



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DKBEP Hires Tara LeClair as Business and Education Manager

Thursday, March 22, 2007

The Door/Kewaunee Business & Education Partnership (DKBEP) recently hired Tara LeClair to be the new Business and Education Manager for the Partnership. A Door County native, Tara brings to DKBEP past experience working for the Village of Menomonee Falls and as an entrepreneur, having established Lakeview Geomatics, a business offering GIS and cartographic services. She also represented southeast Wisconsin and the Menomonee Falls Rotary Club on a Vocational Group Study Exchange experience in Tasmania, Australia. Tara is excited to reconnect with the Door County community and create a strong partnership between business and education. She will be working closely with students, parents, educators, businesses and the public.

Tara's main responsibilities will be the implementation, maintenance and oversight of the Door and Kewaunee Counties Regional Youth Training and Development Program, which consists of four initiatives: a local career awareness program; a post-high school training and employment program; developing and expanding youth co-op and apprenticeship programs; and the development and implementation of the high school home construction project. The programs are designed to provide career awareness and training programs for area youth to help fill the current and future employment needs of businesses in the region. The establishment of workforce bridges for young people into area business sectors is essential for the long-term survival of our regional industrial base.

DKBEP Board Chair Ron Welch, Administrator for the Algoma School District, commented: "We are pleased to have someone with Tara's enthusiasm, energy and skills in this position. She brings great qualifications to this organization as we continue to implement these programs for the on-going development of our local workforce."

Tara will be actively soliciting business and community participation in the program initiatives. Please contact Tara at tara@doorcountybusiness.com or 920-743-3113 x205 for more information or to help inspire Door County youth to enter the local workforce.

The Door Kewaunee Business & Education Partnership was created in 1999 to facilitate students acquiring the skills and behaviors necessary to succeed in the ever-changing, global workforce. The vision of DKBEP is to prepare students for careers and lifelong learning through the partnering of education, business and community. Opportunities are created for educators to increase knowledge and "hands-on" experience with business and career learning, and for businesses to define their long and short-term labor needs and help integrate "work-based experience" into the school curriculum.