Supporting Young Women in Manufacturing

May 23, 2023
Who’s here today?

Please use the chat to introduce yourself & Any questions, insights, resources you have about supporting young women to pursue experiences in manufacturing

• Please mute computers and/or phones during the presentations

• Please use the chat to provide any comments or questions throughout
Explore the I-WIN Resource Hub and subscribe to the newsletter

Highlight and explore innovative models for work-based learning

Build connections among communities to share best practices, learnings and resources

Engage in conversations on creating sustainable, high-quality models that provide broader and more equitable access, focusing on building social capital for Black and Latinx students

Identify needs for state policy changes or support systems
Work-Based Learning Continuum

Definitions: Illinois Career Pathways Dictionary
• Increase secondary enrollment in manufacturing pathways, particularly for underrepresented students
• Increase dual credit offerings and enrollments in manufacturing
• Increase the number of students who complete a manufacturing pathway, earning a College & Career Pathway Endorsement and industry credentials
• Increase matriculation into postsecondary manufacturing programs and the workforce

Click here for more information on STAMP
• Communities continue to share resources for a WBL Continuum in Manufacturing

• In partnership with Practera we are developing virtual WBL templates in Career Exploration and Team-based Challenges/30-hour Career Development Experiences (these will be piloted SY23-24 and shared broadly afterwards)

• In partnership with the Illinois Manufacturers’ Association we are engaging an Employer Training Advisory Group to gather resources and guidance for hosting high school interns (goal is to share this by late Summer/Fall 2023)

• Recently developed a Toolkit for supporting young women in manufacturing which will be previewed today!
Today’s Conversation

• Career Exploration models for empowering and engaging young women in Manufacturing and Skilled Trades pathways

• Insights gathered and next steps from empathy interviews of high school and college female manufacturing students

• Overview of STAMP Toolkit - “Resources and Guidance for Supporting Young Women in Manufacturing”
Career Exploration

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Women in Manufacturing & Engineering Expo

Our Chicago Public Schools students had an exciting day packed with high-quality hands-on demos and engaged with industry partners and future employers at City Colleges of Chicago. This experience wouldn’t be possible without our partners! Thank you Cook County Government, S&C Electric Company and Chicago Women in Trades!
Our girls saw her and know they can be her!

CTE Women in the Trades

As part of Women’s Career Month students engaged with women trailblazers in the trades and participated in guest speaker presentations, hands-on learning activities/challenge and learned about women experiences in the trades. Our students created model homes, presented on their team project and shared creative ideas on sustainability!

On behalf of Chicago Public Schools, we would like to thank Kina McAfee, Irene Walsh Garcia, Cathie Muraski, Brittany Taylor and Belinda Henderson.

Mid-America Carpenters Regional Council
Cook County Government
Professional Women in Construction Chicago Chapter
Women in Manufacturing Interviews
Sauk Valley Area
What are some common themes we heard from students?

GETTING INTO THE FIELD
- HS advising inadequate
- HS entered because of family connections
- College students inspired by friends - lack of seamless path

ENCOURAGEMENT FOR A CAREER
- AG/FFA a strong motivator
- CTE instructor acts as encourager
- Someone needs to open the door to the opportunity

DISPOSITION NEEDED
- Approach everything with the confidence of a man
- Be willing to ask questions
- Believe in your own abilities
What did we hear about how we should improve engagement and supports for young women in manufacturing?

CAREER EXPLORATION

- Early career exploration
- Hands-on career exploration essential

Tours of “cool factories to work at” isn’t enough
Current thinking on new things

NONATTENDANCE DAY EVENT

- Host an event on campus for 8th grade girls to explore manufacturing
- Have current women working in the field available to interact with students

CTE PROMOTION

- Provide incoming 8th grade students an opportunity to see the industrial area before registering for classes.
- Could be held during 8th grade open house or registration night depending on the district.
New Toolkit!

Resources and Guidance for Supporting Young Women in Manufacturing
STAMP Toolkit Resource

- Draft document ready for review!
- We are currently incorporating feedback from communities - if you have any thoughts to share please complete the following survey by Friday, May 26th
  - STAMP Toolkit feedback form
- Includes community models, resources, and templates across the WBL continuum
Previous & Upcoming Opportunities

In case you missed it:

I-WIN session on Regional Team-based Challenges
(link to event page for recording and presentation)

Share your insights on challenges, needs, and best practices!

Transportation for WBL - Success
Network policy working group meets TOMORROW, May 24th 11a-12p
(link to register)

Planning for Fall 2023:
We are currently determining sessions for Fall 2023 - please let us know if you are interested in sharing and/or what topics you would like to see - share in the chat now or email (hpenczak@niu.edu)
Thank you!

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