



CAREER PATHWAYS

*Launch Your Future Today*

## Southwest Minnesota CEO

### SOUTHWEST MINNESOTA CEO

A partnership between Adrian, Edgerton, Ellsworth, Hills-Beaver Creek, Luverne, Pipestone and Southwest Christian Schools; the Luverne Community Foundation and more than 36 business partners have received a \$45,288 LYFT Pathways award to plan and deliver a two credit high school entrepreneurship course. Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities (CEO) is a year-long course designed to utilize partnerships that provide an overview of business development and processes. The program is based on a successful national model from the Midland Institute for Entrepreneurship.

Local community businesses partner with area schools to create project-based experiences for students by providing funding, expertise, meeting space, business tours, and one-on-one mentoring. Students visit area businesses, learn from guest speakers, participate in a class business, write business plans, and start and operate their own businesses. Business concepts learned through the experiential CEO class are critical; the 21st century skills of problem-solving, teamwork, self-motivation, responsibility, higher-order thinking, communication, and inquiry are at the heart of a student's development throughout the course.

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