

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 4, 2017



### **GEDC HOSTS INTERNSHIP RECOGNITION DINNER**

Parents were on hand to celebrate the successes of their sons and daughters as the fifth Grundy County Summer Internship Program came to a close. An internship recognition dinner was held on August 3, 2017 to formally recognize and congratulate the nearly 40 students that participated in the paid, hands-on internship program. Nancy Norton, President & CEO of the GEDC opened the event by welcoming the businesses, educators, parents and students. Senator Sue Rezin introduced the company representatives along with their interns. Senator Rezin emphasized that the students should be proud that they were chosen to work at some of the finest businesses in Grundy County. The internships offer a chance to gain meaningful professional work experience and learn more about the many different employment options within the community.

Lance Copes, Director of Grundy Area Vocational Center, also addressed the crowd and discussed the benefits and opportunities that the experience of the internship had given the students. Copes stated that there were 140 students who applied for the 39 positions and those in the room should be proud that they were selected to participate in the program.



Copes also encouraged the interns to keep in touch with their mentors and ask if there are opportunities to work during school breaks or even again next summer.

The 39 paid internships this year were with 14 different companies, offering a diverse set of opportunities for local students. The program began in 2013 with just 12 internships and 3 companies. The program continues to become more competitive as over 140 students applied for the positions. Applications are received from all Grundy County high schools including: Coal City, Gardner-South Wilmington, Minooka and Morris.

The Grundy County Internship Program was based on a mutual desire expressed by leaders in education and industry to highlight local employment opportunities and retain local talent in Grundy County. Senator Rezin and the GEDC partnered with local industry and education to launch the program in 2013.



The 2017 Grundy County summer interns are:

**Aux Sable**

Abigail Holloway  
Daniel Rotta Jr  
Matthew Robbins

**“D” Construction \***

Ryan Chapman  
Max Kranz  
Matt Jurzak

**First Midwest Back**

Cory Townsend

**GEDC**

Macey Spencer

**Grainger**

Ryan Horrie  
Jake Masters  
Andrew Smith

**Joliet Junior College**

Abby Burns  
Taylor Billie  
Jackie Damian  
Kira Gleason  
Lauren Heafey  
Claire Robbins

**LyondellBasell**

Jack Bauer  
Liam Dudson  
Ashley Jackman  
Joshua Lain  
James Minton  
Connor McGlynn

**Mack & Associates\***

Casi Valdes

**Metalstamp**

Bryant Galan  
Seth Patterson

**Morris Hospital**

Nicholas Andrist  
Maren Bashor  
Mackenzie Christensen  
Kenady Clayburn  
Elizabeth Rodgers  
Nathaniel Wallen

**Rezin Orthopedics**

Angelle Elberts  
Madeline Tucker

**SPACECO**

Jacob Jackson

**US Cold Storage**

Margaret Bauer  
Jonathan Schildgen-Moore  
Sage Reische

**Village of Minooka**

Logan Schoen

\*Denotes New 2017 Participant