



Iowa Sector Connect – Agriculture, Construction, & Energy Group Call Notes

Dial-In Number: 1-866-685-1580, Conference Code: 5152813866

Tuesday, January 14th

8:30 – 9:30 AM

Purpose: Opportunity for Agriculture, Construction, and Energy sector partnership teams from across the state to network and share updates about their programs, offer recommendations/best practices, and ask questions of one another so that each program continues to grow and thrive.

Attendance: Kylie Renee Gudenkauf (KCC), Kyra Bellrichard (NICC), Ryan Klumpers (IEWC), Joe Collins (IDOE).

Group Topic #1 – Build My Future Events

Joe has been helping to plan for the statewide 2020 *Build My Future* skilled trade events planned for March & April. These events are meant to be an opportunity for students to experience different careers through hands-on interactions, simulators, games, equipment, and other activities. Visit www.lowaSkilledTrades.com to learn more and to view pictures, videos, and other resources from previous events. The event in Des Moines was a huge success last year with over 3,000 students. They are expanding this year to include more industries like transportation, health care, manufacturing, and automotive maintenance. Great opportunity to bring your students or to partner with the group on a local event in the future.

Group Topic #2 – Building Trades Work-Based Learning Toolkit

The IDOE is working on a series of industry-themed work-based learning toolkits aimed at helping to build out more work-based learning opportunities across the state for employers. This is often the next step for students interested in a field, such as classroom speakers, job shadows, or internships, but employers and educators often struggle with connecting the dots to put something in place. Toolkits for were released in August for [Health Science](#) and October for [Advanced Manufacturing](#). Similar guides will be produced going forward in the building trades, TDL, and other industries.

Team/Program Updates

Kirkwood – The board is currently working on updating their main online portal at <https://explore-ace.org/> and combining with other local industries for a more consolidated landing page and experience for students. Also hoping to do more collaborative events, such as partnering with the TDL board on their annual Rolling Rally event to promote careers across industries.

A *Build My Future* event is being planned for April 21st, 2020. The event last year was a big success, but they limited attendees to around 150 local 7th and 8th grade students. This year they are expanding to include over 500 students and hoping to pull in more employers (+/- 40 total) to meet the large interest from schools, which is also being expanded from 10 schools to around 27 total.

The board has set a goal of providing more networking events and opportunities to provide more camps for students, such as architecture, engineering, and building. A project from a previous kid camp involved students building food pantry collection boxes that were then placed around the community to help collect food for the needy. Also currently planning an event for the Fall in coordination with the regional [ICR Iowa](#)

group that will be named *ICR Inspire*. This large event will serve as a secondary touch point for students who have expressed interests in various careers this year, in an effort to keep that interest strong and to continue the conversation for career and education planning.

Iowa Energy Workforce Consortium – The group met in December after being on hiatus for a while following some leadership changes. One big goal for 2020 is to identify and attend more career or experience day events across the state to have a presence as unified group representing the industry, not as individual employers. The first such event will fall in February at Indianola Middle School. Group is discussing greater interaction or collaboration on Future Ready Iowa and Build My Future events also.

Northeast – The board has been involved in setting up a new earn-&-learn program for construction students, with the 1st cohort of students beginning soon. Students will work on rehabilitating or updating homes around Dubuque neighborhoods that have been identified for attention by the City of Dubuque. Once finished with some of these homes, students will move up to more advanced programs and training options, such as through partnerships like [Four Mounds' HEART Partnership](#).

General/State/Misc Updates

2019/2020 Career Pathways Projects: The two industries chosen for career pathway development in 2019 were the [Building Trades](#) and Transportation, Distribution, & Logistics (TDL). A final Building Trades product released in August and TDL is planned to release in December. Target industries for 2020 are Business & Financial Services and a refresh/reboot for Information Technology.

Sector Partnership Webinar Training Series (July-August 2019): The IDOE partnered with the [Next Generation Sector Partnership](#) team to offer a series of Iowa-exclusive sector partnership webinars for anyone interested in or currently active with sector strategies. Recordings of the 5-part series can be viewed on the main sector partnership [site](#) or on the [Iowa Sector Connect](#) YouTube channel. Each session is 90 minutes, consisting of a 60-minute review of topics by Next Gen national consultants and 30-minute Q&A from the audience.

Clearinghouse for Work-Based Learning: One aspect of Future Ready Iowa initiative that relates closely with many of the goals of sector partnership teams is a new web site that will act as a clearinghouse for work-based learning opportunities across the state. Employers will be able to post projects online for students from across the state to apply for and begin working on to earn valuable work-skills and experience. The full site and project board are now live at [Clearinghouse.FutureReadyIowa.gov](#). Contact Joe to learn more and to brainstorm idea of how to get local employers more involved.

AmeriCorps Sector Partnership Support: Funding has been secured to assist sector partnership teams with support for their local initiatives surrounding employer engagement, marketing/outreach, and career pathway development. An informative webinar was held in October and can be viewed <https://youtu.be/o7CAOChM9do> online and groups are asked to have [applications](#) completed and submitted by the end of November.

2019/2020 Call Schedule

*All calls are scheduled for 8:30 AM – 9:30 AM, unless otherwise noted

2019 – 01/08, 03/12, 05/14, 07/09, 09/10, 11/12

2020 – 01/14, 03/10, 05/12, 07/14, 09/08, 11/10