

Vision: *Preparing and supporting today's students for tomorrow's workforce.*  
Mission: *Uniting schools and businesses to help students prepare for their futures.*

**SUN PRAIRIE BUSINESS AND EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP**  
**December 21, 2017 – Minutes (taken by B. Butler)**

**Present:** Christi Winchel, Karen Bailey, Seth Degnan, Sharlot Bogart, Chris Swenson, Nancy Everson, Marv Hupp, Patrick Malinowski, Shirley Statz, Krista Kaltenberg, Kayla Wilke, Chad Wojtysiak, Taran Katta, and Betsy Butler. **Guests:** None.

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:50 a.m. by Sharlot Bogart (Vice President standing in for James Ackley) at the home of Shirley Statz. Thank you to Joe Statz and Shirley Statz for hosting. What a wonderful holiday tradition!

**Welcome & Introductions:** Joe Statz gave us an update on Statz Brothers Dairy. They employ 140 people. They produce 7-9 semi loads of milk a day.

**Approval of November 16 BEP Minutes:** Motion made by Everson; seconded by Swenson to approve the 11-16-17 minutes. Motion carried.

**Student Feature:** Taran Katta reported that Reality Rocks set up went very quickly. They had a good crew. The FICA group competed in the Finance Bowl with a team of 4 students and received second place out of 24. They have qualified to compete at state in May. Blood drive was yesterday, and they exceeded their goal.

**Treasurer's Report:** Nancy Everson shared that the report is not exciting. We had \$400 approximately in expenses. Some reading buddies have not paid yet. She will send out reminders. No other income coming in; expenses were minimal. Other expenses were \$100 for food and supplies for Reality Rocks; only 1 outstanding bill for the big signs (the ones with the pricing on them for students). Hupp reported that they brought 21 kids over to the event for the first time. He felt it was a great experience for the students and gave them a realistic view of being grown. Jill Conaway bought (\$83) some new stationary/lovely thank you cards that Nancy will now use.

**Membership Report:** Chris Swenson reported that he has a check for last year's dues. Deb Schenck is overloaded. She did send them out yesterday. Swenson said we need to look at this. Maybe we look at changing the time of year that we send out the dues letters. This affects the directory printing as well. Everson and Butler will look into this. Hupp reported that he spoke to Dawn at Royle Printing. Butler will send Hupp and Winchel membership items electronically. Swenson stated we need to be more aggressive this year in getting new members.

**Calendar of Events:** Everson shared the updated calendar. A GRIT recognition will be

coming up in early January. Other events include other recognitions for GRIT coming up, more mock interviews at the high school, and the Rotary helping with Acadec prep for competition. PVMS and PMMS recognitions are at the end of January. FBLA kids will help with these. Frontier has some staffing changes, so we may not be able to help in the same way. Jim Benson and QBE have asked for the calendar so they can help us out. FYI - Boudreau left McFarland State Bank to be a director for Habitat for Humanity. Everson has asked QBE if they would host a meeting. For Reality Rocks, QBE sent over 12-15 volunteers. Maybe we look at an in-kind donation for their membership. January 31st middle recognitions will need volunteers.

### **Unfinished Business/Old Business:**

- Recruiting Breakfast: Bogart shared that the sub-committee picked a date to hold the event. The date is Feb 28 at WPPI. Nancy contacted the city for a list of companies that are in the business park area. This list needs to be updated. They discussed just focusing on this area of town well, know your neighbors, get involved in the schools. Paige Butler is working on the invitation to go out in January. There will be a follow-up after that in a personal contact to visit in person. Board members will reach out. We will be inviting 2 members of each business to the event. At the breakfast we will use the video, student experiences, personal testimonies from a large and small business and their experiences in BEP. Starting time will be at 7:15-8:30 am. Many of the events have been ironed out and will be shared with the board as things get firmed up after the holidays. Our reaching out and making the personal contact will be key in getting people to this event. Katta will drive around and get the list updated.

### **New Business:**

- Previously covered.

### **Committee Reports**

- Volunteers: Nothing new. Nancy will send out requests.
- Reality Rocks: We had 326 students go through the event. Feedback is that things went well. There were a few bottlenecks but they were ironed out. Teacher feedback was good. Some concerns over students inability to spell, write, etc. were discussed. Some things need to be ironed out at the investments table. Swenson says that students do not know how to journal back and forth between checking and savings. Do we need to ask that this is part of the pre-curriculum? Do we set up a separate table for journaling between checking and

savings? This is a skill that they will need.

- Marketing/Membership/PR: Discussed earlier.
- Reading Buddies: Discussed earlier.
- GRIT: Previously discussed.
- Adopt a School: Northside is on hold due to Boudreau's departure.
- Adopt a Future: Nothing at this point.
- Prairie Voices: Information going out to teachers after break. We will be able to continue as we have in the past for this year. Next year will have to be different unfortunately.

**Activities:**

- Working Wednesdays: Handled by the high school admin. Jimmy John's was up last week.
- Teach-In/Career Day: Everson does not have the correct date and does not know the status.
- Career Night: Instead, this year all 8th graders went to Future Quest with other Dane County students. It was all curriculum related and kids did prep. 100 companies were there. It was a great experience for students.
- Mock Interviews: We will run some again in January.

**Adjournment:** Motion by Everson, seconded by Malinowski to adjourn at 8:57 a.m.  
Motion carried.

**Next meeting:** Thursday, January 18 at Frontier at 7:30 a.m.

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