



*Grow Entrepreneurs. Nurture Success.*

January 5, 2013

Dear Parents of a sophomore or junior Coles County High School Student,

Your student should be receiving the informational flyer on the back of this letter at school regarding the Coles County Entrepreneurship Class. In this experiential learning dual-credit class, your student will learn about what it's like to be an entrepreneur and to start their very own business. They will also develop leadership and professional skills so important for success by touring and interacting with more than 50 Coles County business owners and working on a group business with fellow classmates. Through this program, we hope to create an intergenerational business success network that encourages students to remember their roots, resulting in potential business and job creation in Coles County, thereby securing its future health and economic vitality.

**Why Should My Student Apply for the Class?**

This class encourages entrepreneurial thinking, problem-solving and work skills development. The ability to listen, write, speak and act professionally is critical to success in business. In addition, analytical/research skills, interpersonal skills such as dependability, reliability, responsibility and how to work in a team environment is how they are graded in this class.

**When and Where Does the Class Meet?**

The class meets Monday through Friday both fall and spring semester from 7:30 – 9 am. The class meets in actual businesses in Coles County. Students will also need to dress in business casual attire every day. Most days will either be at a designated "home base" - a conference room in a business where the students will do class work, or it will be at a business where they will be given a tour and the owner will speak about how they started their business and their successes and failures.

**What is the Cost of This Class?**

The expenses of this class are totally supported by the Coles County business community that has donated the funds to provide for the class expenses because they believe in the mission to grow our own entrepreneurs. However, since this is a dual credit class, the students will need to pay for 3 credit hours of Lake Land College dual credit at a total cost of \$41.85.

**What Does My Student Need to Do To Be Accepted into This Class?**

If this program sounds interesting to your student, you may wish to refer them to speak to their guidance counselor to receive an application packet for this class. They will need to write an essay of why they want to take this class and get two letters of reference from people in the community. Although there is no grade point average requirement, we do take entrepreneurial/work experience, tardiness and absences into consideration. The class is open to incoming juniors and seniors attending Charleston, Mattoon and Oakland High Schools and there is no quota per school. The most entrepreneurial students will be selected by the Coles County Entrepreneurship Class Advisory board student selection committee.

If you have any questions or would like more information about this wonderful learning opportunity, please feel free to contact me at (217) 581-2913 or at [jcdau@eiu.edu](mailto:jcdau@eiu.edu).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jeanne C. Dau".

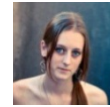
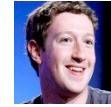
Jeanne C. Dau  
Coles County Entrepreneurship Teacher  
Director of the Business Solutions Center at Eastern Illinois University



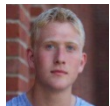
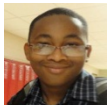
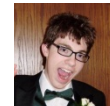
Have you ever thought about starting your own business?



# COLES COUNTY



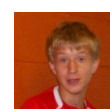
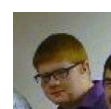
# ENTREPRENEURSHIP CLASS



As a member of this class you will...

- Work with students from other high schools
- Meet and work with area business leaders
- Work in an atmosphere of innovative thinking and problem solving
- Run a group business
- Encounter real-life learning experiences
- Work with a mentor as you develop your business
- Start and run your own business
- Feature your business in a Spring trade show

**This class offers a life-changing look into the opportunities and challenges of starting and running a new venture.**



## Class Details

- The class is offered to any Junior and/or Senior student.
- The class meets Monday through Friday, 7:30-9:00 am and is a year-long high school course.
- The class meets in various local businesses so you must be able to provide for your own transportation.
- Must have a history of good attendance.
- In addition to a written request all applicants must submit two letters of recommendation.
- Will earn Lake Land College dual credit in the Spring semester with a cost of approximately \$42.
- Talk with your guidance counselor for an application.