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Dr. Corey Vorthmann speaks about TradeWorks Academy

Dr. Corey Vorthmann, Treynor, Chief Academic Officer with CB Community School District, spoke on Saturday, November 3 to the Treynor Optimist Club about the Trade Works Academy.



Corey Vorthmann

The TradeWorks Academy will “provide more opportunities and more choices because trades work”. With more than half of skilled trades workers over the age of 45, the shortage of workers continues to grow. At this time for every five positions that are available in industry, only one person has the skills to qualify.

In the past there was an emphasis on students attending a four year college or they wouldn't make it, he said. This is appropriate for many, but not all. There is an incredible demand for skilled job workers. In all industries that need skilled workers 68% do not require a Bachelors' degree. An example is Google. The perception is that Google's greatest worker needs is as computer operators, but in actuality the two main core job positions at Google are in HVAC and Electrical Maintenance.

The Academy is being built at Abraham Lincoln and Thomas Jefferson High Schools, but Dr. Vorthmann emphasized that it is open to any high school student in the area who wants to attend. They would need to provide their own transportation. They would also return to their own school for regular classes. TradeWorks Academy offers five areas of study, including: Mechanics, Construction, Fabrication, Electrical, and Plumbing and HVAC/Refrigeration.

The Academy is aimed at Freshmen and Sophomores in high school to begin. Students can continue their Junior and Senior year to take classes in the trades in partnership with Iowa Western Community College which will allow them to graduate with a high school diploma and a certificate.

The opportunities in the trades give the students upon graduation a 90% employment rate and they can earn immediately \$30,000 up to \$50,000 in certain trades with their first job. This is also an opportunity to not have any student debt! The two high schools can handle a total of 300 students in the Trades Work Academy.

Vorthmann indicated information has been sent to schools and presentations will soon be made to superintendents at group meetings to get the word out to schools.

Meeting Minutes

President Dale Willenborg called the meeting to order. Thirteen members were present plus three guests, Corey Vorthmann, Annaliese McCain and Katelyn Olson. Keith Denton, Chad Guttau, and Dale Willenborg shared jokes followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Dale Willenborg gave the opening prayer. Judy Guttau won the 50/50 award and Jordan Campbell won the attendance drawing. Gary Guttau won the Football Contest. Ann Vorthmann's birthday was observed. There were no anniversaries.

For bragging rights, Kevin and Marsha Underwood donated for the Treynor Volleyball

win and for Bailey White playing a good game for St. Albert. Judy Guttau contributed to announce the TS Promise will be happening this week with the inspirational speaker speaking in eleven schools and presenting a faith-based youth rally on Friday, Nov. 9 at Fellowship Church. Keith Denton contributed because his sister who moved back is in a condo right where she wanted it. He also contributed because he got all new fence.

Community activities announced were the high school musical, Legally Blonde, being performed today at 2:30 and 7:30 PM.

Under Old Business, the group was reminded that the Jr. Treynor Women and the Optimist Club are sponsoring a Human Trafficking program at Silos on Tuesday, November 14. Pizza and cookies will be served starting at 5:30 and the program will start at 6:00 PM. Cookies are needed. Kevin will bake, but others are encouraged to also bring cookies.

Can kennel helpers for the Boy Scouts were John Klein and Gary Funkhouser.

Annaliese McCain and Katelyn Olson were present to receive their \$500 Optimist Scholarships.

L-R Katelyn Olson, Annaliese McCain, Dale Willenborg



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Dues/Donations/Flag Money: Mail to Optimist Club of Treynor, PO Box 354, Treynor, IA 51575

Annaliese McCain is studying psychology at UNO. She is in the Psych Club, volunteers, and is working two jobs. When done with school, she is looking at doing therapy, but is also interested in industrial organization psychology.

Katelyn Olsen is studying at Metro College in Omaha in the Business Transfer Program. She will get her Associates Degree and then can transfer to a four year college. Metro was a more affordable choice for her than IWCC. She hopes to open her own business someday. Both girls indicated that they were able to get college credits at IWCC while in high school.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by stating the Optimists Pledge.

Thanksgiving Jokes for your kids or grandkids:

- **What kind of music did the Pilgrims like? Plymouth Rock**
- **If you call a large turkey a gobbler, what do you call a small one? Goblet**
- **Why did the Indian chief wear so many feathers? To keep his wig warm.**

Calendar

- Nov 14 Human Trafficking Program at Silo's
- Nov 14 Can kennel sorting for Cub Scouts
- Nov 28 Can kennel sorting for Cub Scouts

Birthdays

- Nov 8 Mick Guttau, Ann Vorthmann
- Nov. 18 Diane Willenborg

Anniversaries

Programs

- November Keith Denton
- December Kirk Vorthmann

Speakers

- Nov 10 ?
- Nov 17 Jean Stephens – Hope Net