



MCKINNEY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

April 9, 2014

To: MEDC Board

From: John Valencia

Director of BRE & ET Programs

Subject: April 15, 2014 MEDC Board Meeting; BREP Report/Update

Business Retention & Expansion Program

On the retention side, all is good at this time. No indications that anyone is being lured away or moving out. Expansions with our current company base have not come to our knowledge at this time. Manner Plastics continues to work on their new solar field and Perfectly Green is working on their power unit at their shop on Redbud. Final installation is scheduled in late May at this time.

Emerging Technology

In Executive Session I will be following up on some action items from last month.

SureShot Media, one of our new ET companies has the Loan Agreement and Promissory Note in hand and I am waiting their signatures so we can start the rent reimbursement program. Circle GX the other new one is currently looking for office space and once they land a lease, we'll get them going.

Our other ET companies are in good stead and pressing on!

The Collide Center

There were two very good news items from some of our Residents at the Collide Center; Nepris had a Press Release and Teacher Tube had a news article. Both are attached for your review.

Not a lot more to report since we talked a couple weeks. In executive Session we will follow up as it is one of our Action Items.

Collide Village

Jason Adams continues to put his Team together and progress is being made. We do have a weekly meeting with the Deputy City Manager's office in keeping them in the loop. We are at day 38 of the 120 day window in which we will make a report.

75 Construction Communication

We continue to try our best as a Community to keep those affected most with how the project is going and updates. There were no complaints in particular reported. We did learn last week that Craig Dr. will be closed from April 23 until the 30th. During that closure, traffic will be routed through the parking lot between Rockfish and La Madeleine, up passed Belk and then reconnect with Craig Dr. on the south side of the lot. This office is coordinating with City Stuff on signage and information flow.

The Team here continues to work hard in promoting our wonderful community. These are exciting times and we are blessed to be a part of McKinney!

Respectfully Submitted,

John Valencia



Director of Business Retention, Expansion & Emerging Technology
MCKINNEY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORP.



McKinney Collide Center Tenant Nepris Connects STEM Professionals with Classrooms

Nepris provides teachers an effective solution to engage students in STEM subjects

McKinney, Texas (April 8, 2014) – [Nepris](#), an online platform that makes it possible for K12 teachers and students to connect with industry experts, to bring real world relevance and improve student engagement in STEM subjects.

“A recent study by Microsoft found that 57 percent of boys and 68 percent of girls who chose a high tech career say they were inspired by one person, or one event, or one class during the middle or high school years,” said Sabari Raja, Founder and CEO of Nepris. “A vast majority of our K12 students do not have an opportunity to meet these role models, they do not know what STEM professionals do. At Nepris, we want to bridge the gap between industry and education so students can make informed decisions when it comes to college and career.”

Nepris makes it easy to engage students in math and science by connecting industry experts to the classroom for an interactive discussion. Teachers create a request based on a STEM subject and a topic, Nepris finds and matches the right industry professionals and enables them to virtually connect with a classroom for an interactive discussion or to help evaluate projects. For local and global businesses, Nepris provides a platform that can help companies reach their education outreach goals without the time and costs typically involved.

“I decided to participate in Nepris because it’s a great opportunity to connect with industry professionals,” said Pam McBride, Engineering and Robotics Teacher at McKinney High School. “I was really pleased with the level of engagement my students showed. They asked really good questions and were more interactive than during a normal lesson. I will definitely be incorporating Nepris into the classroom more often.”

“Nepris was one of the first tenants of The Collide Center,” said John Valencia, McKinney Economic Development Corporation. “It’s exciting to be able to help start-up companies like Nepris get off the ground and succeed. Nepris is being used by more than 1,000 teachers in 107 schools across twenty eight states! The Collide Center is proud to have played a role. We want business leaders and entrepreneurs to know that the city of McKinney supports the development, expansion and relocation of new and existing companies and start-ups.”

Nepris has also received funding from NewSchools, a nonprofit venture philanthropy firm that raises capital for funds to support education entrepreneurs who are transforming public education. This is the first investment in the state of Texas for NewSchools. Nepris is also funded by investors from the Collide Center.

[The Collide Center](#), created in a partnership with Curious Complex and the McKinney Economic Development Corporation, provides workspace, resources and training for tech start-ups in their initial stages so that they can grow and eventually move into their own office space, creating quality jobs in our community. The Collide Center is open to companies working on cool or innovative products and emerging technologies.

For more information about how to get started with Nepris or become an industry expert visit the company's website at <http://www.nepris.com/>.

About Nepris

Dallas-based, Nepris, brings STEM to life by connecting professionals with teachers and their students. With Nepris, teachers find professionals who--through interactive, online sessions--show students how the work they do is rooted in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics being taught in school. See Nepris in action at Nepris.com/webinar or sign-up as a teacher or STEM professional at Nepris.com.

