

**St. Charles County
Workforce Development Board**

Manufacturing Task Force

Mission Statement:

The St. Charles County Workforce Development System is an alliance of public and private leaders dedicated to moving careers, companies and communities forward through workforce development that impacts local wages, economic development that impacts local business investment and community development that impacts the local tax base.

Committee: Manufacturing Task Force (November 16, 2022)

Attending Manufacturing Taskforce

WDB Members: Michael Hurlbert, and Amanda Sizemore

Attending

Manufacturing Task Force Members:

Pat Brown, Fort Zumwalt School District
Tammie De Los Santos, St. Charles Community College
Scott Drachnik – EDC of St. Charles County
Kathy Duck, O’Fallon Chamber of Commerce
Diana Forbes- General Motors
Debbie Gavin – National Cart
Patrick McKeehan, City of O’Fallon
Justin Miller, True Manufacturing
Debbie Muraski – National Cart
John Pollihan, Component Bar
Julie Powers, City of St. Peters
Shani Smith, Nike
Dave Sweda, Seyer Industries

Attending Guests:

Todd Balblerz, St. Charles Community College
Dan Presson, SEMO

Staff: Lori Myers

1. Welcome/Comments

Michael Hurlbert welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. Special thanks to Tammie De Los Santos with the St. Charles Community College for hosting the meeting and to Scott Drachnik with the EDC of St. Charles County for providing lunch.

2. Presentation – St. Charles Community College Workforce & Technical Training Facility

Todd Galblerz, Senior VP for Administrative Services provided information on the new Workforce & Technical Training Facility being developed in Wentzville for the St. Charles Community College.

3. Approve Task Force Meeting Minutes from August 24, 2022

The minutes from the August 24, 2022, meeting were reviewed. Amanda Sizemore made a motion to accept the minutes. Scott Drachnik seconded the motion, and all were in favor. Minutes approved.

4. Manufacturing Day

Tammie De Los Santos provided an overview of Manufacturing Day 2022. She indicated that 600 students participated. They had 9 tour sites and 26 expo vendors.

Future of Manufacturing Day discussion: Kathy Duck facilitated a discussion on the future of Manufacturing Day. The group discussed current workforce challenges:

- Retention
- Attraction
- Attendance (current and new employees)
- Internal equity
- Finding qualified candidates
- Lack of awareness
- Upskilling
- Leadership development
- Transportation
- Wage expectations
- Benefit awareness – how to convey the value of benefits to young people

The biggest workforce challenge was determined to be attraction.

Ideas of what the group can do together were discussed:

- Transportation
- Market career pathways
- Parent education
- Teacher education – need to make schools aware of tuition reimbursement options offered by businesses to their employees.
- Collaboration with continued education.
- Video/Media attention (marketing)
- Events

Next step – create a marketing plan. Kathy will work on a draft marketing plan.

5. Local Workforce & Economic Development Update

Lori gave an update on the latest local unemployment numbers for September 2022.

6. Next Meeting Date:

The next meeting is scheduled for February 22, 2023, at 12:00 p.m.

7. Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn, it was seconded. All were in favor.