

**Williston-Elko Business, Education, Community Partnership  
(BEC)  
Meeting November 18, 2013 in the Media Center**

Present were the following:

Brian Newsome, Williston School District  
Joni McDaniel, LS REC  
Bob Bruns, NBS  
Latrechia Hicks, Dayco  
Carol Lenderman, Williston School District  
Anna Johnson, MOX  
Jamie Wooten, Winfield Heights Baptist Church  
Greg Sweet, Williston School District  
Tom Siler, Williston School District  
Marty Martin, Barnwell County Economic Development Corporation  
Michael Benjamin, Energy Solutions  
Cathy Smith, Williston School District

Bob Bruns, BEC Chair, led the meeting. The minutes from the October 14, 2013 meeting were approved. Mr. Bruns began the discussion by reflecting on previous activities. The first item was the Winfield Heights Fall Festival. Jamie Wooten, Pastor, handled the logistics. Cathy Smith and Dr. Siler attended and represented the BEC. The objective was to introduce the BEC to community members. In addition, educational information was available for parents. Emphasis on parent education is one of the main focuses with BEC. Taking advantage of community opportunities will help in this endeavor and hopefully, will play a vital role in assisting to create productive students and citizens in the future.

Secondly, the mentor letter was discussed. It has reached completion and is ready to be disseminated to designated individuals. Marty Martin plans to distribute at the next Industry Round Table Meeting held on Wednesday, November 20, 2013. Ferlecia Cuthbertson has created a faith-based list that she will use to send out mentoring letters as well. It was decided to move the contact date back on the

letters from November 26 to December 6, 2013. Any interested person is asked to contact Mrs. Smith, via email, by this date. Mr. Sweet and Dr. Lenderman will work together to plan a mentoring training. Tentatively, they may conduct this training on January 14, 2014.

Mrs. Smith shared with the group a power point that highlighted her visit to the SC Future Minds Seminar that was held in October 16, 2013. This seminar outlined details of creating and sustaining a successful Community, Business, Education program.

Some of the highlights:

- Create a 501C3 - make donating easy – “Donate Now” button.
- Success stories from other schools – may want to contact
- DATA reporting – What do WE want to focus on.
- Is our goal to gain money? If so, show urgency.
- Resources of successful programs.
- SCANA – how they operate & support education.
- Central Carolina Community Foundation – for companies wanting to set up donations.
- Guest speaker Dick Riley. He highlighted the importance of “Collaboration among parents, community and schools, positive school cultures, and 9<sup>th</sup> grade emphasis.”

Ms. McDaniel discussed finances and handed out an expenditure report. At the present time, there is \$15,668.76 in the budget. She and Mr. Martin stressed the importance of creating a 501C3. Dr. Siler will address this with the school accountants. He will report back to the group at the next meeting. Ms. McDaniel will be contacting the Rountree family to get their feedback on their future involvement and possible goals.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, **December 9, 2013 at 4:00 pm in the Williston School District Media Center.**

Prepared by Cathy Smith, Vice-Chair