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Boone CSD Hosts Iowa Department of Education, Workforce Development Directors

BOONE, IA — The Boone Community School District hosted [Iowa Department of Education](#) director McKenzie Snow and [Iowa Workforce Development](#) director Beth Townsend on September 18.

During their visit, Snow and Townsend toured school facilities and gained insights into how the district collaborates with local employers to provide students with high-quality work-based learning opportunities through Boone EDGE.

Superintendent Julie Trepá—joined by board members, teachers, employers, and students—shared firsthand experiences of how student work-based learning initiatives via Boone EDGE establish crucial connections among students, local employers, and future career paths.

"We are always humbled and honored to welcome leaders of our state's education and workforce organizations to learn more about our district," said Superintendent Trepá. "We sincerely appreciate the valuable time and effort dedicated by both McKenzie Snow and Beth Townsend to further their understanding of our schools and Boone EDGE, a comprehensive K-12 initiative we are committed to enhancing for the betterment of all our students."

The panelists in attendance for the visit included Justin Adams, Boone Fire and Rescue Chief; Gabe Balfanz, BHS senior enrolled in EDGE internship; Noah Davidson, BHS senior enrolled in EDGE internship; Jim Fitzgerald, BCSD agricultural science teacher and CTE team leader; Bella Graeve, BHS senior enrolled in EDGE advantage authentic learning class; Lindsey Hyman, BCSD EDGE coordinator; Logan Mesenbrink, sales manager of Lane Trailers; and Jeremy Pritchard, vice president of Pritchard Bros. Plumbing, Heating & Cooling and BCSD Board of Education president.

The [Boone EDGE](#) refers to the district's commitment to preparing students for postsecondary success through collaborations with area businesses. The program is driven by the vision of "Empowered Desire, Guided Experience."

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Note: For a photo, please visit <https://tinyurl.com/3a7zj86m>. Pictured here from left to right are Lindsey Hyman, Superintendent Julie Trepá, Gabe Balfanz (in back), Beth Townsend, Noah Davidson, McKenzie Snow, Bella Graeve, Justin Adams (in back), Jim Fitzgerald, and Logan Mesenbrink (in back)