About the Collide Center

The Collide Center aims to support emerging technologies and to develop innovative industries within the City of McKinney by providing a range of services to entrepreneurs and start-ups. Curious Complex with McKinney's Economic Development Corporation developed The Collide Center as a hub designed to provide workspace, education, support, events and workshops to businesses in McKinney. The Collide Center is a co-working space with Incubator and Accelerator programs geared toward fostering success for entities. Additionally, the center provides a "Collide Corridor" area for anyone to come to, meet up, work and otherwise collide with other innovators to spur new ideas and collaborate on possible ventures. Visit www.collidecenter.com for more information.

About McKinney Economic Development Corporation

McKinney, Texas, is unique by nature. As one of the fastest-growing cities in the U.S., McKinney has a current population of nearly 141,000. Incorporated in 1848, the city is located 30 miles north of Dallas and is the county seat of Collin County. McKinney offers rolling hills, lush trees, a historic downtown square and unique neighborhoods and developments. Within a 30-minute drive to both DFW International Airport and Dallas Love Field, McKinney is also home to Collin County Regional Airport. Featuring multiple visionary developments and with lots of land to grow, the city is primed for economic development. McKinney ranks No. 2 on the Money Magazine Best Places to Live in America list and as a Top 100 Community in America for Young People by America's Promise Alliance. Visit the MEDC website at www.mckinneyedc.com.



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TeacherTube Gets A+ as Educational and Safe Venue for Teacher Video-Sharing

 By Katherine Quintero
 katherine@prexperts.net
 3:01 pm on April 3, 2014 | Permalink

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TeacherTube Gets A+ as Educational and Safe Venue for Teacher Video-Sharing

Original "YouTube for Teachers" Expands to Feature New TeacherTube Classrooms

TeacherTube is an innovative online community for sharing instructional videos. The site provides professional development resources anytime, where teachers teach each other and post videos designed for student learning. The site has recently created TeacherTube Classrooms, which allows teachers to create online classrooms in a matter of minutes.

TeacherTube was founded out of a need to store easily searchable educational videos in a safe, school-appropriate venue. "We came to the realization, as did most educators, that many web-based companies offered video hosting for free, however, none offered a safe venue that would be appropriate for all ages focused specifically on teaching and learning," stated co-founder Jason Smith, a veteran educator and school administrator. TeacherTube.com has evolved over the past seven years to not only offer a safe venue to for videos, but all other digital media like PowerPoints, pdfs, word documents, photos, audios, ets files and more. Also, TeacherTube.com allows teachers to align their media to the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills.

"We now have a community of over 1.3 million registered members," said Adam Smith, co-founder of TeacherTube, and Jason's brother. TeacherTube has grown to over 300,000 members each year over the past two years.

According to co-founder Jason Smith, "We anticipate growth to be much higher in the 2014-15 school year with the launch of our free TeacherTube Classrooms." TeacherTube announced the launch of TeacherTube Classrooms in June 2014 at the Texas Instruments T3 International Math & Science Convention March 2014. TeacherTube Classrooms allows teachers to easily create an online classroom in five minutes or less with a built-in learning management system.

"TeacherTube has an active member base that gives us feedback on what teachers need to impact student learning. We continually evolve as a company based on meeting the needs of teachers. Based on members input, we have seen TeacherTube evolve from simply a 'YouTube for teachers,' to a community of over a million educators, with focused educational content that can be aligned to learning standards, and in June offer free online classrooms that can be accessed from any mobile or personal computer," said Jason Smith.

"This YouTube for teachers is an amazing resource for finding educationally-focused videos to share with your classroom. You can find videos uploaded by other teachers or share your own," said Jeff Dunn, Educator.

Most importantly, TeacherTube community members are a major part of the evolution of the site. Members are encouraged to not only upload educationally relevant videos, but also to make constructive comments and use the rating system to show appreciation for videos of value to one as an educator or learner. Users also have the ability to preserve the integrity of the site by flagging inappropriate videos. TeacherTube staff review flagged sites and will remove any inappropriate posts. With more collegial commentary and discussion through messaging and responses, the quality of this resource will only increase.

The service is free for everyone. For more information about TeacherTube visit the website at teachertube.com.


About TeacherTube

TeacherTube officially launched on March 6, 2007. Our goal is to provide an online community for sharing instructional videos. We seek to fill a need for a more educationally focused, safe venue for teachers, schools, and home learners. It is a site to provide anytime, anywhere professional development with teachers teaching teachers. As well, it is a site where teachers can post videos designed for students to view in order to learn a concept or skill. For more information, visit www.teachertube.com.

This entry was posted in [Uncategorized](#) by [Katherine Quintero](#). Bookmark the permalink [<http://yourmckinney.dallasnews.com/2014/04/03/teachertube-gets-a-as-educational-and-safe-venue-for-teacher-video-sharing/>].

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Ruth McAdams Smith 4 days ago

Can't wait until June to learn the "CREATING A CLASSROOM IN LESS THAN 3 -5 MINUTES".

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