

**Williston-Elko Business, Education, Community Partnership
(BEC)
Meeting December 9, 2013 in the Media Center**

Present were the following:

Brian Newsome, Williston School District
Bob Bruns, NBS
Carol Lenderman, Williston School District
Anna Johnson, MOX
Jamie Wooten, Winfield Heights Baptist Church
Greg Sweet, Williston School District
Tom Siler, Williston School District
Freddie Houston, County Council
Alicia Penfield, Williston School District
Cathy Smith, Williston School District

Bob Bruns, BEC Chair, led the meeting. The minutes from the November 18, 2013 meeting were approved. The meeting began with Dr. Lenderman discussing the BEC website. She displayed and explained where the BEC information was located and how it operated. It is now available on the Williston School District's website on the main page. She asked the group if there needed to be any changes or additions at this time. In the future, she suggested to email her if anyone would like to make a change or addition. Once the By-Laws are complete, these will be added to the website as well.

Dr. Lenderman also had the present BEC members complete a survey. The results of the survey will be used both at the Strategic Planning Retreat in February as well as with the District Accreditation process. She would also like to see a few BEC members participate in the retreat. Their input would be very valuable to future plans.

Mr. Bruns asked the group to reflect on the stages of the Mentoring Program. Mr. Sweet discussed the options of having it encompass the entire school district, not just the middle School. His suggestion was to possibly call this the "Williston-Elko 29 Mentoring Support Program". At the present time, however, its main emphasis will be at the middle school level. Mr. Sweet is in the planning stages of the program. His vision and goal is to be sure each mentor is provided with ample resources. He wants to be sure they are equipped with the assistance they need to make it successful and long term. The training is still planned for January 2014. Mrs. Smith will contact Ferlicia Cuthbertson to follow up on the outreach to the Faith-Based. Reverend Wooten commented that each church may handle getting the information out differently. We may want to have it available at each church service, in an email,

or contact each office personally. He plans to present it to certain individual members at his church that he feels would embrace this opportunity.

Dr. Siler discussed the 501C3 Status. He has already met with the attorney that will represent our district. He just needed approval from the BEC board to go forward with the cost. Mr. Houston made a motion to move forward, Mrs. Johnson seconded the motion and all were in favor. Dr. Siler will now move forward and will report back to the group.

Mrs. Smith filled in for Mrs. McDaniel and handed out the updated financial report. The additions to the expenditure report for November 2013 were gas reimbursement, the cost of the conference Mrs. Smith attended in October (SC Future Minds), and prizes that were distributed to the students that participated in activities for "National Career Week" at the High School. These activities focused on improving "Soft Skills".

Mr. Houston touched on SRS funding. He would like to see our school district receive any available funds that we could utilize in the future for our students. He will be meeting with the SRNS President, Dwayne Wilson next week to discuss the needs. He strongly recommended that we invite Mr. Wilson to our school district in the future. Dr. Siler agreed that this would be advantageous and suggested the meeting take place with Mr. Bob Bruns, BEC Chair, Mr. Houston and himself.

Mrs. Johnson suggested bringing in a Physics class, this spring, to tour the MOX facility. She is also willing to visit the schools and showcase their glove boxes. The group all agreed that we want to continue to see these students experience hands on learning and be exposed to these careers early in their education. These experiences are motivating and educating.

Mr. Houston mentioned the elementary students possibly visiting the Boeing Plant in Charleston. Mrs. Smith shared with the group that fortunately, our students are gaining some of these experiences through job shadowing and field trips the students have taken this year and in years past. She also stated that we are always welcoming new opportunities each year and appreciate any information the group can share.

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 13, 2014 at 4:00 pm in the Williston School District Media Center.

Prepared by Cathy Smith, Vice-Chair