

**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**  
**September 19, 2019 – Minutes (taken by Betsy Butler)**

**Board Members:** Karen Bailey, Pam Blattner, Vince Brandl, Betsy Butler, Jill Conaway, Craig Coulthart, Seth Degnan, Caren Diedrich, Nancy Everson, Jim Ertel, Marv Hupp, Katy Johnson, Krista Kaltenberg, Stephanie Leonard-Witte, Patrick Malinowski, Alex McAndrew, Sarah Smith, Shirley Statz, Chris Swenson, David Thwing, Evan Warwick, Christi Winchel. **BEP Members:** Chad Wojtysiak, Joe Statz, Zach Statz. **Guest:** Quincy Neri.

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:34 am by Krista Kaltenberg at Statz Bros., Inc.

**Welcome & Introductions:** Thank you to Shirley Statz and Statz Bros., Inc. for hosting today. Joe and Zach Statz shared information about the farm and their business.

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

**Student Feature:** Alex McAndrew shared that they are 3 weeks in, in year 2 of block scheduling; there have been some changes in the business staff at the high school. Fall sports are in full swing, girls swim & dive is doing particularly well. We have 6 foreign exchange students this year. It has been a great start to the year.

**Guest Feature:** Sarah Smith introduced today's guest, Quincy Neri, the JAG (Jobs for America's Graduates) Specialist at PPA. Neri is excited to work more with the community. JAG encourages both careers and future education. She follows them a year after they leave the program as well. She shared a brochure of information. She truly wants to become more involved in the community. She takes students out on field trips at least once a month as well as brings in guest speakers. Marv Hupp shared that students love Quincy; she makes them step up to be in the program.

Krista asked members to introduce themselves.

**Treasurer's Report:** Nancy Everson shared the monthly treasurer's report (the calendar is on the backside). Balances are doing well. Nancy is working on the budget. She has adjusted some expenses due to our natural rotation of supply spending for student recognitions. A motion was made to approve the treasurer's report as presented by Marv Hupp; Sarah Smith seconded the motion to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

**Calendar of Events:** Everson shared the calendar of events. Brooks Tractor will hold our board meeting in October. Board meeting locations are almost set. She is waiting for recognition dates from Patrick Marsh and Prairie View Middle Schools. Everson needs dates for

some schools for GRIT. Mock interviews will be set up shortly. Reality Rocks is coming up in December. The calendar is coming together for semester one.

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

- Carl Perkins Grant federal money comes through the state to the schools. It contributes to technical schooling. Nancy has been writing the grant for years. They have changed the grant process. She will need some help with the changes in applying. She is finding out today what she will need. She will let us know how business leaders can help.

### **Committee Reports**

- Adopt a Future: Sarah Smith stated that there are no updates at this time.
- Adopt a School: QBE has adopted Meadowview Elementary School, and Woodman's has Royal Oaks. These are strong partnerships starting.
- GRIT: Kaltenberg stated that most of the schools have had their first quarter learning experience (Give it your all); Optimists thought this was cool; teachers responded favorably. Coulthart said that Eastside's teaching was good; he likes that all the kids were there. Everson shared a report for GRIT at the high school level. We have a recognition coming up at Wilde East Towne Honda.

Swenson shared that we need to get the folders to the elementary schools. He needs members of the board to deliver the folders at the end of the quarter. Swenson will get the numbers and let us know when the "counting party" will begin. Then we will deliver all the rest of the year's folders at once. He will no longer need to do this then at every quarter. Coulthart says the principals are fine with storing them.

