

**Vision:** *Preparing and supporting today's students for tomorrow's workforce.*  
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**SUN PRAIRIE BUSINESS AND EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP**  
**December 19, 2019 – Minutes (taken by Betsy Butler)**

**Board Members:** Karen Bailey, Pam Blattner, Sharlot Bogart, Vince Brandl, Betsy Butler, Jill Conaway, Craig Coulthart, Seth Degnan, Caren Diedrich, Nancy Everson, Jill Ertel, Marv Hupp, Katy Johnson, Krista Kaltenberg, Ray Kopecke, Patrick Malinowski, Alex McAndrew, Shirley Statz, Chris Swenson, Davis Thwing. **BEP Members:** Chad Wojtysiak, Rick Mueller, Dan McIlroy. **Guest:** Val Zintz

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:33 a.m. by Krista Kaltenberg at the home of Shirley Statz.

**Welcome & Introductions:** Thank you to Shirley Statz and Statz Bros. for hosting this morning.

**Approval of 11-21-19 BEP Minutes:** Motion made by Everson; seconded by Swenson to approve the November minutes. Motion carried.

**Student Feature:** Alex McAndrew shared that everyone is ready for a break; people are finding out about getting into colleges; we have two weeks of regular classes left when we get back and then exams. In the beginning of January DECA (January 11) is hosting a competition at the high school with simulations where students have to quick-think on the spot. A high school band from Japan was in the building last night to perform a free concert - they came to our facility as they needed a place to practice for a major event in Chicago. There were 109 female students who performed. Students stayed with families in Sun Prairie, and the choir gave an outstanding performance!

**Guest Feature:** Pam introduced Val Zintz from Kobussen Buses. They are looking to work on creating a partnership with some of our programs.

**Treasurer's Report:** Nancy Everson shared the report. There were very few expenses except for Reality Rocks. Some dues came in; some people still need to pay for reading buddies. Balances are doing well. Expenses coming up - T-shirts will be \$2500 and handed out before last quarter; breakfast in May. Motion to approve the treasurer's report by Malinowski, seconded by Bogart; the motion carried.

**Calendar of Events:** Nancy shared that the next meeting at PAC. She reported that Academic Decathlon is preparing for their next competition, but she has those needs covered by the Rotary. She needs more people for Mock Interviews on January 12. She will send out requests and reminders. Students are very well-prepared by Craig Smith. Koepcke and Kaltenberg spoke about past experiences with mock interviews and how great this opportunity is for students. Wojtysiak suggested adding a short testimonial to Nancy's request for help. Kaltenberg stated the event was really was like coaching. Nancy has had no request for help at

Cardinal Heights for help with events - Wojtysiak stated had been getting direct emails from them.

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

- Rick Mueller spoke about the change coming in the 4 year old kindergarten program. Sharlot Bogart is retiring this year and has been a huge part of the program (11 years plus 2 years of planning prior). Elizabeth Knudten is director of 4K for the district. An increase was needed in payment to the partners, and starting next year, a plan will start to address that need. Rates need to be competitive with Dane County rate, so a study will be conducted every other year to stay competitive. There is some discussion about 4K going to full day; there may be movement by the state to legislate that. Open enrollment is a factor in making sure we have options for families whether they want full-day or part, if approved at the legislature. This last year we added one site of district 4K (Token Creek) and next year add one at Creekside). We will continue our relationship with community partners that we have. School-based locations can address the needs of students who live at the intersection of poverty and race. This full-day option could start as soon as next fall. Sacred Hearts is also a partner. It's a school district curriculum with hiring done by the sites with DPI certified teachers. All the sites have wrap-around care with state funding if needed.
- BEP Involvement Updates -
  - Awards for first semester at the high school - Ertel will pull the numbers to see what sort of participation we will need by BEP members.
  - Career Day is February 4, and they are looking for people to come in and participate. Katy Johnson will put out the link. Participants are going in to classrooms, so students could have many experiences with up to 9 speakers.
  - Vince Brandl shared what was done last year at PMMS with their Career Day. Students did not have options; he recommends that students have options. Brandl is developing an idea of flipping this, i.e. taking kids to locations instead. We are investigating the logistics of how we can do this, possibly using a pilot group of 86 students in a multi-age group, grades 6-7.
  - Everson stated we used to have Adopt-a-Class, which was along that line. Businesses and partners had 4 interactions within the year. The partnerships will invaluable. Whatever we do, we need to tap into businesses of all sizes.
  - Blattner shared that maybe we should list our new ideas at the top of the membership letter for next year.
  - Carl Perkins grant update - Nancy needs to survey people. Should she link with Dane County or create her own? The consensus was that she could do this on her own and get better feedback.

