



FAME e-News – Fall 2012

- **From the Chair, Mike Mandina** (FAME Chair; President of Optimax Systems, Inc.)
FAME Members,
Finally, all levels of government and education realize we need to make fundamental changes to our educational system. What they don't know is WHAT changes to make and HOW to make them. FAME members have been engaged in many initiatives to help close the skilled worker gap. Here is an update on two initiatives that I have personally worked on.

In October, I went to Washington DC with Business Leaders United (BLU) - a group of other employers - and we called on Congress and the two presidential campaigns to:

1. Reconsider wholesale across-the-board cuts to workforce training programs, and at least restore skills funding to its pre-recession levels;
2. Increase the number of workers trained with these federal dollars by reauthorizing, on a bipartisan basis, the Workforce Investment Act and related skills programs with a new requirement that states and localities increase the percentage of funds spent on job-directed basic skills and technical training, in order to prepare more workers for waiting skilled jobs; and
3. Support effective practices in future proposals to be developed by the Obama Administration or the Romney Administration, as well as the 113th Congress, for introduction in early 2013. These include a greater focus on industry-recognized credential attainment, expansion of sector partnership strategies, greater support for employer partnerships with colleges and local service providers, and accelerated hiring through on-the-job training.

For more information on BLU, visit: <http://www.nationalskillscoalition.org/the-issues/blu/>

In the area of New York State education, I have been participating on the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Advisory Panel, commissioned by the NYS Board of Regents to make recommendations for strengthening the CTE K-12 instructional base leading to a CTE regents accredited graduation pathway. We will be providing an action plan for deployment by the NYS Department of Education that will infuse applied learning and technical career education into our system, something that has been driven out of the current system as a consequence of *No Child Left Behind* among other well-intentioned, but ultimately damaging, programs that have widened the skills gap.

An outcome of this work should be a roll out through the NYS Department of Education that gives students a choice to graduate from high school with a Regents Diploma in a career field, such as Machining, or Science, Engineering and Math (STEM), or the standard General Studies Regents that includes Global Studies. Additionally, K-12 education will look for ways to infuse applications into the education process by working to break down silos between traditional learning disciplines. A tall order to say the least, but without the intent to make the change, nothing can be done. Today, there is intent, I expect that there will be action beginning in 2013.

I'll keep you posted!

Mike Mandina

- **Save the date for FAME's annual signature event - College AND Career Ready – How New Requirements in Schools Will Impact YOUR Future Workforce!**
FAME's annual signature event will be held on January 17, 2013 (4 to 6:30 p.m.) at the MCC campus, and will feature **Dr. Willard R. Daggett, Founder of the International Center for Leadership in Education**. Dr. Daggett is recognized worldwide for his proven ability to move preK-12 education

systems towards more rigorous and relevant skills and knowledge for all students. The skills and knowledge needed for success in today's technology-based manufacturing sector are different from those needed in the past, and Dr. Daggett will describe how changes in NYS common core standards and assessments will impact our schools and better prepare the workforce of the future—and how manufacturers can assist school leaders in meeting these changes. Learn more about Dr. Daggett at: www.leadered.com

View the event web link here: <http://www.nyfame.org/documents/Save-the-dateFlyerJan2013final.pdf>
Watch your email for more event details!

- **Update from FAME's Hiring & Training Committee**

The most recent meeting of FAME's Hiring & Training Committee was held on Friday, October 26th at the FLWIB in Geneva. The meeting featured Julia Taylor from ITT, presenting on the following topic: *Julia Taylor is an Employee Safety and Health professional that leads a World Class Safety Program. She addressed the means of creating a culture and climate for delivering "best in class" safety programming. While directed at manufacturers, the concepts are applicable to any industry. She addressed both strategy and tactics for improving the well-being of your employee population. An update on FAME activities and future events was also provided. Minutes are available at: <http://www.nyfame.org/documents/FAMEHiring-TrainingMinutes10-26-12.pdf>*

- **FAME's Pipeline Committee is gearing up for Fall 2012/Winter 2013 facility tours!**

The focus of FAME's Pipeline Committee is to expose and excite youth about future careers in advanced manufacturing and STEM fields. To that end, the committee will soon be contacting FAME member companies to compile a listing of facilities willing to host student/teacher/counselor tours in the late 2012/early 2013 timeframe. If you would like to offer tours of your facility, please contact Eileen Rucinski (Pipeline Chair) at email: rucinem@kellyservices.com Eileen will also be distributing a summer internships survey soon; as one of its metrics, FAME tracks the number of student interns employed by member companies over the course of the year. If your company employed student interns during the Summer of 2012, please make sure to respond! Thank you.

- **Three local High School students receive awards for Advanced Manufacturing essays!**

Under the school tours initiative coordinated by FAME's Pipeline Committee, three local high school students have produced winning essays and will receive an award and recognition of their efforts at their local school district board meetings! Students were offered the opportunity to submit an essay on their facility tour experience as a result of Spring 2012 FAME member facility tours. The winning students hail from Palmyra-Macedon Central School, Penn Yan Central School, and Wayne Central School. Click on the links below to read the winning submissions!



