

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Margie Hall  
Executive Director  
Lincoln County Economic Development Council  
303 6<sup>th</sup> St., Davenport WA 99122  
(509) 725-1170 / [edcmargie@centurylink.net](mailto:edcmargie@centurylink.net)

### **STUDENTS EXPLORE ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

(Wilbur, WA, January 10, 2014.) Seniors at Wilbur High School had an opportunity to explore entrepreneurship when they participated in a Global Entrepreneurship Week project. Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW) is an annual salute to entrepreneurship with hundreds of thousands of schools and organizations participating across the world. The focus is on celebrating and encouraging small business ownership and it is a great opportunity for youth to consider whether they might want to start their own business.

Business Ed Instructor Stacey Nash introduced her students to Global Entrepreneurship Week in late November and she gave them a new assignment. They would develop business plans for start-ups that either built on one of Wilbur's strengths or addressed one of Wilbur's challenges. Students used the strengths and challenges that they themselves identified when they participated in the Wilbur Community Assessment in October. They would include the necessary business components such as goals, market, costs and advisory board members, and could include full use of the high speed broadband fiber recently installed in Wilbur.

Last week, the fifteen seniors presented ten exciting new business ideas. Mayor Robert Wyborney and Principal Carla Hudson both attended the Wednesday kick-off and Margie Hall and Joyce Mings of the Lincoln County Economic Development Council (EDC) served as guest panelists for the presentations. The EDC, a partner in the project, also submitted the event to their partners at the Washington State Department of Commerce and it was included on their Start-Up Washington web site, one of over fifty GEW events held across the state.

It is a goal of the EDC to slow youth outmigration from Lincoln County. One approach is to help kids recognize, and think creatively about, the opportunities they have right here at home. This project was an amazing chance to do just that.

#### **PHOTO NAMES:**

**BOTTOM FRONT ROW: Left to Right: Liz Richardson, Cassi Trapani, Jessica Boyer, Drue Erwin.**

**BACK ROW: Left to Right: Stacey Nash (Business Education Instructor & FBLA Advisor), Kaelee Reed, Emily Stumpf, Becca Gollehon, Mason Jaeger, Joe Rosman, Ashley Potts, Mason Copeland, Logan Hill, Matthew Chrisman, Shelby Hillman, Corbyn Nestor, Margie Hall (Director of the Lincoln County EDC).**