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PRESS RELEASE

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2020 Regional Career Fair

Southeast Enterprise Facilitation Project (SEFP) and Canistota School system are pleased to announce the conclusion of the 2020 Regional Career Fair hosted by SEFP, Canistota School, Canistota Economic Development Corporation and County Extension. The event was held on Wednesday, February 26, 2020 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 in the Canistota School Gym, Canistota, SD. Each year SEFP facilitates the Regional Career Fair (with the help of local schools and Development Corporations, local Extension offices and numerous volunteers) with the hope of providing the upcoming generation a head-start on their life choices.

The theme was “Career & Service Investigation” (CSI) again this year as it seems to fit the goal for the students as they check out various careers, business industries, and higher education requirements and solutions. The committee hopes students will view their upcoming years as an opportunity to prepare for whatever it is they will be doing post-secondarily, whether that includes continuing their education/training in a two-year or four-year college/university, a trade or technical school, the military, or doing an on-the-job apprenticeship. We had presenters from all of these categories and more attending.

Approximately 297 students from the following high schools: Bridgewater-Emery, Canistota, Freeman Public, Freeman Academy, Irene-Wakonda, McCook Central, Marion, Menno, Centerville, Viborg/Hurley and Parker attended the event. Each student was given a folder with information ranging from financial aid to living on a budget while in college. They were also given a list of all the booth presenters along with questions that may be asked of each presenter to generate conversation. The students are to write down answers to their questions on the provided form, have the presenter initial the form and turn the form back in to qualify for one of ten \$30.00 awards and one \$50 award, sponsored by SEFP. This year we again added the game “Who Am I” to the form. Each student had 5 clues to help them figure out who the spotlight business/colleges were. The one student that put the most effort into completing the questionnaire and getting the most clues right will win the \$50 award. Each winner will be notified through their school.

SEFP and the Canistota Public School, and Canistota Economic Development Corp would like to thank the 34 colleges and businesses that sponsored a booth and made the 2020 Regional Career Fair a huge success! A very special thank you to Canistota’s Larry Nebelsick, Superintendent and Sonja Ortman, K-12 Principal for their assistance in organizing the event. A special shout out to Heath Becker and many folks that helped set up and tear down tables and chairs. You all rock! Thank you to the Canistota School Coffee Shoppe for making the awesome specialty coffees for the booth presenters. Also, thank you to Deanna Gall who, every year, coordinates the student’s mock interviews, all the teachers and bus drivers. Thank you to Bo Ellefson, SD AIR National Guard for

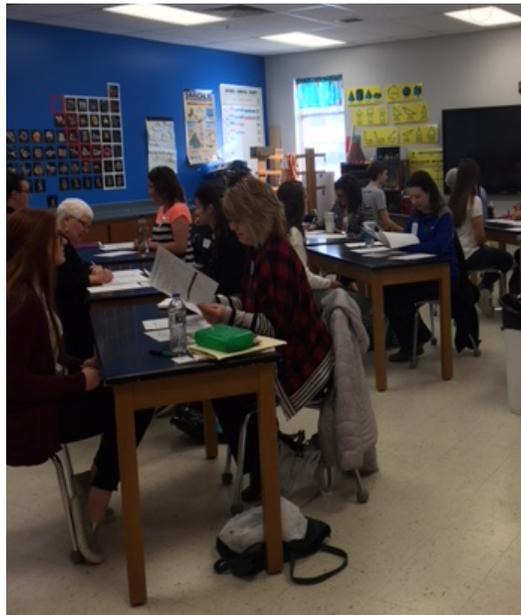
providing bags for the students to put their Career Fair information into; and many thanks to the SEFP Board Members for stuffing 300+ student folders and Jackie Lukes for helping with door prizes and lastly, thank you to the individuals who took time from their day to conduct mock interviews for 297 students.

SEFP provides innovative, grass roots approaches to assist individuals with development of a new business, retention or expansion of existing business as well as providing assistance for the development of a private non-profit agency. Our hope in facilitating the Regional Career Fair each year is to open our young people's minds to what the world has to offer and instill in them the want to bring their education back home to open a business or become a community leader. Our passion is increasing economic vitality and enhancing quality of life in the communities we serve through a multitude of opportunities.

Try to imagine these young people graduating from High School with a clear vision of what they want to do with their life! Perhaps their vision will include coming back home, starting a business or even delving into local politics. Can you imagine their dreams?



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Student mock job interviews