

2010 Pennsylvania Business Week Grant

Grant Overview: Pennsylvania Business Week is a one-week, in-school program with a rigorous curriculum that teaches students about the American economic system. Although economic education is not a required course of study within the Pennsylvania education system, it is necessary that our students gain knowledge of the American free enterprise system, how it works, and how they play a role in it.

High school students are divided into management teams that run their own companies through a computer simulation. The students run the companies for 12 business quarters by making all managerial decisions dealing with pricing their products, investing, marketing, production, research and development, and human resources. This activity does comply with the requirements for STEM as emphasis is placed on math skills as they apply to business concepts within the framework of the program.

The week culminates in five competitions – Advertising, Stockholders, Trade Show, Return on Net Assets, and the Top Company. Simulating real world business decision-making helps students learn leadership skills, teamwork, time management, analytical thinking, problem solving, and “people” skills.

Hosted by the Americans for the Competitive Enterprise System, Pennsylvania Business Week will be held at Youngsville High School during the week of January 11, 2010 for all students in grade 11. There will be approximately 89 students involved in this program.

Volunteers from local businesses and organizations participate in the program.

Funding will be pursued from the Community Foundation of Warren County and the Rees Foundation. Warren County School to Work will solicit donations from local businesses.

Amount of Award: \$9,000.00

Due Date/Notification of Award: Applications due monthly. Notification should be within 1-2 months of submission.

Alternatives if not Awarded: The program will not be offered if the necessary grant funds and donations are not received.

WCSD Resources Required: None.

Administrative Recommendation: That the Board of Directors instructs the administration to apply to the Community Foundation of Warren County – and other local foundations as necessary - for funding necessary to offer the Pennsylvania Business Week program at Youngsville High School in January 2010.