

KANDIYOHI CEO

KCEO Class of 2024



Front: Paulina, Jaycie, Lexi, & Rebecca

Middle: Lauren, Taylor, Michaela, Marie, Amyra, Saul, & Drake,

Back: Henry, Aiden, Max, Adam, Austin, Chi, Deiken, & Maynor

Celebrating 10 Years

Ten years and counting! The class of 2024 is the 10th KCEO class since the start of the program. What an outstanding 10 years it has

been. This year's class is off to a great start. There are currently 19 students from Atwater-Cosmos-Grove City, New London - Spicer, and Willmar Public Schools. Thank you to all our investors, community leaders, school leaders, and KCEO board members for making this class possible.

Upcoming Tours

October 3: Heritage Bank

October 4: Willmar Breakfast Group

October 5: Loren Corle

October 6: Chamber Connection

October 9: Business Breakfast Etiquette

October 10: Northern States Supply Co.

October 12: Willmar Area Community Foundation Gala

October 24: Willmar Area Community Foundation

October 27: Christmas Light Set-up Robbins Island



KCEO ✓
2023-09-29



There is so much behind the scenes when it comes to owning a business. So many entrepreneurs start their own business because they are passionate about a service they can offer or a product they can produce to help customers. What many entrepreneurs need help with is the booking and accounting to help keep their dreams alive and business a reality. Thank you to Joel, Bradley, Toni, James, Tanner, and Andrew at Christianson CPAs & Consultants for sharing your expertise today.

... Lessons learned today:

- Find opportunities where there is a need; find your niche.
- Business development and networking will be one of your success stones. Work on those.
- Get your own business checking account; run everything business related through that account.
- Work on having a good, solid base of business knowledge. Receive a good accounting education.

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West Central Steel Tour

Thank you to West Central Steel for hosting the KCEO class this morning. We appreciate having the opportunity to learn from Jeff and Bill Pattison.

Students learned about the importance of safety. Once your employees are safe at work, then a business can focus on delivering quality products.

Advice for students today:

*Bankers can help your business grow.

*Be able to explain your business plan so bankers can understand your vision and support your dream.

*Relationships are important in maintaining customers.





**Rambow Tour: Host Steve
Rambow hosting KCEO students**

Thank you to Steve Rambow [@rambow.mn](#) for sharing your story with the KCEO class. Steve shared his experience on how he started his own clothing embroidery and printing business as a one man operation in an apartment to a thriving business with 85 employees.

Advice Steve had for the students: "Learn to paddle your own canoe." - Learn to be independent, but when you learn to do something well, coach others how to do it too. Delegating is important.

"Limit your menu." - Focus on one thing you can do very well. [#KCEO](#) [#KCEOTour](#) [#Rambow](#) [#ACGC](#) [#NLS](#) [#WPS](#) [#Year10](#)

**Getting Cheap Airfare For Last
Minute Travel**



Thank you to [Jennie-O](#) for giving the @kandi_ceo class a tour of your facilities, sharing how our students can be successful starting their own business, and how they can thrive in Kandiyohi County.

--> Great advice for the students:
"Have a great attitude!"

Businesses can teach you the skills to do a job, but it is up to us to come to work with a positive mindset and a great attitude.

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Touring at Marcus Construction

Thank you to @Marcus Construction for the tour this week. @KCEO students learned about the history of Marcus Construction and how their company is helping others in the agriculture and commercial industries. Thank you Ross, Sara, Darin, and David for sharing your experience with us.

Words of advice for the students:

"Find a career path that you enjoy doing and you are good at. Do your

best and work hard at it." -Ross
Marcus

"Relationships are important. Giving
back to the community is important."
-Sara



Day One of the Class Business

Class business project #1 is underway
in KCEO.

Brainstorming, problem solving,
research, and great discussion is in full
swing.

Students are off to a great start!

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Team Building in KCEO

"Alone we can do so little; together we
can do so much." ~Helen Keller

The KCEO students practiced team
building skills while attempting to
build a free standing Pringles ring.
Lots of good brainstorming, trial and

error, and laughter was had throughout the challenge.

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First Chamber Connection of the School Year

Another first for the KCEO class today!

Thank you to [@willmarlakesareachamber_mn](#) for the opportunity to attend Chamber Connection hosted by Habitat for Humanity Of West Central MN.

The students had the opportunity to meet local business who are active in the Chamber, hear about upcoming events in the Willmar community and surrounding areas, and network with local business professionals. It was a great experience for the students; we can't wait to attend next month. Thank you for supporting KCEO the past 10 years.

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First KCEO Tour of the Year

Tour #1 is in the books for the @KCEO class!

Big thank you to Jim Sieben and @Nova Tech Engineering for hosting and sharing your story with us.



"If it is to be, it is up to me." Jim reminded the students if they want to be successful with their business, it will be up to them to put in the work.

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