

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
March 15, 2022 – Minutes (taken by Betsy Butler)

BEP Board Members: Carol Albright, Shirley Statz, Ray Koepcke, Prisha Poddar, Martin Azocar Leon, Seth Degan, Vince Brandl, Nancy Everson, Tiffany Yapp, Chris Swenson, Sarah Chaja-Clardy, Christi Winchel, Craig Coulthardt, Dianne Metz, Karen Bailey, LaTonia Hughes, Patrick Malinowski, Stephanie Leonard-Witte, Betsy Butler. **Additional BEP Members/Guests:** Kim Frederick

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:34 a.m. by Vince Brandl at Sacred Hearts School.

Approval of 12-16-21 BEP Minutes: Motion made by Carol Albright; seconded by Nancy Everson to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Host Business Feature: Thanks to Dianne Metz and Kim Frederick for hosting this morning. Kim Frederick, principal of Sacred Hearts Schools welcomed us and shared an update about the addition added to the facility. Sacred Hearts will be celebrating its 130th anniversary next year.

Introduction of Guests: LaTonia Hughes introduced herself as she is the new shared rep with Pam Blattner from the Bank of Sun Prairie. Welcome, LaTonia.

Student Feature: Martin Azocar Leon and Prisha Poddar shared that FBLA is working with Junior Achievement, teaching elementary school students. The musical is Mamma Mia this year and is coming up starting April 22. DECA competed in state competition with 42 students from Sun Prairie, qualifying 22 for International Competition in Atlanta. Spring break is next week; many spring sports are up and running. Carol Albright, school board member, mentioned that the board is looking for current juniors and sophomores to fill student board positions for next year; 2 from each school, East, West, and PPA. Students would attend board meetings and can vote in some aspects. It has a stipend payment and would look great on a resume.

Treasurer's Report: Nancy Everson reported that there were no expenses this month. Biggest expense coming up is the invoice for Reading Buddies books. There are more dues coming in to deposit; balance in checkbook \$8136; Koepcke confirms that balance.

	10/20/2021	11/21/2021	12/14/2021	3/11/2022
General Fund	\$29,250.12	\$29,584.26	\$29,146.20	\$29,433.32
Adopt-A-Future	\$32,640.38	\$33,103.00	\$32,417.20	\$31,554.90
Endowment	\$58,433.56	\$59,373.46	\$56,591.36	\$56,471.75

Checking -- Bank of Sun Prairie \$4,584.43 \$4,632.50 \$4,503.31 \$8,536.00

Calendar of Events: Tiffany Yapp stated that Wilde East Towne Honda can host for May; next month is at Royle Printing.

Committee Reports:

Marketing/Membership/PR: Swenson shared that we have collected \$5250 in dues so far this year (last year was \$5925 in total). Swenson will send out reminders and thank you's shortly. We will exceed last year's amount. Swenson has membership kits available for anyone who is interested in taking some to give out.

GRIT-Program Evaluation Committee: Everson shared that this committee has been created to revamp the current programs. Volunteers for the committee were Couldthart, Butler, Chaja-Clardy, Azocar Leon, Bogart, and Winchel. They will examine the GRIT program at all levels, determining where we are and where to go. They will meet soon and possibly over summer. We do still have t-shirts, folders, and pencils.

New Program Committee: Brandl will head up the committee that will examine and put forth new program ideas, working with teacher input and getting students into businesses of which they are interested in.

Bylaws Committee: Committee met in February. Bylaws revisions for the partnership, the Endowment Fund, and revisions in the Investment Policy statement have been suggested and will be shared first with the Finance Committee and then brought before the board in April. The slate will also be brought forth in April for a vote in May.

Finance Committee: The Finance Committee is made up of the treasurer, the Administrative Trustee of Finance, and at least one other board member. The Committee can have up to 5 members. Currently the committee consists of Everson, Koepcke, and Swenson.

