

# Manufacturing Advisory Board Meeting

## Weds 1-28-2026 Minutes

Present: Joshua Levassiar from GS precision. Clayton Thompson from RJ Thompson co LLC . Don Vencie from Fulflex corp. Paul Dana from VSU [virtual]

Rich Thompson started at 2:00 with a meet and greet.

Paul Dana from VSU is a new member as he was asked by Rich to bring the group up to speed with what he does at the college .He said he has recently started as head of the collaboration arm of the college. This is an outreach program that takes in work from companies that they do in their lab. Rich asked him if part of his job was for recruitment of potential students for the engineering program. Paul said yes it is. It was discussed that in the future he would be happy to host a tour of the facility for WRCC students.

Rich then went into what we are teaching in Man 1 and 2. Showed off students' projects

Rich also told the group of a pilot program that he and the criminal justice teacher are working on with 6 middle school students. He said it is called “ makers and marshals” . He explained it was a 6 week, once a week after school class where the students work on a safe , hands-on project. He said that the class is designed to get the kids used to coming to the career center. He added the hope is that this is an investment for future years.

Don Venice asked what the numbers looked like this year, he said he heard it was very small this year due to age restrictions that were implemented. Rich said yes that is all true and the administration is working on a solution and the numbers already for next year seem to have improved a great deal.

Josh from GS said he thought his apprenticeship program may run again this fall. He would like to come over and present to the students what GS has to offer. Rich said “ of course, glad to have you anytime” He also said that he has worked and currently is working with Nicole from the foundations class in tours of GS. Josh said he plans to attend her class soon to present to her students what GSP is all about.

Then the group left the classroom and toured the lab. They spent a great deal of time at the new 5axis milling machine. Rich said we are still in the learning curve phase of this machine but are getting dangerously close to making chips. To say that the committee was impressed by the 5 axis robotic arm machine would be an understatement. They were extremely impressed. The group talked in length about what the future will bring with robots and AI.

We adjourned at 3:05

Respectfully submitted Richard Thompson

