

BELLE FOURCHE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



BFDC Board of Directors Meeting

March 10, 2021

Time: 7:00 a.m.

Location: BFDC Conference Room -
5th & Grant Plaza, 608 5th Ave.

Build Dakota Scholarship

Applications Open:
January 1 - March 31, 2021

Full-ride scholarship for technical students, recipients commit to work in their chosen field in SD for 3 years following graduation. FMI:
BuildDakotaScholarships.com

Leadership Belle Fourche Class

March 18, 2021

Time: noon - 5:00 p.m.

Course Topic: Community Industry Tours

March

3

*Save the **NEW** Date*

Belle Fourche Development Corporation
Annual Meeting | Grap's Banquet Room
Please RSVP by February 26th



PROPOSED \$10M CONVENTION CENTER AND LODGE FOR BELLE FOURCHE

BEACON STAFF | news@bellefourchebeacon.com

BELLE FOURCHE - A development company from Lemmon, SD, is proposing to build a new \$10 million convention center and lodge at the busy intersection of Hwy 85 and 34 in Belle Fourche, the former site of the Belle Inn. If all goes according to plan, groundbreaking could come as soon as May. Construction would take around six months.

DA Peterson Company, LLC, is the organization behind the project. They have also built similar properties in Bowman, ND, Lead, Newcastle, Wy, and Lemmon. According to Doug Peterson the Belle Fourche property would be the company's largest build to date.

As planned the development will include a three-story structure with more than 70 rooms, a 300-seat convention center, a restaurant, indoor swimming pool and a 1,200 square foot fitness center that will be open to the public.

Peterson says the decision to build in Belle Fourche was a classic case of opportunity meeting demand. With the land becoming available the location made it irresistible.

"In the hospitality and restaurant business it's location, location, location. And that location begged for a hotel," Peterson told the Beacon. "There are 16,500 vehicles a day passing by which is truly astounding for a city the size of Belle Fourche."

Peterson says his group analyzed what was already available in town and asked several important questions. The identified need was for convention space as well as additional rooms.

"There's no point in rolling the ball up the hill," Peterson said. "It's simpler to find out what the community needs and fill the need. We're not interested in duplicating what's here or hurting any other business, we want to do our own thing and we think we can be a nice addition to Belle."

Hollie Stalder, Belle Fourche Development Corporation Executive Director said the addition of a dedicated convention space was a critical need.



"I see things that we can do that we didn't have the capacity to accommodate in the past," Stalder said, "things like ball tournaments, basketball and soccer events to things related to hunting and western South Dakota outdoor associations. A lot of elk and rifle clubs have annual meetings we would then have the space to accommodate. The Roundup Grounds are getting closer to hosting events almost year around with additional rodeos, team roping and barrel racing. This gives us a few more options."

Stalder says the extra capacity will help keep visitors in town during the Roundup, which would also enhance the local tax base.

"I hate having to send people away because we don't have the capacity to accommodate them," she said. "Now, we'll invite them to stay in Belle Fourche and try to get them to keep coming back."

Peterson says a logical choice for new convention business would be the South Dakota Sheep Growers Association annual convention which was held in Spearfish last year.

"They would be a natural fit," he said. "Belle Fourche has the largest wool warehouse in the upper Midwest so Belle would be the ideal place to have that when it comes around."



Peterson says the company is in the phase right now of raising the money to get the project off the ground. He told the Beacon that prospects are very good following meetings held in Belle Fourche last week. He says the need for convention and hotel space seems to be universally agreed upon by community leaders.

The plan calls for a three-story structure with 74 hotel rooms. Peterson says they will include some family suites with two bedrooms and four beds and some executive suites with single kings, double kings and a small living room. He also plans to offer extended stay options with suites that would include a small kitchen.

"We've never done that before but it's kind of surprising how often the need comes up when folks are moving to town and their house isn't quite ready to move into yet or they begin a job and need a place to stay until a home is available," Peterson said. The complex will have a convention center capable of seating 300. The space will have full audio and video equipment as well as a wet bar. They also plan to cater food into the convention room.

Peterson says the 1,200 square foot fitness center will sell memberships to the public. They will have access to the center 24 hours a day with a key card entry system.

The restaurant will be called Grazer's Burgers and Beer and is patterned after their other restaurant locations in Bowman and Newcastle. They will serve mostly pub fare with beef tips, pizza and wings as well as appetizers and desserts.

"We never have anything that's ever been frozen; it's all fresh," Peterson said. "The potatoes, whether they are diced, chipped, or French fried, are done right in front of your eyes, we don't buy anything in a package."



