



Greetings,

We would like to take the opportunity to introduce the newest member of the Advanced Minnesota and Northeast Minnesota Office of Job Training team. His name is Heath Boe and he will serve in a new role as the *Rural Workforce Coordinator*.

This unique role reports to two entities: the Northeast Minnesota Office of Job Training, a partner in the Minnesota Workforce Center system, and Advanced Minnesota, the customized training branch of the Northeast Higher Education District (NHED). This position serves two primary functions:

- 1) ***Assist the Northeast Workforce Investment Board (WIB) to develop regional workforce development strategies*** using career pathways methodology in key business sectors, including engaging key business and industry leaders and identifying occupations in demand and corresponding training and skills. This work also includes connecting the myriad of stakeholders in the workforce development system to strengthen services for both employers and job seekers.
- 2) ***Serve as an intermediary between the business community and Advanced Minnesota*** to help to meet all of the continuing education needs of employers. This might include potential employee training or testing for prospective employees, orientation training for new employees, or continuing education training for current employees.

These complementary facets of his position are both focused on ensuring that employers have a trained and available workforce by connecting two significant components of our region's workforce development system. Over the next few months, we will be contacting you to set up an initial visit to your company or organization. We appreciate any input or ideas you have; we look forward to meeting you and working together to help maintain a skilled and competitive workforce. If you have any questions, please feel free to get in touch through our respective contact information listed below.

Sincerely,

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