

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
November 18, 2021 – Minutes (taken by Betsy Butler)

BEP Board Members: Carol Albright, Patrick Malinowski, Vince Brandl, Ray Koepcke, Nancy Everson, Marv Hupp, Christi Winchel, Pam Blattner, Seth Degnan, Chris Swenson, Shirley Statz, Karen Bailey, David Thwing, Kelsey Aleckson, Prisha Poddar, Martin Azocar Leon, Katie Mould, Betsy Butler. **Additional BEP Members/Guests:** None

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:43 am by Vince Brandl at Kicks Unlimited.

Approval of 10-21 BEP Minutes: Motion made by Everson; seconded by Bailey to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Host Business Feature: Thanks to Seth Degnan for the quick invite to Kicks Unlimited this morning. We appreciate your flexibility and generosity.

Introduction of Guests: None today

Student Feature: Martin Azocar Leon and Prisha Poddar shared that quarter grades have recently come out for students; these grades are not on the transcripts for students and act more as a progress report. Winter sports are starting. This Friday our football team plays at state at 4 p.m. *The Nutcracker* just had performances and drama students will be gearing up for *Mamma Mia* in the fall. Economic classes are prepping for the upcoming Reality Rocks event. FBLA is going on a field trip and next will be the fall Leadership Conference.

Treasurer's Report: Nancy Everson reported that we had no expenses and no income during the past month; balances remain solid. Ray Koepcke confirmed this report.

Calendar of Events: Everson stated that we need locations to hold BEP board meetings for next semester. Royle Printing will host in January and Sacred Hearts will host in February. March, April, and May locations are still needed. Suggestions made were Heartland Church, Flavors, City Hall, and the Westside Community Center

2021-2022 Flagship Programs Focus Groups: We did not meet in these breakout groups today.

Reality Rocks: Malinowski reported that the check exercise is being done outside of Reality Rocks to help streamline the process of the simulation. Students will be using their debit and credit cards. Everson stated that workers are still needed. Masks will be required. The Fate Table is being revamped with iPads and the use of a digital spinner feature with simplified options. The financials this semester are represented by the Bank of Sun Prairie; Stark will do the housing. The layout of the tables will be similar, just spread out more. The evaluation of the check writing exercise will be coordinated by Blattner and Swenson. There was discussion on how to end the activity - do we want to add a follow-up on final outcomes? There will be a feedback survey. Everson requested help for

set-up the night before Reality Rocks. She will reach out. Swenson suggested that we ask the Chamber to help communicate volunteers overall for Reality Rocks.

Reading Buddies: All buddies are up and running. Background checks may be required at some schools - allow for extra time. Everson will check on where this is happening.

Committee Reports:

- Marketing/Membership/PR: Swenson requested that invoices get sent out soon. Blattner will help coordinate this with Swenson after Butler drops off the needed materials to Swenson's office. Thanks to Swenson and Blattner for the help. Swenson suggested we wait on doing anything with the GRIT T-shirts, folders, and pencils; he is fine storing them for now. Swenson again stated the need for a recruitment plan as so many businesses do not know about the BEP.
- Rebranding Committee: Brandl will email Coulthard, Winchel, Mould, Aleckson, Azocar Leon, Thwing, Blattner, Butler, and Everson to look to set up a meeting. Requests for possible meetings dates/ times will be sent out.
- Bylaws Committee: Will meet in January. Requests for possible meeting dates/times will be sent out to Swenson, Blattner, Everson, & Butler.
- Instructional Framework Committee Reps (Blattner/Bogart): Nothing to report 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 in December.
- Working Wednesdays: Colony Brands has been the only one who has come to the building. It was agreed that short staffing issues may be impeding this program and making it difficult for businesses to participate. Again, it was stated that businesses do not know about the program. a suggestion of reaching out to the Chamber was made.
- Mock Interviews: Everson reported that it is difficult for volunteers to block off a morning. With the shorter time period set-up, she is able to get plenty of volunteers and create a better experience overall. A concern was raised that timing may be an issue when we go to 2 high schools.
- Job Fair - It was suggested that we look to do this for students in the spring. The Chamber recently had a job fair on Nov. 3 that was quite successful.
- Senior Exit Interviews - The initial plan was that maybe 50 students meet with businesses to share insights. Thwing stated he felt this was a district office project and not necessarily a BEP one. Everson will talk with Sarah Chaja Clardy about this idea.
- Adopt a Class Renewal Project - Nothing new.
- Adopt a School - Nothing new.

Appreciations and Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Butler; seconded by Winchel. Motion carried at 9:00 am.

Next meeting: Our next board meeting is Thursday, December 16, 2021, 7:30 a.m. at the home of Shirley Statz in Sun Prairie.

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