"While hotel guests will have a full breakfast room available Peterson says Grazers is not planned to be open for breakfast to the public. He has however, been hearing about the need for another sit-down breakfast location in the city and may consider that option, particularly since the city lost a long-time breakfast restaurant with the Belle Inn which was torn down to clear the land where this project will be built.

Thus far there is no official name for the new hotel and convention, but Peterson says he likes to keep things simple. Whether the complex bears the name of the city or a "Center of the Nation" moniker remains to be seen. One thing is certain, it will change the landscape at the city's southern gateway.

"My view as an outsider is this is the missing link for Belle Fourche to be able to jump into the next size city," Peterson said. "When you see a three-story marquee hotel sitting there, they're going to think 'Belle is more than we thought.'"



11094 Business 212 | Belle Fourche, SD
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Belle Fourche High School Principal wins SD Secondary Principal of the Year

By Lacey Peterson
Black Hills Pioneer

BELLE FOURCHE — Belle Fourche High School Principal Mathew Raba was named the Secondary Principal of the Year for South Dakota.

The school district held a surprise party Tuesday to make the announcement.

"I was a pretty ecstatic and ... a little embarrassed too," Raba said regarding being the subject of the Tuesday surprise, where many family members, friends, and coworkers were anxiously awaiting his arrival. "I actually walked up to my boys to give them a hug and my youngest says, 'Why are you sweating?' And I'm sure I turned beet red when I walked in the door, and just kind of the rush of things, I just started sweating right away."

After the shock wore off, Raba said he was very humbled by the honor.

"There's a lot of deserving people that serve in this capacity all across the state that ... also pour a lot of time into their schools, and their staffs, and their kids," he said. "And to be selected out of that group of people is pretty humbling and a pretty great honor."

Encompassed within seven regions across the state, Raba is just one of hundreds of school principals across the state and one of approximately 20 considered for this year's prestigious award.

"It was very much an honor," he said.

During the surprise party, Raba's sons Gabe and Ben Raba, 12 and 9 respectively, were among the celebrants. During the party, Raba's oldest son, Gabe exclaimed that he'd known about his dad's award for three days.

"I can't believe that he held onto that, it's pretty impressive for a 12-year-old," he said.

Raba has been with the Belle Fourche high school for nearly two decades, working first as a math teacher for seven years and the last 12 as principal.

And as if being a dedicated and engaged principal weren't enough of a commitment for Raba, he said he's coached at least one sport during each of the 19 years he's been in Belle Fourche.

"Sometimes as many as three (sports a year)," he said, adding football has always been his favorite. "And that's why it's still the one that I continue to do. I've always enjoyed that time of the year and that sport and the comradery."

Raba was voted as the Region 7 South Dakota Association of Secondary School Principals Principal of the Year for the 2019-2020 school year. A recipient of the award can go on to apply for the statewide principal of the year for three years after the award.



This was Raba's second year applying for the state award.

"So, I knew I was in the running," he said.

The principal, who is a self-proclaimed goof ball, has employed fun and engaging methods to connect with students including strumming the guitar and singing during morning announcements on Facebook last spring after schools closed due to COVID-19.

Those connections are what it's all about for Raba.

"My favorite part is just the relationships that I get to build with all of the different people, and particularly the staff and the students" he said. "If you would ask most of the students here that I'm a pretty big goof ball and that I kind of wander around and make jokes and tell dumb jokes and make fun of myself ... I just enjoy being around the kids and staff. I feel like building those relationships is kind of the foundation of having a good school and being successful in the position."

Raba credited his family and coworkers Tuesday for supporting him throughout his career.

"I couldn't have done it without all of you," he said to his family and fellow faculty members.

Superintendent Steve Willard, who hired Raba as principal a dozen years ago, said he is proud of Raba and all he's brought to the district.

"This is a big deal," Superintendent Dr. Steve Willard said during the Tuesday celebration. "This doesn't happen West River very often because most of the schools are East River.

The principal, who's made Belle Fourche his home, doesn't plan on hanging up his hat anytime soon.

Raba, who's originally from New Underwood, began teaching math in Belle Fourche in 2002 and later met his wife Jammie, currently a fifth-grade teacher, who is a Belle Fourche native.

"It's kind of funny, when I first took my teaching job here ... I just kind of thought it would be something I would do for a couple of years," he said. "And I've really, since the beginning, I really kind of fell in love with the place, and the people, and the kids. And then I met my wife here, and just kind of never looked back after that."

