



**Cuyamaca College Automotive Technology Department
Employer Advisory Board Meeting**

Wednesday, August 16, 2023 | 6:00 pm-8:00 pm
[900 Rancho San Diego Pkwy., El Cajon, CA 92019](#)

A. Introductions and Program Overview

1. Meeting began at 6:03 pm
2. Board member introductions
3. Attendee roster:

In-Person:

1. Charlene Alsbaugh, Cuyamaca College Career Education
2. Miguel Barron, City of San Diego
3. Vern Bowen, Sedano Ford
4. Ignacio Castaneda Garcia, Cuyamaca College
5. Walter Cortez, Cuyamaca College, Automotive Department
6. George Dowden, Cuyamaca College
7. Brad McCombs, Cuyamaca College Auto
8. Chauncey Murray, Port Of San Diego
9. Justin Pinnell, Chevrolet
10. Inri Rodriguez, Kia America, Inc
11. Monica Rosas, Cuyamaca College
12. Ben Sikora, Santana High School
13. Michael Simonds, City of San Diego
14. Victor Torres, Sedano Lincoln
15. Fabian Vereda, Aamco Transmissions of El Cajon
16. Christophe Zitt, Cuyamaca College Automotive Department

Zoom:

1. Ardy Riego
 2. Russell Petersen
 3. William Ottinger
 4. Kevin Crouder
4. I. Castaneda Garcia gave an overview of the Automotive Technology Program including showcasing the video equipment used in HyFlex classes

B. Department Updates

1. Curriculum
 - i. Course Degrees and Certificate Requirements
 - ii. Work Experience Course
2. Programs Reports
 - i. General Program
 - ii. Automotive Service Councils of California (ASCCA)
 - iii. Ford Automotive Student Service Educational Training (ASSET)
 - iv. General Motors Automotive Service Education Program (ASEP)

GM Program has been on pause since instructor retired. If any industry partners know of someone willing to teach, please refer them to





the college.

C. Industry Roundtable

1. Industry Trends and Forecasting EAB participants shared pain points at their organizations, these are:
 - i. B. Sikura, Santana HS: autonomous driving in even in collision work students need to know how to hook up these systems. Challenge is that require equipment and space.
 - ii. A. Riego, aside from Santana, Monte Vista and Grossmont also have auto programs
 - iii. M. Simonds: City of San Diego is looking for techs and apprenticeship opportunities. There's a tech shortage! He is interested in collaborating with Cuyamaca. shared his organization's pain points, they urgently need technicians for trash trucks, police cars, all types of vehicles. They also need techs to work on police vehicles that are hybrid FORD, transmission to EV. He mentioned that the State mandate for government agencies to have 50 % electric in 2024 50-50 and by 2027 every vehicle must be electric. He also referenced high voltage training; new medium heavy-duty truck that's 2012 or older cannot be on the road. OEM 5-year order window. Municipalities and Gov fleet will hurt, he cannot compete with dealerships. He starts them at around \$20, dealerships pay more. They have an apprenticeship with San Diego Miramar College and want to do the same with other colleges, like Cuyamaca. Fleets are suffering.
 - iv. Shops will need to be able to comply with CAL- OSHA high voltage certification standards
 1. He also requested short-term training for his employees. Preferably a 3-day training, he can't find a place for them for the training.
 2. Web based issue user agreements, authorization forms. City attorneys can't sign he can't offer web-based training.
 3. He had 44 vacancies in 5 years. City of San Diego Fleet consist of 44,000 vehicles.
 - v. B. Sikora: we need to start sooner than HS to promote these jobs – Middle School!
 - a. Employability skills (soft skills)
 - vi. G. Dowden: Chancellor's office pushing to have 9th graders take College classes (Early College Credit)
 - vii. C. Murray Port: they also have vessels, cranes, they also have to be electric. Heavy lifts, they have offer premium hiring package. They want employees who have a willingness to try to fix anything that have strong problem-solving skills.
 - a. Infrastructure issue
 - b. Tech challenge
 - c. Certs are more important for techs
 - viii. M. Simonds: to be an apprentice at the city or port they need to be city or port employees – per the union
 - ix. M. Barron: slowly implement ways to monitor your vehicles
 1. They are a

Commented [MR1]: Should the "Industry Roundtable" be swapped with "Dept. Updates"? That way DEPT UPDATES can follow the program overview?