### **Committee Reports**

- Adopt a Future: A meeting date needs to be set. Members include Conaway, Bogart, Everson, Butler. Need to get the database from Sarah Smith and pass it on. Swenson stated that the letter from the student to the donor is a key thing to be maintained.

- Adopt a School: Woodman's has once again adopted Royal Oaks. Meadowview is adopted by QBE - they are doing GRIT and reading buddies, but beyond that Everson does not know.
- GRIT: Everson received a call from Sunshine Place to honor a student who is amazing there. This will be set up after the holidays. Kaltenberg handed out talking points - anything to add. She will send that again as people are ready to do the next round. She does encourage the teachers to print that out for the visitors. Swenson stated that it is a work in progress, still transitioning to the new format. we are focus on "empowering skills" at these sessions.
- Marketing/Membership/PR: Swenson stated we are continuing to work toward our goal. We will send out a reminder after the first of the year. We need to update the brochure. We need to also update the pay pal account to the new bank. Koepcke will report in the next month about any activity. He did check the accounts yesterday.
- Reading Buddies: Seth Degnan reported that it is still happening. Everson said she needs to check that every partnership is going well. Royal Oaks is the only school that asked for additional monies this year.
- Reality Rocks: Patrick Malinowski stated that it was a big success with 312 students this fall. The last table is a bottleneck. Investments does not teach them anything in the current set-up. Students do not know how to journal money back and forth. Butler suggested that Swenson create a sheet for teachers to have to use to teach students that skill. McAndrew shared that students see the value of it; students seem more focused on the graded checklist they have to complete than the learning. Hupp worked with his PPA students; his students loved it and thought it was awesome. Everson asked how we can help those kids from PPA who get stressed out. We need to think about those logistics to help them; Malinowski suggested creating the experience as a workbook for those students. There was a bit of a back-up at the bank, and they are aware of the issue. The random credit score thing needs to change and reflect reality more. Malinowski goes into the classroom for a whole period every semester to teach. Email Malinowski and Everson any other concerns and comments. Bogart asked if any Econ teachers need anything.

### **Activities:**

- Mock Interviews: Covered previously.
- Teach-In/Career Day: Covered previously
- Working Wednesdays: Ertel stated that he needs membership packets. Many companies have been coming in - Walmart, Crackerbarrel, City of Sun Prairie, Texas Roadhouse. Walmart is trying to get it approved to do a Youth Apprenticeship program.
- Job Fair - May 6: Everson and Diedrich will work on this after the holidays.
- Senior Exit Interviews - Everson and Ertel will work on this.

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

- Two board members have left - we need to fill at least 2 spots; Betsy will check on this. Update - we have 4 vacant seats) . We really need to think about this. (Update: Jean

Skinner has accepted one position for SSM Health). Please send suggestions to Nancy or Betsy

- Park Bank has some furniture to donate if anyone has any need in the area.

**Adjournment:** Motion made by Butler, seconded by Malinowski to adjourn at 8:59 a.m.  
Motion carried.

**Next meeting:** Our next board meeting is Thursday, January 16, 2020, at Prairie Athletic Club.

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