



MINUTES

SRJC – Sonoma County High Schools Automotive Technology Meeting Thursday, September 23, 2010, Noon – 1:30 SRJC – Lounibous Hall

Attendees:

Present: Paul Adelman, SRJC; Don Billing, CGHS; Fred Brunton, PCSD; Charbonnier, O'Reilly Auto Parts; John Chocholak, UHS; Vic Colli, Auto/SRHS; Glen Jones, Freeman Toyota; Lonnie Harwell, Maria Carrillo High School; Gray Kramer, SnapOn Industrial; Ron Luongo, AHS; John Rossi, RCHS; Paul Adelman SRJC; Steve Cohen, Dean, SRJC; Rick Hull, Mechanic/SRJC; Jim Kelly, Chair, SRJC; Bob Miller, SRJC; Nancy Miller, SRCS; Eve Nighswonger, SRJC; Cliff Norton, SRJC; Ben Sikes, SRJC; Rick, McLeas Tires; Rick Sanguinetti, Tri-Star Automotive; Gordon Yaswen, SRJC; Dave Yoast, SRJC; Kris Dalby, SRJC.

Members Unable to Attend:

Troy Aldridge, Freeman Collision; Don Brink, DuPont; Fred Brunton, Auto/ PCSD; Mason Forkey, Sichel's Auto Body; Hari Dhaliwal, Drive Rite Auto Repair; Stephen Jackson, Director, SCOE/ROP; Jerry Marquis; Chuck Rowe, Hansel Prestige Imports; Richard Schreuder, Big Valley Wine Tours; Mark Stratos, CGHS;

Agenda:

- **Welcome**
 - Introductions were made, and the minutes from the prior meeting were approved.
- **Public Comments and New Business**
 - AB24456 passed and requires high school students to take a CTE course as a graduation requirement.
- **New Equipment**
 - Equipment delivered and a demonstration is being scheduled. A recommendation for replacing a wheel and tire changing machine included Coast & Hunter (good service) or Bosche vs. Kogi (hard to fix.)
- **AAA Grant and Progress on Ford Focus**

- The electric conversion of the Ford Focus in the Electrical Vehicle course is scheduled for completion by the end of October. Any further adjustments will be completed by end-December. SRJC faculty, Peter, Ed, and Chris, were thanked for their efforts in this program.
- **Appetizer Engine Progress**
 - An engine designed to run on vegetable and olive oil was demonstrated in class, while bread baked on the engine, much to the delight and interest of students.
- **Auto 101**
 - This course has been redesigned to address the peripheral aspects of automotive (i.e. sales, fleets, and maintenance.) This one-semester course is for two credits and provides a valuable overview of the industry and knowledge requisites. It was recommended that the certificate program include keyboarding, communications skills and customer service. Technology is huge with all data entered into computers, technical and problem solving skills, and knowledge of parts and the catalogue are also important.
 - The industry is shifting from human to electronic interaction, and doing more with less. A technology course would greatly benefit high school students entering the industry. Most shops are hiring year-round; and, while down from four years ago, technician hiring is on the rise. Diesel mechanics are in more demand with utility companies, and municipal and state government.
- **Curriculum**
 - The Alternative Fuels certificate program has been in place three years. There is continued enthusiasm regarding electrical, methane, ethanol, biodiesel, and hybrids. Since first responders to accidents can be hazardous, additional training is needed.
 - Feedback from industry on expanding to this program included:
 - SRJC should continue the alternative program as industry is continuing to release these types of cars, specifically hybrid and EV due to their popularity.
 - There is no infrastructure for hydrogen (dependence on fossil fuel); and C&G for transition (backlash due to fracturing).
 - Enrollment in automotive courses is impacted with all sections full prior to open registration. High School students are encouraged to take Counseling 270 in the summer and or a Math and/or English class to obtain priority registration.
- **Sonoma County Office of Education**
 - Course Outlines: The previously distributed course outlines for Automotive Technology, Advanced Automotive Technology, Auto Body, and Advanced Auto Body were approved as submitted by the advisory committee.
 - Economic Outlook: The employment projections through 2018 are positive for both automotive service technicians and mechanics in California and the U.S. with +2,700 and +18,000 forecast.¹ Wages are following the same positive trend.² Local employment and wages are following the same positive trends.³

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

¹ State and National Trends, Career OneStop, www.careerinfonet.org, 09/16/10.

² Ibid.

³ Economic Development Board, www.sonoma-county.org, September, 2010.