

Present: Ward Cotton, Mike Nickel, Philippe Chino, Shari Peddicord

Purpose: To get input regarding direction this coming year and need to recruit business community to support the programs at the schools.

Before we can call the next meeting, we need to broaden the areas of participation to include the business and nursing programs (to build on their successes in the community) and get stronger participation from the business community.

ACTIONS:

THE FOLLOWING ACTION STEPS NEED TO BE TAKEN BY THE LEADERSHIP BEFORE THE NEXT MEETING OF THE GROUP WILL BE CALLED:

GET INFORMATION FROM BAT (I.E. LIMITATIONS, ETC.) – KAREN SWINDELLS (CHEYENNE) -- OR ARRANGE FOR A SHORT PROGRAM FROM KAREN– Mike Nickel and Shari Peddicord

MEET WITH HOMEBUILDERS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – Mike Nickel, Philippe Chino, Shari Peddicord

VISIT WITH DIRLENE WHEELER – Mike Nickel

VISIT WITH TEACHERS AND ENCOURAGE THEM TO BUILD RELATIONSHIPS WITH 2-3 BUSINESSES IN THE COMMUNITY FOR THEIR STUDENTS – Ward Cotton.

SEE WHAT THE OUTCOME IS OF THE CAREER ACADEMIES RESEARCH TRIP – Mike Nickel will talk with Kathleen and see if he can accompany the group (business community to find funding for his expenses)

CONTINUE TO EXPLORE THE MARKETING PROGRAM DONE FOR CAMPBELL COUNTY AND SEE IF IT IS FEASIBLE TO ADAPT IT FOR SHERIDAN COUNTY'S SCHOOLS – Shari Peddicord (through regional group)

BROADEN THE SCOPE OF CTE COMMITTEE TO INCLUDE THE BUSINESS AND NURSING PROGRAMS IN ORDER TO BUILD ON THEIR SUCCESSES IN THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY – Ward will encourage their participation.

ACHIEVE GREATER BUSINESS PARTICIPATION -- Philippe and Shari will visit with the Chamber and Homebuilders to encourage business participation.

DISCUSSION:

1. The goal of educators is to provide the best possible education for the students in their schools. For some, it means college, technical schools, etc. For others, this means preparing them for the job market coming out of high school – counseling paths need to be strengthened.
2. Hathaway's greatest rewards are to college-bound students, therefore, parents are going to encourage their kids to take classes to qualify for maximum Hathaway rewards, and this will limit the technical classes. – **Regionally, a group is working with legislators to amend the Hathaway regarding technical careers – we may want to become involved in this group. (Lynn Velle in Gillette is heading up the group).**
3. **Kids need employment year-around, but accommodating their schedules** – i.e. weekends and after school during the school year – full-time or around a sports schedule in the summer. Businesses that can design jobs in this manner can attract kids for the long-term.
4. The 5 trades were good place to start, – all tech ed teachers and businesses need to be involved, so we can build on the successes of the technical classes that are seeing successful relationship building with the business community.
5. Trades have OSHA limitations that need to be addressed, but we need to know exactly what those limitations are, so jobs can be designed around limitations and student schedules.
 - a. Need to see on paper what students can and can't do on the jobsites. – Get information from BAT.
 - i. Issues with businesses turning students away who are trying to get jobs in trades (due to OSHA limitations, i.e. age, etc.)
 - b. Construction classes have a lot of students in them who are not planning to make the trade their career.
 - c. Image is an issue – kids are not seeing jobs in the trades as careers. – **Image marketing program will be important. – Continue to research possible image programs.**
 - i. Provide counselors with positive information to school counselors for them to counsel specific students toward Career/Technical training.
 - ii. Teachers and counselors need to see advantages for their students in helping them focus on CTE.
6. Many programs are in place, but they lack the partnership link with local businesses – **Better success will come when teachers have strong relationships with industry partners for specific programs.**
 - a. Wood Shop teaches construction trades
 - b. Ag classes teach concrete and introduction to electricity
 - c. Welding classes are full.
 - d. Successful tech programs at the high school are those where the teachers have relationships with the business community:
 - i. Nursing CNA program with Westview (business partnership)

- ii. Ag program (mechanics) – business partnership with equipment repair businesses.
 - iii. Potential to build on successes – 1-2 kids at a time
- 7. Teachers need to know what they can actually do for the businesses.
 - a. Introduce trades (i.e. plumbing, electrical, etc) as skill sets and move into apprenticeship programs with business partners.
 - b. Need to get information from Karen Swindells at U.S. Bureau of Apprenticeship and Trades (Cheyenne) re the rules and regulations, as well as the exceptions for businesses who have registered apprenticeship programs.
 - c. Need to get industry partners interested in supporting the classes and mentoring students (good place to start is the Homebuilders Association) – not just a handful – get group interested in participating! **NEED CRITICAL MASS FROM THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY TO MAKE AN IMPACT AND SHOW NEED.**
 - d. See if teachers are willing to become certified to teach more of the areas and see if the industry clusters might be willing to pay for the teachers' certifications.