

WAKEFIELD BUSINESS ALLIANCE
Location: US Army Career Center
Hosted by: James Bockelmann

JANUARY Meeting:01/10/08
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Action steps: **Sign up for Career Fairs/Job Shadow (see schedule below)**
 Complete resource list from Debra Stamp
 Moodle Website: begin to familiarize
 WebX meeting: Explore setting up

DATES to Remember:

Friday Fairs – Wakefield High School

- **Public Service** **2/1**
- **Health Science** **2/8**
- **Construction** **2/15**
- **Agriculture** **2/22**
- **Engineering** **2/29**
- **Biological and Chemical** **3/7**
- **Commercial & Production Arts** **3/14**
- **Business** **3/28**

Contact Barbara Wiggins for more information or to sign up with the assigned Business Alliance member for that career.

Career College – Wakefield Middle School
March 28 – 8:00-11:45

Contact Ellie Watkins for more information or to sign up

Xtreme Beginnings Career Fair – NC State
April 18

HIGHLIGHTS:

Opening Comments:

Debra Stamp welcomed all attendees. She is currently developing a resource list for teachers. This idea came from the December Meeting. The goal is to put this list in the hands of teachers in regards to what all Business Alliance Members can provide. Both schools have a Guest Speaker bureau list for teachers that has been very effective in providing speakers for the classroom.

Principal Reports and Career Development Coordinators:

Middle School, Ellie Watkins– Career College in March (see date above). Recruiting speakers for that day. 106 speakers participated last year. Ellie Watkins has forms available for those interested.

Wakefield MSCareerCollege@yahoo.com.

Job Shadowing for 8th Graders is Feb. 2. A letter and brochure was passed out. Can host a small group of students. It doesn't have to take the entire day. Packet available with suggestions and ideas for the workplace.

Superintendent's message was to focus on “Closing the Achievement Gap”. The school and staff are making special efforts to set up parent conferences at a satellite location for those who can not come out to WMS.

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High School – Mark Savage met with new school board member, Kevin Hill. He replaced Carol Parker. Mark received good feedback from the December Business Alliance Meeting. It was a good way of starting conversation and a following up with teacher needs. Trying to finalize approval for the 8 classroom modular unit to be placed at the 9th Grade Center. Good feedback and letter came from the Retirement Village where the theater department and sophomore council has been volunteering with putting on plays and a Bingo Night. 85 year old man wrote “it has restored my faith in the future”.

Graduation Project: Barbara Wiggins reported that handbook will be ready in April, 2008 for upcoming juniors. Beth Davis will be working with Alliance Members to build a mentor data base of those companies/individuals that students can connect with. Friday Fairs, Hand to Hand training, interviewing skills will all be emphasized with the current Sophomore Class. Sandy Gasper will work with PTSA members on recruitment and getting information out.

Business Alliance Members report:

Cisco has loaned executives to non-profit organizations. They have connected with 16 universities and 60 School districts in helping with needs. They provide an online curriculum that is available in computer application and networking classes at Wakefield High School. Ed Hall and Phil Vice are the teachers that run those courses.

The Army(J. Brockelmann) has offered the March 2 Success SAT prep course to both schools. It is a free service. Marilyn Bushey has uploaded at the High School and Middle school is using in their Language Arts classes for Gifted students.

RTI International; Robin Ritchey has helped with identifying 5 grants/funding available for WHS. One example was providing IPOD units for Special Needs students.

Moodle; Robin Fred; rfred@qtlcenters.org. This will help Business Alliance to communicate better and effectively esp. with committee chairs. qtlmoodle.org. All members will be set up. Screen shots will be available: news forum, general information, forms, Career College and Friday Fairs. Will be able to edit profile on own and manage information by user.

Rex Healthcare: Deb commented that many departments can fill Career College and Friday Fair segments through various employment/career opportunities that students aren't aware of. It isn't just physicians and nurses.

TEKELEC; Andy Roth shared how he worked with his company on using and the value of interns from area high schools. Work can be done in the customer documentation, development of videos and in the HR and Marketing Departments.

Members Present:

Don Smith Cisco

Barbara Wiggins, CDC, WHS

Traci McCullen Embarq

Mark Savage, WHS Principal

Robin Fred Center for Quality Teaching

Ellie Watkins, CDC, WMS

Andy Roth TEKELEC

REX Healthcare

Beth Davis Consultant
Debra Stamp Business Owner
James Brockelmann Army

Sandy Gasper, PTSA