

*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
August 15, 2019 – Minutes (taken by Betsy Butler)**

Board Members: Karen Bailey, Pam Blattner, Sharlot Bogart, Betsy Butler, Jill Conaway, Seth Degnan, Caren Diedrich, Nancy Everson, Marv Hupp, Krista Kaltenberg, Patrick Malinowski, Ryan Newquist, Alex McAndrew, Carol Smithson, Shirley Statz, Chris Swenson, Evan Warwick.

BEP Members: n/a

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:32 am by Krista Kaltenberg at Summit Credit Union.

Welcome & Introductions: Thank you to Patrick Malinowski and Summit Credit Union for hosting today. Malinowski shared information about Summit Credit Union.

Approval of April BEP Minutes: Motion made by Everson; seconded by Swenson to approve the April minutes. Motion carried.

Student Feature: Alex shared that he is going to be a senior. Fall sports are starting off, many starting soon. People are just enjoying the last few weeks.

Guest Feature: N/A

Treasurer's Report: Nancy Everson shared that we have a lot of expenses as the report is from April to August of this year. This report shows what we budgeted and what we spent. The biggest area of overestimating was in student recognition. We have leftover money in the reading buddies category as the tech dept did not build all the bookcases yet. We took some money out of our accounts (bench donation, money for starting the year with - checks to the teachers for the reading buddy program). Recent expenses were GRIT t-shirts, the annual meeting, recognition for the GRIT high school program. In the vocational category, students took a field trip to Woodman's, their adopt a school partner at Royal Oaks. At the bottom of the report, it shows all our different accounts, and we are healthy and strong. Our policy states that we rotate the checking account every three years among our member banks, so it is now being moved to Bank of Sun Prairie from Summit. We had marketing expenses; GRIT folders and pencils will be less this year, more next as we purchased in large quantities this past year. Ray Koepcke is triangulating our financial transactions. We need a second writer on the checks in case of an emergency. Discussion about the best choice for the second signee. Everson moved for Betsy Butler, our secretary to be the second signee; motion was seconded by Shirley Statz. Motion carried. Hupp made a motion, Patrick seconded to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

Calendar of Events: Everson shared the calendar of events. We are looking for locations for board meetings. Dates are starting to be filled in. Send Everson any ideas. Please send her

dates as soon as possible. Reality Rocks is already on the calendar. A lot will be filling in. The letter to GRIT teachers is going out shortly to schedule GRIT teaching sessions.

Unfinished Business/Old Business:

- Reflections on the May Breakfast: Swenson did not see it as a membership growth tool. Members felt that expressing gratitude is important; annual meeting is a reflection and a thank you. WPPI was amazing. Can we do it again there? Looking at possibly displaying our BEP artifacts at DO. It was discussed to move annual meeting back to April (April 16th this year) as per our bylaws. Swenson shared that WPPI is very dedicated to be involved in the group and meet their neighbors.
- Job Fair: Caren Diedrich shared that Nancy and she have been working on this idea. They met recently with Mr. Nerby at the high school, and they are looking to set a date in April/May for this event. Everson shared that Middleton had a job fair in the spring in the afternoon for kids and opened it up for the community in the evening. They did this in the spring when kids are looking for summer jobs. If we held this after school, rising 10th graders from Cardinal Heights could attend. The chamber will distribute information. The city is desperate for employees. Everson said that the principal is totally behind it. We need a sense of how big this event is going to be. Newquist stated we need a map of where businesses are for students and attendees. We are thinking of doing this at the high school. Everson stated that we need to gauge interest from the business community this fall. Everson will look further at the model from Middleton. We are looking to host this in the spring, the month to be determined. More to come.
- Caren Diedrich also shared posters of possible layout for the new school grounds, interior of the high school, and classrooms. These are drafts.

Committee Reports

- Adopt a Future: Sarah Smith absent today. Current students in the program wrote letters to the donating businesses. Swenson said this is important to reconnect the donor and the students. Everson and Bogart explained the program to newer members.
- Adopt a School: Kaltenberg stated that Royal Oaks will continue with Woodman's; QBE has adopted 4 classes at Meadow View Elementary. Swenson will contact QBE again as they contacted him this past summer. Bogart asked if a group of businesses wanted to adopt a school together, could this be a possibility? She will explore this. This is a program all would like to grow.
- GRIT: Kaltenberg stated that GRIT starts in grades 4-5, shifting it this year into more of a teaching experience, emphasizing the aspects of GRIT. It is now focused on students and business visitors teaching and learning together. Dates will be set up. Sacred Hearts is considering joining this program. Conaway will pursue this. The shift - how do we help businesses with this? Businesses will be doing more talking now. Will this scare people off? Warwick would like more information on the messaging on the aspects of GRIT. Ackley had shared some talking points/messaging and a video that Krista will send to Nancy to distribute so that businesses have this information as they

are signing up. Timing of this should be 30 mins. max. We need these dates as soon as possible.

- We want to work more on GRIT programs for grades 6-7 and 8-9. Both programs have fallen off. This is our goal for this year to grow these programs. Nancy asked how we can use the Culvers coupons at grades 4-5. Hupp suggested we ask to do this at each school. Bogart stated that we need to do more of this at the 6-7 and 8-9 buildings. Newquist wants to build this into his classes somehow. Newquist shared that he had a CTE student of the month during his student teaching. Swenson mentioned we need to set up folder delivery for the schools. We need the numbers for schools, and then Nancy will email asking for volunteers to pick them up and distribute to schools. We have plenty of the folders.
- Marketing/Membership/PR: Pam Blattner created a great spreadsheet of data from our members. Swenson asked what we do with it now; it shows business interest in various programs to help recruit volunteers for various programs. She will update it and share it with the members. Swenson shared the membership report from last year. We now have a Pay Pal account for online payment. The next drive will be starting in mid September. The directory will be coming out shortly.
- Reading Buddies: Seth Degnan shared that we have 3 openings yet for Reading Buddies. We added 5 new classrooms this year. One at Creekside, Bird, and Horizon. Wilde is interested in one spot. Degnan suggested we send an email blast to all the members with video regarding the program to recruit. How do we gauge how this working? Newquist shared his experience of having a reading buddy from General Casualty. Bogart shared her experience of how this is a great way to get the word out about the BEP.
- Reality Rocks: Patrick Malinowski shared the dates on the calendar. Nancy and he will update pricing; more will be coming in the next months.

Activities:

- Mock Interviews: Newquist shared that he will get back to Everson with dates. Everson shared that there are several sections of the class to cover.
- Teach-In/Career Day: Brandl not present.
- Working Wednesdays: Ertel (via Nancy) reported they are ready to go.
- Senior Exit Interviews - Nancy reminded people that we talked about doing this last year. This seems to be a Dane County initiative. McFarland pioneered this in the past. Oregon is looking at this as well.

Other Items of Interest for the BEP Board:

- Clings for membership - Swenson stated he feels the businesses like these. We will do these in red this year and get them ready.
- Second high school will be coming - start to think about the changes we may need to make. How will we address all of our programs? Please start to think ahead.

Adjournment: Motion made by Bogart, seconded by Hupp to adjourn at 9:03 a.m. Motion carried.

Next meeting: Our next board meeting is Thursday, September 19, 2019, at Statz Bros, Inc. at 7:30 a.m.

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