

BRADLEY COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Dr. Tracy Tucker—Hermitage School Superintendent Updates BCEDC Board of Directors

Dr. Tracy Tucker provided an overview of her background and work history to the BCEDC Board of Directors. She explained that this is her 2nd year as Superintendent of Hermitage Schools. Dr. Tucker explained that she, the Hermitage School board, and leadership teams have worked together and determined what they want Hermitage Schools to be and look like for their students. They developed a Mission Statement, Vision Statement, and Core Beliefs. These are what the school district will refer back to when making day to day decisions about what is going on in the district, what their priorities are, and what they are all about. She furnished a handout listing the District Mission Statement, District Vision Statement and District Core Beliefs/Values. Dr. Tucker stated that she refers to the Core Beliefs on a daily basis to ensure that they are following the path that aligns with the beliefs set forth by the District. The District Core Beliefs listed were:

- **Learning For All** – We believe that students and staff must be lifelong learners utilizing technology, demonstration innovative ideas, and acquiring the skills needed to succeed in careers and higher levels of education.
- **Environment** – We value our staff and students and believe that all are entitled to a collaborative learning environment that is safe and clean, fun and engaging, and caring and respectful.
- **Excellence** – We expect the HERMIT PRIDE to be evident in individuals, academics and extra-curricular activities, with everyone striving for excellence and being held accountable for their actions.
- **Community** – We honor the relationships and partnerships, particularly with our families and community, necessary to ensure that our students are healthy, safe, engaged, supported and challenged.

- **Diversity** – We celebrate the people and cultures represented in our schools and seek to explore teaching methods that are engaging, while addressing different learning styles and interests.

Dr. Tucker explained that through the abundant student data gathered from many sources it is very clear that Hermitage Schools need to focus on Literacy. This is being accomplished by repurposing the assets the schools already have. Literacy is being stressed in pre-k through 12th grade.

Dr. Tucker discussed the process of creating a work ready community in Hermitage. Dr. Tucker stated that a work ready community will look very different within different communities. She stressed that a Hermitage work ready community has to be specific to their community, their students, and the opportunities their students have before them. Dr. Tucker advised that through the SEACBEC Internship Program her students have an opportunity to learn about being part of the workforce. Hermitage is working toward providing their students the skills they need to attend and graduate college and to be an asset to the workforce. She also discussed how their school district is looking into policy changes that would allow students to sit for the National Career Readiness Certificate, before they graduate. The Hermitage High School Counselor, Angela Scroggins is attending the ACT Work Ready Community Academy in Atlanta.

Dr. Tucker stated that they need to improve Hermitage’s high school’s completion rate. They are exploring ways to connect with students and to communicate the importance of graduating high school. One of the changes that was made this year is that they have gone to a K-12 principal. They are in the process of hiring a Dean of Students, which will function as a student services person. This position will be responsible for reaching out and connecting with their students, following up with attendance, addressing immigration issues, and anything that could concern graduation rates. (Continued)

HOW CAN BCEDC HELP LOCAL BUSINESSES?

BCEDC can help your business in such areas as:

- Land and building acquisitions
- Financial packaging
- Demographic and economic data
- Incentive packaging
- Workforce training
- Plant expansions
- Entrepreneurial and small business development

BCEDC Is Affiliated With:

- Southeast Arkansas Cornerstone Coalition
- Southeast Arkansas Regional Intermodal Authority
- Arkansas Heavy Equipment Training Program
- Southeast Arkansas Community Based Education Center
- Arkansas Small Business and Technology Dev. Ctr. @UAM
- Bradley County Chamber of Commerce

March 2016— Jobs Update		
Bradley Co. Employers	# Emp.	Openings
AR Superior Federal CU	14	0
Armstrong Flooring	244	3
Ashcraft Wood Products	24	0
Bradley Brand Furniture	5	0
Bradley County	68	0
Bradley Co. Medical Ctr.	258	16
Chapel Woods Health & Rehab	110	5
City of Hermitage	6	1
City of Warren	44	0
First Presbyterian Childcare Ctr	22	1*
First State Bank of Warren	31	0
Fulghum Fibers	10	0
Hermitage Schools	82	1
New Beginnings, CASA	20	2
Oasis Trading	39	0
OK Foods	18	1
Ouachita Hardwood	45	0*
Ozark Mountain Poultry	320	0
Potlatch	168	4
SE AR Community Action Corp.	77	0
SE AR Human Dev. Ctr.	253	53
Super Valu Foods	59	1**
The Mad Butcher	59	2***
Townsend Flooring	28	0*
UAMS/KIDS FIRST—Warren	16	2
Union Bank	8	0
Warren Bank & Trust	37	0
Warren School Dist.	289	9
TOTAL	2354	101

