



Welding Advisory Meeting

Date & Time: October 20, 2014

Location: TE 7 conference room

Participants/Attendees:

Name	Email	Affiliation
Miguel Ramirez		Iron worker
Jerome Udager		Los Angeles Co. DPW/Adjunct
Gary Wheeler		Faculty, welding
Diane Walker	diane	AVUHSD, College & Careers Coordinator
Dr. Karen Cowell		Dean, CTE
Tom Olivares		Mojave HS teacher/Adjunct
Sergio Montana		Lincoln Electric, salesman
Susan Clipperton	susanclipperton@mojave.k12.ca.us	Mojave Unified HSD, CTE coordinator/renewable energy coordinator
Doug Clipperton		President, Mojave Chamber of Commerce; retired welder
Cindy Nelson	cnelson@avhsd.org	Agriculture/ag mechanics teacher, Littlerock HS

Program Updates: New equipment—Want to develop a pipe welding course/orbital welding; Want to develop structural test lab; Pipe Welding I would be for experienced welder, Pipe Welding II would be for robotics and tube welding. Layout class is in the works. Purchased a robotic welder, a virtual welder, other smaller welders, fans. Lincoln donated a TiG welder. Will be reconfiguring the electric in the lab by summer; Purchasing a shear, multipurpose lathe/mill/drill press, portable welding booths.

There is pipe welding training seminars in Ohio. There are weekend seminars in Victorville. Gary may go to AWS training for the CWI.

Lincoln provided training and discount on supplies.

Additional sections of welding classes were added for fall. Offering classes at different times of day to accommodate students who can only attend day or evening. Ultimate goal is to get students certified



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and in workforce. College of the Canyons has a fast track that we may be able to offer for fee so students can get more welding experience to be able to pass the structural test. We will be talking to Corporate and Community Services to offer this.

WELD 101 can be offered again for students to get an introduction to the craft. Susie said it might be something that could be offered at the HS level and articulate it. Then students could move to WELD 110. Only have 13 arc welding booths but could swap students between oxyacetylene and arc welding, so that would have to be the pattern for WELD 101.

We are hiring a Welding Instructional Assistant. Interviews will be held in the next month.

Program Outcomes:

3 AS degrees; 2 certificates in 2013-14. Skills builders who do not complete the program but take a few courses. Gary is integrating "Welding Skills" certificates that align with the AWS SENSE program. Students have three opportunities to take the test per test.

Labor Market Indicators: 14% decline anticipated in North LA County between now and 2016 for general welders; 0% growth anticipated for structural steel welders. In East Kern County and Bakersfield demand is increasing. Moratorium on fracking has stopped. In LA there is a lot of construction. Investors are building multi-unit buildings. Companies are looking for certified welders. Studios are hiring structural steel /AWS welders who are certified. Riggers and chokers and layout people are in demand. Fabrication class would teach these skills. BYD wants aluminum fluid filler certification (spool welding).

Curriculum Updates: Gary will be working on the curriculum revisions within a few months.

Comments from Industry Participants/Open Forum:

Littlerock HS would like to articulate welding courses, but they don't have enough equipment. AVC could do the labor and build the tables if HSD supplies the materials.

Mojave HS would like to articulate WELD 101. Would like to see more counselors who understand welding.

Employers can tell a serious welder by appearance. Applicants must appear ready to work. The more degrees and certifications that students have, the better off they are. Would like to have more local opportunities for education.

AVC needs to sell the AS degree in welding, need to show value. Students are going to want to be in management when they get older, so they need to get credentials when they are young.

Students need hands-on as well as aptitude. Students need to have basics and critical thinking to go with their book knowledge as well as tools. They need to have ability to use the manuals and figure things out.

Welding is getting Perkins funding at Mojave this year. They are getting a lathe, bought a miller, looking a combination welders. Added 10 more booths. Getting smaller inverters to make more space. Tom will be going to Ohio for his CWI. Businesses (Cal Portland) are sending employees to MHS at night to get



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certain welding techniques. HS students are coming to the evening program from three different HS's. AVHSD got approval to purchase two Reality Works simulators for PHS and Littlerock HS. Littlerock HS would like Gary & Sergio to come to their shop before 10/31 submission for Perkins funds. If would like to articulate, they need updated equipment. Gary touted getting students involved in Skills USA to put the spotlight on the program. When students win gold medals at the HS and college level, it is hard to close the program. AVC will have electrical, air conditioning and welding at Skills USA competition. Foundation grant paid for this. Regionals are in January; registration is coming up soon.

Future plans: Pipe welding curriculum
Open house in February or March.

Request for ideas for additional resources:
Perkins for HS and AVC.

Other items that are required by accrediting/approval/regulatory bodies:
We need to have budget for fees for SENSE program (approximately \$1500 for four years).
Professional development for instructors to become certified instructors.