

Diesel Technology Talent Council

August 22, 2017

East High School T-STEM Academy

Attendees

Anita Brackin, **Greater Memphis Chamber**

Robin Cole, **Southwest Tennessee Community College**

Benjamin Dancy, **Ryder**

Sue Haynes, **Ryder**

John Hodge, **Fed Ex Freight**

Gerald Joyner, **GMACWorkforce**

Meah King, **T-STEM Academy**

Marty Lipinski, **University of Memphis (SETWC)**

Glenn McDonald, **Ozark Motor Lines, Inc.**

Darrin Mellinger, **Cummins, Inc.**

Martha Mooneyhand, **Memphis Bioworks Foundation**

Avery Mull, **MATA**

Alvin Pearson, **MATA**

Allen Saffold, **Crow's Truck Service**

Mike Stephens, **Southwest C.C.**

Anita Victory, **Averitt Express**

Delories J. Williams, **Greater Memphis Chamber**

Welcome and Introductions

- Benjamin Dancy, Council Chair, and Joey Scott greeted and thanked those in attendance for coming to the August meeting.

East T-STEM Academy Overview and Tour

- Lisha Brooks, Executive Principal, introduced herself to the group and thanked the attendees for coming. She then led the council on a tour of the school. The group had the opportunity to meet staff, faculty, and students who are enrolled at T-STEM Academy.

Cummins Technical Education for Communities Program

- Darin Mellinger, Corporate Responsibility Leader at Cummins, spoke about issues with Diesel Tech's skill levels; mentioned that T-STEM is the first STEM school in North America. Cummins will review TCAT

and Shelby County Schools' curriculum and plans to add soft skills to the curriculum.

- Looking to recruit women.
- Brainstorming ways to market to teens; field trips, tours, job shadowing.
- The council attendees dialogued on ideas to recruit—start with high school or middle school students.

University of Memphis- Southeast Transportation Workforce Center

- Dr. Martin Lipinski, Director Emeritus, gave an update on the University of Memphis' Workforce Center.
- October 11 is the First Annual Freight Focus Conference.

Employer Discussion

- The council is in talks with TCAT about dual enrollment for CDL/Diesel Tech (Class B License).
- The purpose of the Manufacturing Conference is to connect industry with schools and their Career Pathways (CTE schools).
- Benjamin Dancy (Ryder) has expedited discussions with TCAT; He wants Diesel Techs to obtain their CDL so that they will be able to “verify the repair” by having a license in order to be legally able to test-drive the trucks that the repair.

Upcoming Event

- Anita Brackin (Greater Memphis Chamber) gave a review of the upcoming Manufacturing Conference at Memphis' Crescent Club scheduled for October 25, 2017.

Next Steps

- Anita Brackin (Greater Memphis Chamber) informed the group that she would be in constant contact with the council to inform of any updates concerning October's Manufacturing Day.
- Meeting Adjourned.