20 middle school and high school students from Bruning-Davenport, Deshler, Meridian and Thayer Central schools took the second step in learning how to build entrepreneurial successes.

To help prepare for future business possibilities, students learned about their personal values and how they relate to business practices. The importance of setting S.M.A.R.T. goals and creating a time line to accomplish goals was reviewed. Students practiced handshaking and making introductions as part of the “First Impressions” portion of the workshop session.

Students and eight adult mentors learned about their personal strengths according to the Gallup Strengths assessment. Combining those personal strengths, the group created a community “strengths” list.

Students listed personal interest in creating potential businesses as related to the “community gaps” identified during the first session.

Communication with school faculty is accomplished through email. During the second workshop and under the guidance of adults, the students created a “closed” Thayer ESI Facebook page, as a preferred communication tool for youth. This web tool will also serve as an archive for photos and resources for class participants.

Promotion of this youth project has been shared with Chambers of Commerce, Rotary and other community organizations.

On October 25th students will travel to York for a Community Connections retreat where Thayer County youth and adults will meet others from Butler and Seward counties who are also part of this BECA pilot effort. Motivational speaker Sue Schlichtemeier-Nutzman will facilitate the Sunday event and help participants understand Intergenerational Differences.

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