



MEPP FAQs for MEPP BUSINESS PARTNERS

What are the expectations of a MEPP Business partner?

- Maintain in their employee handbook a formal, inclusive tuition reimbursement program.
- Interview all MEPP applicants that indicate a desire to interview.
- At least 1 representative from each MEPP partner must attend bi-annual meetings in December and June.
- Partners commit to taking no longer than 4 weeks to process resume packets and begin making phone calls to students to set up interviews.
- When setting up activities with the school, give notice in advance of any necessary changes to date or time to respect the need of the school to avoid unnecessary sub costs, parent permission slips, etc.
- When possible, supply CHS with pictures of CHS students in action at their sites: at work, during tours, during job shadows, etc.
- Express interest in knowing in what ways Coopersville High School could use assistance in building and maintaining the program.
- Partners must first seek a student's permission before sharing his or her resume packet outside of the company for networking opportunities.
- Pay dues January of every year.
- Aid in the instruction of the fall MEPP class via class presentations and facility tours

How do you become a MEPP Business Partner?

Applications are not being accepted at this time. Interested businesses are welcome to check in with Jean Arteaga at jarteaga@capsk12.org to see when an opening may become available. There is an applications for businesses interested in becoming a MEPP partner are located on the school website www.coopersvillebroncos.org on the high school page, MEPP link.

MEPP Business Partners may share or be targeting new business relationships with similar or same customers and suppliers. How do MEPP Business Partners co-exist within the MEPP?

Below is the verbiage located on the MEPP Business Partner application. Also, the MEPP Board will carefully consider potential conflicts of interest when reviewing new business partner applicants.

MEPP meetings will be attended by partners who may be competitors in the same industry. As such all MEPP partners should be aware of antitrust laws regarding sharing of information that could be considered business collusion. Items that are not part of the public domain should not be discussed amongst partners. As a MEPP partner you will be expected to abide by, and help reinforce this requirement.

In what ways can MEPP Business Partners contribute to building and maintaining the MEPP program?

Ideas include but not limited to:

- Participating in parent outreach

- Sponsoring job shadows or school credit only internships
- Offering on- or off-site training for students and/or teachers in technology or engineering principles
- Hosting MEPP meetings
- Sharing in the cost of MEPP shirts, MEPP brochures or other MEPP marketing materials
- Participating in school projects such as the egg drop in engineering class
- Purchasing or donating new or used equipment, blueprints, parts or other materials and tools that could be used in the delivery of real-world instruction in the classroom
- Guest speakers in the classroom/reverse job shadows
- Borrowing of tools or equipment
- Assisting in the Electrathon car racing program
- Sponsoring a student or students in a career-related summer camp at Ferris, Michigan Tech or other college campus
- Participating in the annual summer MEPP camp for middle school students

What kind of tuition reimbursement policy must a company have to qualify to be a MEPP partner?

All MEPP business partners must have a tuition reimbursement program, professional development and/or apprenticeship programming that is offered to all full time employees regardless of level or title. Reimbursement must cover all required coursework of the approved program. It must pay for all or a portion of college coursework. It is acceptable to require that the degree program would have to be related to a career that your company would employ and that reimbursement will be paid following the company's policy. It should be in place to be a vehicle for an employee to promote, advance or change careers within your company.

Does it cost to be a MEPP Business Partner?

At this time the annual dues for MEPP membership are \$300 paid in January of every year. Dues cover expenses such as MEPP brochures, MEPP shirts for MEPP students and the MEPP scholarship. Please see above for ways MEPP Business Partners may voluntarily financially contribute to MEPP and related programming at Coopersville High School.

Is there a minimum number of hours needed to volunteer as a MEPP Business Partner?

No.

When would we be able to see the resumes and cover letters of interested students? And what are our obligations to these interested students?

Resume packets are sent out to the partners in December, February and April.

What is a MEPP Board?

Currently the MEPP Board is comprised of the following companies: [Artiflex](#), [DeWys Manufacturing](#), [Disher](#), [NN Mobile](#), and [Stone Plastics](#), as well as teachers and a school counselor from Coopersville High School. Board members meet quarterly and have some additional responsibilities related to the forming and growth of the MEPP. The Board is responsible for reviewing and approving new members. Ultimately the MEPP Board exists to support the Coopersville Area Public Schools mission statement and align their vision to prepare high school students for the manufacturing industry to it. Businesses

interested in becoming a MEPP partner are welcome to contact MEPP Board members for more information before applying.

How does MEPP determine membership?

Businesses can find the MEPP business application on www.coopersvillebroncos.org in the MEPP link from the high school web page. After an application is submitted, a team of individuals made up of MEPP board members may visit the business. A tour of the facility and more discussion in person around MEPP expectations will allow the MEPP board to come to a consensus on an acceptance or denial of the MEPP business application. Ideally business applications will be reviewed and accepted by the March board meeting. Applications can be accepted and processed through email from March to June 1 and if accepted, new partners will be invited to the June all-member MEPP meeting. Those companies who apply after June 1 can still participate in MEPP programming but will not have student MEPP applications sent to them in February. Any company may use the CHS job board at any time of the school year.

Under what circumstances will a MEPP Business Partner be removed from the program?

MEPP Board members will review annually the MEPP Business Partners level of participation. Those MEPP Business Partners not actively supporting MEPP programming will be removed from the team.