

Committee: EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Chair: Beau Blanchard

Past Chair: Robert Friedman



Vision

What are our long-term objectives for this Committee? (2-3 years)

- Act as a catalyst for existing MCOE, College of Marin & Dominican University career-related and pathways programs by facilitating healthy student internship experiences in Marin County.
- Provide support for the education community that will ensure students attending Marin County Schools and Colleges are prepared and productive participants in a complex, changing, technology-driven society.



Mission

Why does this committee or task force exist?

To identify, promote, and support common educational goals by fostering understanding, cooperation, and collaboration between the business and education communities.



Champions

Who are the Board Champions (Board Members Leading the Committee)?

Stephanie Plante serves as the Vice Chair of the Sustainability Division, which includes the functions of the Education Committee. Committee Chair Beau Blanchard is on the Chamber Board.



Objectives

What are the specific measures of success for this committee? (Limit to one line or sentence)

- Committee recognizes outstanding educators throughout the year
- Committee hosts the annual “New Teacher Welcome” Mixer in October and the “Excellence in Education” Award Ceremony at the May mixer
- Committee facilitates successful internships with Marin County businesses for high school and college students from COM & Dominican U. via the Internship Connection
- Committee co-sponsors annual Bite of Reality financial literacy program for San Rafael City School District and Dixie students.



Strategies

How are we going to sustain this focus area over time? (Limit to one line or sentence)

- Maintain an equal balance of educators and business representatives on the committee
- Focus on facilitating involvement by all Chamber educational institution members
- Gain commitment from Chamber business members to financially support the efforts of the committee
- Partner with local businesses and MCOE, COM & Dominican to facilitate dialog and action with respect to helping provide enriching student internship experiences.



Plans

What is the work to be done? List activity, who will be responsible, when will it happen, and what is the budget impact. (Limit to one line or sentence)

- Create Education committee sub-committees to plan and execute events
- Work closely with the chamber and committee liaison to facilitate events
- Promote the Chamber and membership benefits whenever possible
- Achieve positive visibility in the community and at the Chamber
- Gain commitment from committee members to participate and contribute

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2015 Accomplishments:

- **Established the new Internship Connection, which provides a convenient service to our members and guidance on how to host a successful internship, and also gives the Chamber another tool for outreach to non-members.**
- **Supported SRCS measures A & B, which passed.**
- **Recognized 8 educators through the Excellence in Education program and welcomed dozens of new teachers to San Rafael at the October mixer, further strengthening ties between the Chamber and the education community.**
- **Grew the Education Committee to include representatives from College of Marin and Dominican University of California, and incorporated these schools into the Internship Connection.**