

WCTC to seek approval to expand industrial building

By Ashley Haynes
ahaynes@conley.net.com
262-513-2681

PEWAUKEE — Waukesha County Technical College, 800 Main St., is looking to expand the school's "I Building," or Industrial Building located near the center of campus.

According to a memorandum to the WCTC District Board of Trustees, the I Building expansion will "provide innovative solutions to the skills gap crisis."

The proposed expansion would make room for additional large classrooms for manufacturing, automation systems technology, industrial maintenance technician, and maintenance/ millwright apprenticeship programs.

Combined, these programs now serve over 200 WCTC students.

There are plans for three new classrooms and the District Board is hoping to start construction this May.

"This expansion will provide space for these high demand programs and allow space needed for new equipment replicating automated modular production systems currently found in manufacturing companies," said District Facilities Officer Jeffrey

Leverenz in the memo to the board.

The project is slated to be financed using the \$2 million donated by Terry Lutz in November of 2017, as well as \$373,000 remaining unspent funding that was donated for the school's Integrated Manufacturing Center addition in 2017.

Lutz also donated \$800,000 for new training equipment, including an automated manufacturing cell, fabrication lab and inspection equipment.

Additionally, he donated \$40,000 for summer camps and high school teacher training, with the hope of getting younger students interested in manufacturing and arming their teachers with the education needed to train students.

WCTC announced the school's Integrated Manufacturing Center was officially renamed the Terry Lutz Integrated Manufacturing Center last May.

The cost of the proposed I Building expansion should not exceed \$2.37 million, according to the memo.

The project must first be sent to the Wisconsin Technical College System Board for review and approval.

The WCTC District Board will meet tonight to approve sending out the request.