher sharing time and delivering instructional strategies for the fall semester. To start, each teacher in attendance was given five minutes to share their spring semester successes and what did not go well. This session set the foundation for the day and influenced learning sessions that took place later. Some of the sessions focused on creating videos for the CARS curriculum, using Google classroom for CARS curriculum, using video games as instructional tools and Ford ACE curriculum updates. One aspect that was consistent throughout the day was the professional sharing and dialog.



1965 Ford Mustang, part of the car show.

During lunch, a number of vendors exhibited in the parking lot as well as a mini car show. This allowed time for teachers to talk with these companies, enjoy a few cars, and continue sharing their thoughts and strategies for the upcoming semester.

Thank you to everyone that contributed to this day and for making it a huge success at such a critical time for our teachers.

Building Wisconsin's Future

What started as seeing a need to help enhance resources to better reach tactile learners at Burlington High School, has turned into a 15-year effort spanning seven different high schools and districts across the state focused on providing students with enhanced academic and technical skills necessary to pursue a career in the construction industry. As the Associated General Contractors (AGC) of Wisconsin's involvement at Burlington High School evolved, it became apparent that there were other schools and districts who could also benefit from having more industry involvement in the classroom. This resulted in the creation of what is now called the "ACE" Academy program which stands for Architecture, Construction and Engineering. The ACE Academy model is a multi-year program that incorporates core academic subjects with construction-trade technical education classes, while calling on general and specialty contractors to help provide technical training.

The success of the "Academy Approach" has been realized with over 2,000 students participating in programs at Burlington, Fond du Lac, Kimberly, La Crosse, Marshfield, Tomah as well as Park, Horlick and Case High Schools at Racine Unified School District. Participation in the Academy includes an application process that has GPA and attendance requirements. Required courses include various Math, English and Economics courses as well as Principles of Building Trades, Engineering & Architecture, and Business Principles. Graduates of the program have an opportunity to earn a certificate from the AGC of Wisconsin. In addition, through the partnership with their local Technical Colleges, students have the ability to earn college credit

toward a two or four-year Construction Management degree program which provides a postsecondary pathway.

The strength of the AGC, a statewide professional trade association for the commercial construction industry, lies in its more than 200 member firms who are dedicated to ensuring skill, responsibility and integrity in the industry. The AGC connects its members with each high school to provide job shadow opportunities, job site tours, hands-on workshops, guest speakers, mentors and youth apprenticeship resources. Also, twice a year, ACE Academy instructors and administrators are brought

together for professional development retreats to exchange best practices, receive additional industry training and tour a job site. Most recently, given the increased demand for virtual resources during the pandemic, the AGC of Wisconsin has leveraged its industry connections to help provide online educational resources focused on construction safety, construction math and blueprint reading.

A 2020 survey conducted by the AGC of America found that 81% of contractors are "having a hard time" filling salaried and hourly craft positions. This significant demand for craft workers has resulted in increased wages and benefits for employees beginning their construction careers. Even during a global pandemic, Wisconsin's construction economy has remained strong and the timing has never been better to promote careers in construction, so we can keep BUILDING WISCONSIN!

If you or your school is interested in learning more about the AGC and the ACE Academy model, please contact Jeff Roach, Director of Marketing & Industry Outreach at (608) 221-3821 or email Jeff at jeff.roach@agcwi.org.



ARTICLE

WTEA Student Ambassador Program Kick Off

By Matt Schultz, WTEA Secretary/Treasurer

This school year will kick off the WTEA Student Ambassador Program! The Student Ambassador Program is an opportunity for teachers to reach out to potential students who show a strong interest or potential in becoming Technology Education Teachers.

The WTEA has developed a program that provides structure, activities, and opportunities for teachers to mentor students with the goal of entering the field of Technology Education. The WTEA believes that with positive guidance and worthwhile learning and teaching activities, students interested in Technology Education will be on the right path to a fulfilling career.

The WTEA Student Ambassador Program will be hosting an online meeting for all teachers interested in learning more about the Student Ambassador Program. This informational meeting will be October 8th at 7:00 pm. There will be a link to the meeting via the tech ed list serve this fall at the start of school. The WTEA Student Ambassador Program committee strongly encourages all

interested teachers to attend. This meeting will outline the program and the opportunities the WTEA provides.

The goal this year with the program is to have two registrations. The first one will be first semester in November and the second will be second semester in February. This way schools that run year-long classes and semester long classes can both recruit students for the program.

The Student Ambassador Committee cannot stress enough that this program will be a success if the classroom teachers will invest in it. The future of our profession relies on all of us to continue to inspire students to feed that pipeline of future teachers. It is not a lot of work on the teachers end - the WTEA has taken that responsibility off of you by creating this program. Your job now is to just inspire and mentor. So be a part of this great program and fantastic opportunity for your students. Join us October 8th at 7:00 pm to learn more about the WTEA Student Ambassador Program. Please don't hesitate to send any questions to Matt Schultz at mjschult@kUSD.edu.

Check your expiration date NOW!

Check the first line of your address on the back cover of this magazine to see when your membership expires.

You may not receive the next issue of the *Interface* unless your dues are paid beyond 2020.



Plan now to attend the 52nd WTEA Annual Conference

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Your guide to flexible learning

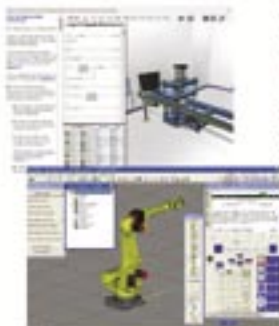
Don't go it alone. We're here to help, no matter what classes look like this year.



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Teach hands-on skills
with authentic industrial
training systems



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with video game-level
graphics, pre and post
quizzes & full instructor
learning management
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