



AND



## CHAMBER EDUCATION COUNCIL TACKLES SEVERAL VISION 2020 GOALS

School may be out for summer, but the Chamber's Education Council is hard at work! Under the leadership of Bonnie Denmon, the Council has taken on several of the Angelina County Vision 2020 strategies (as marked with the Vision 2020 logo) and has prioritized their overall goals as shown below.

Denmon, who is also chairing the Angelina County Vision 2020 Education Foundation, has recruited strong leadership for each strategy.

The Education Council is meeting the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday every other month with their next meeting set for August 7<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in serving on the Chamber's Education Council contact the Chamber at 634-6644.

Visit the Vision 2020 website at [www.angelinacountyvision2020.com](http://www.angelinacountyvision2020.com) for further information on the Education Foundation.

### Priority #1



#### TO DEVELOP ACADEMY CENTERS ON THE ANGELINA COLLEGE CAMPUS

Chairman: **Trey Henderson, ANGELINA HARDWOOD SALES**

- ✓ Research the feasibility of funding and creating "academy centers" on the Angelina College campus in partnership with the county's six ISD's allowing vocational and technical program resources to be pooled. Students would be able to receive dual credit for courses taken.

### Priority #2



#### CREATE A QUALITY, WELL-STAFFED MENTORING PROGRAM FOR THE COUNTY

Chairman: **Dr. Charles Kent, DDS**

- ✓ Develop and assist in coordinating a strong mentoring program for all six independent school districts in Angelina County.
- ✓ Create a "job description" for mentors for each district
- ✓ Look at need for both "internal" and "external" mentors.
- ✓ Develop an "interest inventory" on each student to pair with a career mentor.
- ✓ Develop a method of utilizing retirees as mentors.

### Priority #3



#### DEVELOP COUNTY-WIDE JOB SHADOWING/INTERNSHIPS

Chairman: **Ronnie Robinson, DUNAGAN WAREHOUSE**

- ✓ Research and develop a summer internship/job shadowing opportunity for students.
- ✓ Coordinate summer work program for disadvantaged youth.

- ✓ Research possibility of a 3-week internship during a student's junior or senior year that would be part of the curricula.
- ✓ Explore "Certificate of Employability" that could be awarded to students who complete certain requirements (might include an internship experience).
- ✓ Research the development of a summer internship program where local businesses would hire an intern for 20 hours a week at \$7/hour.

## Priority #4



### CREATE NEW ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT RECOGNITION OPPORTUNITIES

**Chairman: Carl Ray Polk, POLK OIL COMPANY**

- ✓ Consider an awards dinner for honor students that might include scholarships from the business community.
- ✓ Improve the promotion of the Chamber's Science & Technology Fair; work to match students with business mentors in the student's area of interest.
- ✓ Develop methods of recognizing the students "in the middle" ; ensure these students get exposure to influential speakers, etc.
- ✓ Recognize students who will graduate on the "Texas Scholars" plan. Develop a method of assuring these students priority in securing available internships.

## Priority #5



### CREATE A LOCAL MULTI-INSTITUTIONAL TEACHING CENTER (MITC)

**Chairman: Dr. Larry Phillips, ANGELINA COLLEGE**

- ✓ Research feasibility of creating an MITC on the Angelina College campus that would provide distance learning capabilities with major universities – allowing area students to take senior level college courses here in Angelina County.

## Priority #6

### EVENTS/PROGRAMS (AS THE FIVE TOP PRIORITIES MOVE FORWARD)

#### WORK ON TEACHER RECOGNITION, TEACHER INCENTIVES AND COORDINATION

**Chairman: Leon Manning, AXLEY & RODE**

##### CREATE TEACHER RECOGNITION PROGRAMS

- ✓ Look at revamping "Teachers of the Year" program to better recognize the teaching profession.

##### DEVELOP A METHOD TO FUND TEACHER MINI-GRANTS

- ✓ Seek to develop funding sources for teacher mini-grants to support continuing education opportunities.



##### CREATE A INCENTIVE PACKAGE FOR NEW TEACHERS

- ✓ Work on developing a package of incentives to help County ISD's attract new teacher

##### DEVELOP A COUNTY-WIDE "PRINCIPAL FOR A DAY" PROGRAM

- ✓ Provide local business leaders the opportunity to job shadow school principals for a day and thus educate them on the duties and responsibilities of educators.