

~ VBEC Story ~

Latest Chapter: School Year 2018 - 2019

As 2019 speeds to an end and we move into a new decade, we reflect on how Victoria Business and Education Coalition supported area students during the last school year.

- 340 K – 12 Students were served at 12 campuses through mentoring, tutoring, Junior Achievement
- 14 Junior Achievement presentations were given to students in 3rd – 12th grades
- 43 – 7th graders and 20 youth leaders attended YOUTH LEADership Conference last summer
- 138 Adult Volunteers assisted the VBEC staff in making all this possible
- 3,422 Volunteer hours were donated by those who care about kids

Here are a few examples of what we've built on over our first 16 years that will continue and will be expanded in the new school year:

Mentors stepping up as a caring adult in the life of a student with an unstable home life. 1st & 2nd graders tutored to improve their reading skills and 5th graders receiving help mastering math concepts. Business partners having lunch with high school students to discuss the path to a great career. College students sharing the insider scoop with high school prospects on how to prepare for and succeed in college.

Junior Achievement presenters helping K – 12 students learn about financial literacy (perhaps helping some see how to break the generational poverty cycle in their family), entrepreneurship, and workplace skills. Offering JA to after school programs such as those at the YMCA and Boys and Girls Club. College students and area employees practicing communication skills as presenters.

Incoming 7th graders building self-esteem, accountability, leadership, and teamwork skills during our annual and highly impactful summer **YOUTH LEADership Conference**.

The Next Chapter ~ Our future plans also include:

Reinvigorating our mission through **Career Connections** by providing career speakers, career fairs, workplace skills workshops, workplace tours, job shadowing, student internships / apprenticeships, and teacher externships to help prepare students for the workforce and help area employers build a solid pool of potential employees.

And we've already begun:

- September 2019 - Co-hosted Career Con for 475 – 7th graders from area private and public schools with Workforce Solutions Golden Crescent, Communities in Schools Golden Crescent, and VISD Career and Technical Education
- Support for other area careers fairs in 2020 hosted by Workforce Solutions Golden Crescent and Victoria College
- Planning is underway for Job Shadow Events in February
- Support for VISD as they implement P-TECH (Pathway to Early College High School) including student internships and teacher externships opportunities.