BELLE FOURCHE # DASHBOARD



Sales Tax

	2020	2019
› 1 st & 2 nd Penny	\$3,214,825	\$3,001,867
› 3 rd Penny	\$176,416	\$180,870



Building Permits

	2020	2019
› Issued	257	209
› Single Family	13	11

Information provided by the City of Belle Fourche

BUILD DAKOTA. BUILD YOUR FUTURE.

GET YOUR DEGREE 100% FREE



There's more than one path to a high-paying career. And one South Dakota scholarship is making that path even more inviting. With the Build Dakota Scholarship, you can earn a full-ride scholarship at one of four South Dakota technical colleges. That's a two-year degree—and a ticket to a rewarding career—for free. Don't wait for your future. Start building it today.

HOW IT WORKS

- Students of any age are eligible to apply.
- Scholarship supports tuition, fees, books and other required program expenses in eligible technical college programs.
- Recipients of the scholarships commit to working in South Dakota, in their field of study, for three years following graduation.
- Applications are open **January 1–March 31, 2021**.

QUALIFYING PROGRAMS:

- Agriculture
- Automotive
- Building Trades/Construction
- Energy Technicians
- Engineering Technicians
- Healthcare
- IT/Computer Information Systems
- Precision Manufacturing
- Welding

HOW TO APPLY

Learn more about the program and apply at
BuildDakotaScholarships.com





2021-22 Build Dakota Eligible Programs by Industry Area

Agriculture

Lake Area Technical College

Agriculture Dairy Option
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Precision Ag Technology
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Mitchell Technical College

Precision Ag Technology
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Automotive

Lake Area Technical College

Automotive Technology
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Custom Paint and Fabrication
1-Year Program, Diploma

Custom Paint and Fabrication
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Diesel Technology
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Mitchell Technical College

Diesel Power Technology
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Southeast Technical College

Automotive Technology
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Collision Repair & Refinish
Technology
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Diesel Technology: Agriculture/Construction
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Diesel Technology: Transportation
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Western Dakota Technical College

Automotive Technology
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Diesel Technology
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Industrial Maintenance
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Building Trades/Construction

Lake Area Technical College

Building Trades Technology
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Heavy Equipment Operator
1-Year Program, Diploma

Heavy Equipment Operator
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Mitchell Technical College

Architectural Design & Building Construction
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Electrical Construction & Maintenance
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Heating & Cooling Technology
1-Year Program, Diploma

Heating & Cooling Technology
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Southeast Technical College

Construction Management Technology
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Electrician
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

HVAC
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Mechanical Systems/Plumbing
1-Year Program, Diploma

Residential Heating & Cooling Technology
1-Year Program, Diploma

Western Dakota Technical College

Construction Technology
1-Year Program, Diploma

Electrical Trades
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

HVAC/Refrigeration Technology
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Plumbing Technology
1-Year Program, Diploma

Energy Technicians

Lake Area Technical College

Energy Operations
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Energy Technology
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Mitchell Technical College

Electrical Utilities & Substation Technology
2-Year Program, Diploma or AAS

Natural Gas Technology
1-Year Program, Diploma

Wind Turbine Technology
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Engineering Technicians

Lake Area Technical College

Environmental Technology
1-Year Program, Diploma

Environmental Technology
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Mitchell Technical College

Automation Engineering
Technician/Advanced Manufacturing
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

GPS/GIS Mapping
1-Year Program, Diploma

Wi-Fi & Broadband Technologies (Telecom)
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Southeast Technical College

Civil Engineering Technology
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Land Surveying Science
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Mechanical Engineering Technology
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Western Dakota Technical College

Computer-Aided Drafting
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Environmental Engineering
Technician
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Healthcare

Lake Area Technical College

Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN)
1-Year Program, Diploma

Med/Fire Rescue - Paramedic
2-Year Program, AAS Degree
**Must be employed as an EMT or Paramedic to complete 3 year employment requirement.*

Medical Lab Technician
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Registered Nurse (RN)
1-Year Program, AAS Degree

**To enroll in RN program, must hold active and current LPN license without restrictions. Contact school for details.*

Mitchell Technical College

Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN)
1-Year Program, Diploma

Medical Laboratory Technician
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Radiologic Technology
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Registered Nurse (RN)
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

**To enroll in RN program, must hold active and current LPN license without restrictions. Contact school for details.*

Southeast Technical College

Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN)
1-Year Program, Diploma

Invasive Cardiovascular
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Registered Nurse (RN)
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

**To enroll in RN program, must hold active and current LPN license without restrictions. Contact school for details.*

Surgical Technology
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Western Dakota Technical College

