

NEWS RELEASE

May be published when received.



August 9, 2017

603 West Park Street, Sheldon, Iowa 51201
Phone 712-324-5061 or toll free 1-800-352-4907, Ext. 105

ENTREPREP INSTITUTE OFFERED AT NORTHWEST IOWA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Nine area high school sophomores, juniors and seniors have been selected for the EntrePrep Institute, which was held Monday, July 31, through Friday, August 4, 2017. The EntrePrep Institute is being implemented by Northwest Iowa Community College. The program targets students from their Sophomore, Junior, and Senior year in high school, who have personal and academic characteristics which make them likely future entrepreneurs.

The theme for the EntrePrep Summer Institute was, "Do Not Follow Where the Path May Lead...Go Instead Where There is No Path and Leave a Trail." The instructor for the Northwest Iowa Community College program was Brad Gill and the coordinator was Donna Ascherl. The evening counselors were Chandler Brons, University of South Dakota, Vermillion, SD and Noah Hop, Northwestern College, Orange City, IA.

Participants in the EntrePrep program were selected based on recommendations of their school counselors and teachers, personal essays and interviews. Each EntrePrep student is teamed with an entrepreneur mentor and participates in an intensive five day residential summer institute which provides instruction in entrepreneurship concepts. Following the Summer Institute each EntrePrep student then contributes 30 hours to an internship with his/her entrepreneur mentor's business.

The program provides both formal instruction and real business experience that establishes the entrepreneurial foundation upon which the students can build their future. EntrePrep blends academic instruction with practical experience to develop a cadre of young people who may one day launch their own business ventures. The EntrePrep program consists of an Orientation Session, Summer Institute, Internship and Booster Workshops. Upon completion of the program each student receives college credit for the course. If they attend Northwest Iowa Community College the following fall after their high school graduation they will receive a \$250 scholarship for the fall and spring term.

The following area high school Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors began the program June 7, 2017 by attending an orientation session at Northwest Iowa Community College. On July 31, through August 4, the students were on campus attending the summer institute.

PHOTO:

This year's participants with counselors are: Front Row, left to right: Pashea Haht, South O'Brien; Giselle Ramirez, Sioux Center; Kade Griesse, Central Lyon; and Justin Schmit, Gehlen Catholic.

Back row, left to right: Chandler Brons, counselor; Thomas Pohlen, Gehlen Catholic; Danna Schipper, West Sioux; Pricila Flores, West Sioux; Stephanie Jimenez, West Sioux; Avere Den Hartog, Rock Valley; Noah Hop, counselor.