Commented [TL2R1]: Yes! I think it makes sense to flip them. Might give a bit more context to new members before hitting industry talk :)

Commented [TL3R1]: What if we created a new section, called 'Program Suggestions' that follows after the Department Updates and Industry Roundtable? We can take bullet point #1 out from under section C and make it stand alone? Then we move the rest of section C up with Department Updates above Industry Roundtable. Does that make sense?





- FORD warranty repair shop
2. M. Barron and C. Murray both agreed that candidates should know how to write a resume and know how to articulate their skills during interviews. Key word s search isa reality. Student need to able how they developed their skills, give examples.

2. Career Outlook

- i. What is the career outlook for students with AA degrees versus a certificate?
 1. All: ALL agreed that employers are struggling and are willing to hire anyone who is committed and responsible.
 2. C. Murray, Port of SD: you can't use ONE resume. You NEED to cater resume to the job. He doesn't see resumes until after HR filters them. Candidates first need to do assessments. Soft skills are KEY. Diagnostic skills are critical,. Most in demand skills Dianostic, high voltage and ADAS
 - a. C. Alsbaugh asked if the port could share some of the key words their application systems recognize and some interview questions for mock interviews
 3. M. Simonds: supplemental questions – KEY WORDS. He can also SHARE SUPPLIMENTAL QUESTIONS.
 - a. Charlene, talked about AI platform the career center is looking to purchase
- ii. What are the most relevant professional certifications available?
 1. Diagnostic tech
 2. B. McCombs: asked for industry to be more involved to help with practical work experience.
 3. Inri: time mgmt., responsible, reliable, ambitious.

D. Program Suggestions

1. Technology Upgrades and Needs
 - i. Teaching equipment, tools, software
Program Chair requested for EAB Participants to vote on items to purchase for the Department:
 1. Motion by I. Castaneda Garcia to purchase Advanced Driver Assistance Systems (ADAS) \$100K
 - a. **AYE:** by B. Sikora from Santana HS & I. Rodrigues from KIA America in favor, followed by all in favor AYE
 2. Motion by I. Castaneda Garcia to purchase FORD diagnostic breakout boxes and equipment \$5K
 - a. **AYE:** B. Sikora & M. Fulcher in favor, followed by all in





- favor AYE
3. Motion by B. McCombs to develop and pay for faculty to develop Curriculum for short term classes requested by City of San Diego and Port of San Diego
 - a. **AYE:** M. Fulcher & B. Sikora in favor, followed by all in favor AYE
 4. Motion by W. Ottinger via zoom to purchase specialized PPE used in EV High Voltage class \$5K (M Simonds from the City of San Diego mentioned they currently are not using these suits, but he believes that industry standards will require them soon. He mentions he would start preparing as well.)
 - a. **AYE:** I. Rodrigues & B. Sakura in favor, followed by all in favor AYE
 5. Motion by I. Castaneda Garcia to purchase two (2) EV vehicles through a grant they had set \$150K
 - a. **AYE:** B. Sakura & I. Rodriguez in favor, followed by all in favor AYE

E. Roundtable & Next Steps

1. Automotive Skills Day, Saturday, May 4th, 2024 - *save-the-date & request industry participation (TENTATIVE?)*
 - i. M. Simonds suggested there be an additional categories at skills days to allow employers to complete
2. B. Sakura and via zoom A. Riego invited EAB participants to attend the Grossmont Union High School District (GUHSD) Automotive Pathway Advisory Bord Meeting on Nov 2, 2023. The invite will be sent soon.
 - i. Schools with Auto Pathways: Grossmont HS, Monte Vista HS and Santana HS.
3. C. Murray from Port of San Diego asked if Cuyamaca program used natural gas vehicles and EV might. There is a **possibility** of the Port donating vehicles to the program.

F. Next Scheduled Meeting

1. Wednesday, January 24, 2024