- Pal-Mac Central winning essayist – Brendan Dipzinski, IEC Electronics [Read his essay here!](#)
- Penn Yan Academy winning essayist – Justin Niver, Coach & Equipment [Read his essay here!](#)
Photo of Justin and Eileen Rucinski, FAME Pipeline Committee chair, above.
- Wayne Central winning essayist – David Mooney, Harbec Plastics [Read his essay here!](#)

- **Update from FLWIB Advanced Manufacturing Career Navigator, Bill Rotenberg**

There are currently 58 participants in the Advanced Manufacturing Career Pathways (H1B) Grant enrolled in programs at Finger Lakes Community College, Genesee Community College, and Monroe Community College. These students have all started their academic programs and are on their way to careers in advanced manufacturing! Currently the grant is focused on enrolling students in our next two cohorts, January and September of 2013. Other activities include:

- Continued visits to all of the One Stop and Workforce Development Offices throughout the nine county region and training seminars for unemployed adults
- Attending regional job fairs, veteran events, and secondary open houses
- Meeting with high school students, counselors, and parents to promote Advanced Manufacturing Education and Careers
- Collaboration with the community colleges to market programs and the grant opportunity.

If you know someone who is interested in the grant opportunity or qualifying programs, contact Bill through email at: amcn@fingerlakesworks.com or at the Finger Lakes Workforce Investment Board (315)789-3131 ext. 105.

- **Join FAME's LinkedIn group for timely updates!**

Stay up-to-date on the most current advanced manufacturing workforce news! Join FAME's LinkedIn group today at the following link: http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=2889557&trk=hb_side_g

- **Summer Advanced Manufacturing Experience (SAME) a huge success!**

FAME's Pipeline Committee was instrumental in getting the Summer Advanced Manufacturing Experience (SAME) program up and running at Monroe BOCES 2. Students and instructors worked in the shop for four days out of five, for three weeks, for a total of twelve days. On each Friday they toured two companies, and each week featured a specific project. The first project was two mild steel candle stick holders, the second was a stainless steel three part whistle, and the third was an aluminum two piece marble maze. Thirteen students participated in the program, and really seemed to enjoy what they were doing! They also covered some theory and blueprint reading skills, along with drawing a print for each project plus writing a process for each project. In a win-win for all – this program featured great collaboration between FAME, County of Monroe Industrial Development Agency (COMIDA), Monroe BOCES2 WEMOCO and Monroe Community College. Hats off to all who participated to make this program a success! Click on this link to view photos of the students in action: http://www.nyfame.org/educators_innovators.asp, and make sure to read the parent testimonial below!

Mr. Hall,

I can't begin to tell you how impressed we are with this summer program. Tyler has truly enjoyed it and we are thrilled that he has found something he enjoys. My father was a machinist and he and Tyler started to talk shop. I was so impressed with what he has learned. It was neat to hear them go back and forth in this new language! - Michelle and Mark Cotturone

- **“Finger Lakes Works ... With Their Hands” event draws over 500 students!**

“Finger Lakes Works ... With Their Hands” was another resounding success this year! Held on October 4th at Rodman Lott & Son Farm in Seneca Falls, the hands-on experience focused event featured a separate FAME pavilion that was very well received by exhibitors and school staff alike this year. The flow of students was better organized by more efficiently utilizing the available buildings, and nine advanced manufacturing companies exhibited. This year also incorporated a new activity, a *Physics is Phun!* science/math show presented twice during the day so all students could be entertained. The emphasis was on how math and science are important and relative to these occupations. Drawing 547 students (433 of those in 11th and 12th grades), from 27 school districts, the event proved to be bigger and better than ever. Many thanks to the FAME members who participated for your support and promotion!



- **News you can use:**

How to create jobs: Are the Obama and Romney plans both too simplistic?

http://www.syracuse.com/news/index.ssf/2012/09/how_to_create_jobs_are_the_oba.html

Retired Lockheed Martin CEO Still Sounding Alarm about Importance of Technology and Innovation for US Competitiveness

<http://www.industryweek.com/research-amp-development/retired-lockheed-martin-ceo-still-sounding-alarm-about-importance-technolog>

Small businesses, startups targets of state aid

<http://www.democratandchronicle.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2012310120016>

'Dirty Jobs' Host Mike Rowe Hits the Campaign Trail ... and Stumps for Manufacturing!

<http://www.industryweek.com/workforce/dirty-jobs-host-mike-rowe-hits-campaign-trail-and-stumps-manufacturing>

U.S. manufacturers to train veterans for factory jobs

<http://news.yahoo.com/manufacturers-unveil-plans-train-veterans-factory-jobs-150357581--sector.html>

- **Upcoming meetings and events:**

- *FAME Pipeline Committee Meeting*

November 30, 8:30-10:30AM; Location: Southco, Inc., 250 East Street, Honeoye Falls
contact: Eileen Rucinski, e-mail: rucinem@kellyservices.com

- *FAME Annual Event: College AND Career Ready – How New Requirements in Schools Will Impact Your Future Workforce*

January 17, 4:00-6:30PM; Location: Monroe Community College, Flynn Campus Center, Warshof Conference Center, Monroe A and B
contact: Michele Stolberg, e-mail: fame@nyfame.org or visit:
<http://www.nyfame.org/documents/Save-the-dateFlyerJan2013final.pdf>

- **Welcome new FAME members!**

- Absolute Precision, LLC, www.absoluteprecisioncnc.com
- New Scale Technologies, Inc., www.newscaletech.com
- WEMOCO Career and Technical Education Center, www.monroe2boces.org

Thank you for your support of FAME!

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