Vision: *Preparing and supporting today's students for tomorrow's workforce.*
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SUN PRAIRIE BUSINESS AND EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP
October 21, 2021 – Minutes (taken by Betsy Butler)

BEP Board Members: Carol Albright, Vince Brandl, Ray Koepcke, Nancy Everson, Marv Hupp, Jamie Racine, Stephanie Leonard-Witte, Craig Coulthard, Sharlot Bogart, Sarah Chaja-Clardy, Christi Winchel, Pam Blattner, Seth Degnan, Chris Swenson, Shirley Statz, Karen Bailey, David Thwing, Kelsey Aleckson, Prisha Poddar, Martin Azocar Leon, Betsy Butler. **Additional BEP Members/Guests:** Nikole Sconiers, Katie Mould, Sara Mileham.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:40 am by Vince Brandl at Prairie Phoenix Academy (PPA). The principal of PPA Nikole Sconiers welcomed us.

Approval of 9-16-21 BEP Minutes: Motion made by Everson; seconded by Swenson to approve the September minutes. One correction has been made. Motion carried.

Introduction of Guests: Katie Mould - she is working on her master's degree, working on a project that hopes to connect Creekside Elementary to area businesses through her project. Sara Mileham introduced herself and explained her background and her transition to running Teddy's Place.

Introduction of BEP Members: Vince Brandl asked everyone to introduce themselves, sharing something positive in their business world or education or both.

Student Feature: Martin Azocar Leon and Prisha Poddar shared that the College Fair happened last week at the high school, a forum where students could learn about schools all over the nation. The PSAT was held last week; many students took the test. Fall sports are now starting to end, and winter sports will be starting. Club Expo was held yesterday in the Commons during lunch, where clubs could share with students at lunch about what they are about.

Treasurer's Report: Nancy Everson had emailed the balances to the board prior to the meeting. Income for the month received $400 from Reading Buddies, $500 from the AAF account (this is a transfer deposited into the checkbook), and $50 via Paypal (dues). The expenses for the month were $399.47 to ProAdSpec for clings, $600 to Token Springs for Reading Buddies, and $10 to the Department of Financial Institutions to register BEP. All investments are doing well. Three teachers received checks for Reading Buddies. Ray Koepcke verified the accounts.

Calendar of Events: In November, we will be at Royle Printing, and Shirley Statz will host in December at her home. Mock interviews happened yesterday at the high school in the library. More interviews are coming up soon. Interviewers felt that students were well-prepared for their interviews.

Host Business Feature: Prairie Phoenix Academy had a presentation for us. Three students made a presentation about the history of PPA in this building and its future. They did an outstanding job presenting their findings and sharing information about PPA.

2021-2022 Flagship Programs Focus Groups : Brandl asked that members break into two groups to focus on work for our two flagship programs Reading Buddies and Reality Rocks.

Reality Rocks - Report from the subgroup: Date is Dec 1, 8-noon. More space will be used. Volunteers will be contacted soon, so we will figure out what we can cover. Housing and auto options will be presented in class before; they also will be using a balance sheet/check register instead of writing checks. Investments will be done sooner rather than later in the process. Fate table will be adjusted, possibly narrowing it down and or spinning a wheel. Everson and Malinowski met with the econ teachers and talked about how to write checks. Everson asked about the check writing feedback idea. Thwing stated that he would be happy to pop in on that lesson as well.

Reading Buddies - Report from the subgroup: Starting in November as soon as matches are notified and those involved set up visits - first books are at the building. We will be ordering books up front due to potential backlogs in filling orders. Everson needed four more volunteers - members stepped up and filled these spots during the meeting. Discussion continued on many issues of banking, savings, and investments from the report of this subgroup.

Committee Reports:

- Marketing/Membership/PR: Swenson reported that we are getting things together. Membership drive happening soon. Add to the next agenda about recruitment. We need to create a plan.
- Rebranding Committee: Brandl asked for volunteers - need a program to connect across all grade levels. Topics for our focus: "See Me, Inspire Me" "Guide Me" "Connect"- Vince's ideas for how we rebrand. Email Vince - Coulthard, Winchel, Mould, Aleckson, Azocar Leon, Thwing, Blattner, Butler, Everson. Requests for possible meetings dates/ times will be sent out.
- Bylaws Committee: Butler asked for volunteers names again - Swenson, Blattner, Everson, Butler. Requests for possible meetings dates/ times will be sent out.
- Instructional Framework Committee Reps (Blattner/Bogart): Nothing new at this time.

Activity Reports:

- BEP Student Employee Excellence Award: Everson reported that we have 5 nominees to recognize. She will send out the dates, so watch for possible events.
- Working Wednesdays: Nothing new.
- Mock Interviews: Stated before.
- Job Fair - Nothing new.
- Senior Exit Interviews - Nothing new.
- Adopt a Class Renewal Project - Nothing new.

- Adopt a School - Nothing new.

Other Items of Interest for the BEP Board:

- T-shirts - discuss at the next meeting. Folders and pencils as well.

Appreciations and Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Everson; seconded by Albright. Motion carried at 9:04 a.m. Motion carried.

Next meeting: **Our next board meeting is Thursday, November 18, 2021, 7:30 a.m. at Royle Printing in Sun Prairie.**

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