- Marketing/Membership/PR: Butler and Swenson will be sending the invoices and letters out. Pay Pal is in place as an option to pay. Everson prefers check payment for Reading Buddies. We will put the instructions in the invoice. Winchel says to stress you prefer checks. Pay Pal costs us a small percentage to offer it. It was suggested by Chad Wojtysiak to ask if the member would be willing to pay the fee. Nancy spoke with TDS about getting more involved. There are only 2 of them working in this area, so they have limited time (even though they'd like to become more involved). She will keep reaching out to the TDS president about getting more people and being involved. Three new potential members - a realtor, YMCA, and one other. Send potential member names to Chris or Nancy.
- Reading Buddies: Everson shared recently via email that she was short of Reading Buddies. Within minutes, every class has been adopted: Buck and Honey's, Stephanie Leonard-Witte, Andy Ayers, Chase Lumber. Everson reported that the book company, Scholastic, has changed the pricing, and teachers need more money to purchase the books they prefer. Shall we increase our budget and the cost to the member? Some teachers want bookcases, while some do not. We cannot increase the cost this year as the invoices have gone out already. A motion was made to increase the amount given

to teachers to \$150 this year for it to be covered by the Endowment. Winchel made the motion; Bailey seconded. Everson clarified how this will be done this year. Next year the total cost for the program will increase. Motion was approved.

- Reality Rocks: Patrick Malinowski shared that Reality Rocks will be soon updating the costs and expenses for the upcoming school year's events. Communication for volunteers will be going out as a save the date. It is on a Thursday this year. Both dates for the year will be sent out by Nancy.

### **Activities:**

- Mock Interviews: Everson said we will have a lot of them. She is just waiting on the dates. New teachers at CHUMS and HS are very excited about this project. It takes a lot of people-power.
- Teach-In/Career Day: Brandl stated that Career Day is at Prairie View this year; it alternates between the schools. He is looking at a new way to set up the program. Brandl is looking to expand this program to more than just that day. Katy Johnson will get the date from Prairie View.
- Working Wednesdays: Ertel and Everson had a surprise with Texas Roadhouse just showing up for a lunch cycle. It was all good. Walmart is coming in later this month. It will pick up as the year goes on. Everson gets a call from businesses looking for student workers almost every day.
- Job Fair - Diedrich and Everson have a date - May 6. They will be setting up this program. May was chosen as kids are beginning to look for summer jobs. Kid one during the day; adult one at night. Please start to mention this event in the groups you are involved in. Employers need workers. The city also supports this idea.
- Senior Exit Interviews - Everson still wants to do this. This needs to be figured out how to do this. We definitely want to do this year - as a pilot and do it small. Winchel suggested doing a small group at the end of the semester - mid-term grads, possibly. This will be our pilot.

### **Other Items of Interest for the BEP Board:**

- Future Quest - Everson shared that there is career fair for all 8th graders in Dane County. The cost will be \$2100 for the bussing. Kids go in after doing research prior to the 5 different career zones set up there, rotating through during the fair. Sun Prairie needs 4 businesses that would like to go there.
- High school idea - we are missing going into the high school to recognize kids. Ertel would like to link this to attendance and being on time. The admin team at the high school will look at what we can do to recognize students for excellence in this area. We want to stress that this is what employers need. The admin team at the high school is looking for ways to tie this in.
- Update on the approved referendum work - Stephanie Leonard Witte is here to share with us. The work since the referendums passing has been fast and furious. Everything will open in fall of 2022. General footprint has been completed this past summer, Ashley Field will be the first thing completed. A groundbreaking there will be later this fall; grand opening next fall. Re-imagining the current CHUMS into a middle school

configuration; the 2 ends will be sectioned off into PPA and a PD center and house some offices (mentor teachers, etc.). Each will have its own entrance. A footprint has been designed for the new high school. Now further planning will happen. The new high school will have a pool and performing arts center (smaller seating) and a black box theatre. The Naming Committee has been meeting - current high school will keep the cardinal and colors. Student migration options are also been worked on. When will the division happen? Informational sessions will be coming up with options going to the board. Then the boundary committee will happen. Initial conversations with the SPEF regarding naming rights to raise additional funds have begun as well.

**Adjournment:** Motion made by Everson, seconded by Malinowski to adjourn at 9:03 a.m.  
Motion carried.

**Next meeting:** Our next board meeting is Thursday, October , 2019, at Brooks Tractor at 7:30 a.m.

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