



# EntrepreneurShip Investigation and Community Connections



## Thayer County

October 2009



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.

tential businesses as related to the “community gaps” identified during the first session.

speaker Sue Schlichte-meier-Nutzman will facilitate the Sunday event and help participants understand Intergenerational Differences.



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.

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.

The Community connections project is funded in part by a grant from the Nebraska Department of Economic Development and administered by the Nebraska Rural Development Commission.



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.

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



Students listed personal interest in creating po-

On October 25<sup>th</sup> 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