*Taking Applications **Applications on Thur. ***Applications on Mon., 1-4 pm

Continued: Hermitage Schools

Dr. Tucker explained the schools efforts to engage parents and the community in what they are doing at school. She discussed the difficulty, but also the necessity of parents being involved. Dr. Tucker stated that this is a difficulty nationwide but they are working very hard to have an effective conversation with all of their stakeholders.

Dr. Tucker discussed the ability to participate in virtual learning classes through SEACBEC. This type class provides the Hermitage Students will a wider variety of classes that would otherwise be unavailable. Rep. Jeff Wardlaw discussed the advantage our area has with our low cost of megabytes and fiber accessibility, which is thanks to SAT-CO.

Mr. Lipton and the Board of Directors thanked Dr. Tracy Tucker for her update.

JOB OPENINGS AT:

Armstrong Flooring: Has 3-job opening. Interested candidates should apply on line at www.armstrong.com or at ESA in Monticello. Permanent positions may be found at www.armstrong.com as they become available.

Bradley Co. Medical Center: Has employment opportunities for 3-RN (Full Time), 5-RN (PRN), 4-LPN (PRN), 1-CNA (Full Time), 1-Business Office/ER/Part Time Clerk, and 1-RN Nurse Manager Full Time. Employment opportunities are posted online at www.bradleycountymedicalcenter.com for full-time, part-time and PRN positions.

Chapel Woods Health & Rehab: Has job openings for 1-LPN, 3-CNA, and 1-Housekeeping employee. For additional information and to apply call 870-226-6766.

City of Hermitage: Has a job opening for a Police Officer. To apply call 870-463-2209

First Presbyterian Childcare Ctr.: Has a job opening for a teacher. For information call 870-226-2277

Hermitage Schools: Has a job opening for a bus driver. For additional information go to: www.hermitageschools.org click on Administration and then on Job Listing. To apply contact the Superintendent's Office at 870-463-2246.

New Beginnings: Has 2-job openings for Security Officers. Call 870-226-9970.

OK Foods: Has a job opening for a Warehouse Operator. Job is posted on www.tenderbird.com.

Potlatch Corporation: Has job openings for a salaried safety coordinator, two fully qualified millwrights and some entry level laborers. Anyone interested or looking for more information, please go to www.potlatchcorp.com under the career section. EEO/AA/Veteran employer with competitive wages and benefits.

SE AR Human Development Ctr.: Has 53 vacant positions; 35 of these are direct care (Residential Care Assistant) positions. There is a "Mass Interview" scheduled for March 23 in the old Warren National Guard Armory. Those who have a desire to work with developmentally disabled adults are encouraged to apply through www.arstatejobs.com. Interviews will be scheduled through their recruiting department in Little Rock. They do not grant walk-in interviews.

The Mad Butcher: Has 2-full time openings. Experience is required. Job applications are taken on Mondays, from 1:00 to 4:00 pm at Mad Butcher.

UAMS/KIDS FIRST—Warren: Apply online at www.uams.edu/jobs

Warren School Dist.: For details on job openings and to apply contact the Warren School Dist. at 870-226-6738 or online at www.warrensd.org

If interested in any of the listed jobs, please contact the company directly.

GOOD LUCK!!

HOW CAN BCEDC HELP?

BCEDC

110 N. Myrtle St.
Warren, AR 71671

Phone: 870-226-3760

Fax: 870-226-3770

websites:

www.bcedcar.com
arkansassitesselection.com

E-mail:

bradleycountyidc@sbcglobal.net

DON'T FORGET MONDAYS AT MOLLY'S

7:00 am

All are welcome at this public forum meeting.

BCEDC encourages all to attend and enter into discussions concerning Bradley County.

Ask About Membership!

Become a BCEDC Member and work to grow the economy of Warren and Bradley County.

Call 870-226-3760 for Membership information.

Looking for Small Business Counseling?

UAM-ASBTDC provides **FREE** business consulting and will be available to Warren area residents in the BCEDC office the first Monday of each month from 8:00 am to 10:00 am. You may also visit UAM-ASBTDC in Harris Hall at UAM. Call 870-460-1910