

B.E.C.O.N
October 6, 2022

Breakfast this morning was very yummy – Biscuits & Gravy, eggs, hashbrowns, fruit & yogurt.

There was another winner take all raffle!! Only \$1 to play.

Thanks to Bruce for leading the meeting today, since Cavin and Craig were both out-of-town. Trina led us in prayer and there were no guests other than our speaker.

Announcements:

1. The Halloween Pub Crawl is Friday 10/28. It will only be \$10, which will help cover the cost of beer and appetizers. The Crawl will include Craft Local, Bar MT, Asylum and Cider Mill. The sign up sheet went around, but you can also sign up on line.
2. A check was presented to Kim for \$401 to United Way for the Day of Care.
3. Dress-A-Child is 10/22 at the Heights Walmart, be sure to sign up on the website and request to work.

Speaker:

Scott Anderson with the Career Center gave a wonder presentation and did a great job explaining the advancement over the past almost 50 years. Billings is the only city in Montana that has a career center. They focus on C.T.E. (Career, Tech and Education) at the Center.

High School students from all 3 public High Schools can get dual credit, with up to 21 college credit courses in Math, Scient and Pathways (trades). They do have some students from Central Hight also. They have around 1,200 students that pass through the Center. There are about 475 students in the Medical Careers alone. In the Medical Careers, students can get EMT or CAN certification. The Center partners with City College and multiple core classes are available at the High School level.

There are four Pathways programs, which are Engineering, Medicine, Construction and Agriculture. Their Trades program includes Auto Metals and Electrical. Students can participate in welding, drafting, graphic design, IT, Programing and learn multiple other skills. They have a Pre-school where students in the Education Pathway study Intro to Education.

In the Construction Pathway, the students are hands-on building a home every year. This is their 47th home that students have built, and they just closed on this house, which sold for over \$500,000.

Their Honors AP Classes are working in conjunction with NASA on an exploratory project.

They are now bringing Middle School students through the Center to show them options and opportunities for quality of life with a skill.

They have a Chef, who is teaching the class by using the kitchen at City College.

They do encourage Seniors to attend the Jobs Fair, which is held at the Metra in March.

Career Coaches that are located at each High School are often times a conduit between school and employers, but right now most of their time is being spent on mental health issues, which has increased significantly over the past 5 years (even before COVID).

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A question was asked about where the mental health issues are stemming from. Mr. Anderson's opinion is: #1 Social Media – students are always consumed with what people are saying or what they are missing out on. To the point that students aren't getting enough sleep and their sleep patterns are messed up, due to being on their phones too much. #2 Drug, which they have seen an up-tick since legalization and #3 home situations that are unstable.