Instructional Framework Committee Reps (Blattner/Bogart): This committee has ended as they were creating a framework to define how teaching happens, bringing best practices forward. Stephanie Leonard-Witte would gladly present on this if the board is interested.

Activity Reports:

Reality Rocks: The event will be held at the high school gym on Weds., April 27. Everson is currently updating stations and pricing. She still needs volunteers, but most people are coming back. The financials this time will be handled by Park Bank, Bank of Sun Prairie will do student loans, and Summit will handle credit cards. The event will be from 8-noon and host 300+ students. Azocar Leon mentioned that students who went through last time want to volunteer to help students. Discussion continued about the investments table; teachers do want this aspect. Swenson recommended that students make investments at any time.

The plan for next is to host the fall event at East high school and bus West students over; then the following event will be at West. There are experienced Econ teachers at each building, which will help this process. An idea was suggested that a student volunteer follow a student and journal the experience for the student.

Reading Buddies: Everything is going well. Books for April are marked and ready to go out to schools; May titles have been ordered. With the ordering options offered this year, only 3 teachers district-wide selected to choose their own titles. We will offer the options again next year. Any extra books after distribution are sent to schools to distribute to needy readers. The invoice for the books will be issued from the district and sent to Everson.

BEP Student Employee Excellence Award: Everson stated we have several to hand out: 2 at Buck and Honey's, 1 at Prairie Kids Club, 1 at Colony Brands, 1 at Teddy's Place, and 1 at the Bank of Sun Prairie. [The scheduled events so far are April 20, 4 p.m. at Colony Brands; May 3, 4 p.m. at Prairie Kids Club, and May 4, 4 p.m. at the Bank of Sun Prairie on Broadway.]

Adopt a Future - Nominees for this year's winners in grade 8 have been narrowed to 14 students and the essays have been sent to the committee members to be evaluated. Three winners will be selected. We have 4 seniors being honored this year. The presentation of the three 8th grade winners and the four senior honorees will be Weds., May 4 at 6 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center at the high school.

Working Wednesdays: Nothing to report right now.

Mock Interviews: Brandl would like to see some prepping being made available to students in grade 7 who have to interview to be accepted into AVID. Joel Coyne at the high school is on paternity leave right now, so no set dates for mock interviews there.

Job Fair - Everson shared that the jointly supported (with the Chamber and BEP) Student Job Fair will be held during the 3rd period on Weds., April 20 at the high school. Businesses will be there for a 2.5 hour period and have access to students in all 3 lunches. Nancy will need help especially at the beginning of the event ~ 11:00 a.m. when businesses need to arrive and set up. Students will start coming in at 11:40 a.m. Shirly Statz and Karen Bailey both stated they would help.

Senior Exit Interviews - Albright and Leonard-Witte talked about this idea and stated that the Big Move is the focus right now. Some of this information gathering was done through surveys in homerooms this year. We will revisit this idea next year, shooting for Spring 2023. It was suggested we look at what other schools are doing in this area.

Other Items of Interest for the BEP Board

High School Automotive National Recertification: Our Automotive Program is nationally certified, one of the few programs in the area. Every three years they must recertify.

Career Tours: Brandl is looking at a SPEF grant to vamp up what was done with this program prior to Covid.

Other: Everson asked how things are going in the business world. Koepcke replied that staffing is rough as there are fewer applicants. Swenson talked about the desire of several for permanent part-time work (25-30 hours) with more freedom and flexibility. Wilde East Towne Honda talked about the car shortage and how they are having to look at hiring differently. They are also redefining duties. Summit has been incorporating more tech to cover tellers for example, while the Bank of Sun Prairie shared some of the same staffing issues others stated.

Appreciations and Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Everson; seconded by Albright .
Motion carried at 8:58 am.

Next meeting: Our next board meeting is Tuesday, April 19, 2021, 7:30 a.m. at Royle Printing.

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