Licensed Practical Nursing
1.5-Year Program, Diploma

Medical Laboratory Technology
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Paramedic
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Registered Nurse (RN)
1.5-Year Program, AAS Degree

**To enroll in RN program, must hold active and current LPN license without restrictions. Contact school for details.*

Surgical Technology
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Information Technology/ Computer Information Systems

Lake Area Technical College

Computer Information Systems
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Mitchell Technical College

Information Systems Technology
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Southeast Technical College

Computer Programming
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Information Technology Security
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Network Administrator
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

System Administrator
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Western Dakota Technical College

Computer Science: Information
Technology Specialist
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Precision Manufacturing

Lake Area Technical College

Electronic Systems Technology
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

High Performance Engine
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Precision Machining
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Robotics
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Mitchell Technical College

Automation Controls/SCADA
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Southeast Technical College

Mechatronics Technology
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Western Dakota Technical College

Drafting & Machining Technology
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Precision Machining
1-Year Program, Diploma

Welding

Lake Area Technical College

Welding Technology
1-Year Program, Diploma

Welding Technology
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Mitchell Technical College

Welding & Manufacturing Technology
1-Year Program, Diploma

Welding & Manufacturing Technology
2-Year Program, AAS Degree

Southeast Technical College

Welding
1-Year Program, Diploma

Western Dakota Technical College

Welding & Fabrication
1-Year Program, Diploma

Welding & Fabrication
2-Year Program, AAS Degree



Thank You to our New & Returning 2021 Members

Black Hills Energy – Platinum
David Pummel & Associates – Platinum
First Interstate Bank – Platinum
Gillette Fence – Platinum
Grossenburg Implements – Platinum
State Home Care Services – Platinum
ET Sports – Gold
Johner & Sons, Inc - Gold
Pain & Movement Solutions - Gold
Bob Morris Law Firm - Silver
Cowboys Too! – Silver
Highmark Federal Credit Union – Silver
New Generation Supplements – Silver
Clutter Buster Storage – Bronze
Jim Doolittle – Bronze
Karen Wagner – Bronze
Lensegrav & Sons - Bronze
Z Productions – Associate
Jeb Clarkson – Individual
Stan Harms - Individual



Belle Fourche Development Corporation

2021 Investment Campaign ~

Your investment creates opportunities in Belle Fourche!

Membership is an investment in the future growth and development of our community. Select your membership level and return this Member Application with your pledged amount.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION Belle Fourche Development Corporation

Date: _____

Name of Business: _____

Contact Person: _____

Billing Address: _____

Phone: _____

Website: _____

E-Mail: _____

Signature: _____

Please check one:

- ☐ Platinum
\$1,000 or above
- ☐ Gold
\$500 - \$999
- ☐ Silver
\$250 - \$499
- ☐ Bronze
\$100 - \$249
- ☐ Associate or Individual
\$50 - \$99

See page 2 for membership benefits and payment options

Page 1

We appreciate your investment and offer these member benefits in our promotional material:

1. \$1000 Membership

- ~ receives a scrolling logo on the BFDCSD.com home page.
- ~ member shout-outs in the BFDC newsletter and social media posts
- ~ a special BFDC gift

2. \$500-\$999 Membership

- ~ member shout-outs in the BFDC newsletter and social media posts
- ~ a special BFDC gift

3. \$250-\$499 Membership

- ~ member name listed & social media shout-outs

4. \$100-\$249 Membership

- ~ member name listed

Submit this application and membership investment to:
Belle Fourche Development Corporation
PO Box 344
Belle Fourche, SD 57717

3 Easy Ways to Pay!

1. Mail this application and membership investment

2. Mail this application with card information:

Name on card: _____

Card # _____

Card expiration date: _____

Security Code: _____ Amount: \$ _____

____ VISA ____ MASTERCARD ____ DISCOVER

A 3.5% transaction fee added to all credit card payments.

3. **OR Apply AND Pay Online**
at [**www.bfdcsd.com/memberships/**](http://www.bfdcsd.com/memberships/)



BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINATION FORM

March 3, 2021 Annual Meeting Election

Belle Fourche Development Corporation has opened nominations to our members for a seat on the board of directors. Interested candidates may complete this form and return it with a cover letter by mail, email or in person to:

Belle Fourche Development Corporation

PO Box 344

Belle Fourche, SD 57717

or e-mail it to director@bellefourchedevcorp.com

no later than 4 p.m. on Monday, March 1, 2021.

Three (3) of the nine (9) elected director positions are open.

The election will be held at the March 3rd Annual Meeting.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Short biography: _____

Reasons for seeking a board seat:
