

**Sheridan Education Foundation, Inc.**  
**P.O. Box 782— Sheridan, WY 82801**  
**Telephone: 307-674-7405, ext. 312**

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **Headline: Whitney Announces Two Vocational Education Grants**

Whitney Benefits announced the award of two vocational education grants to the Sheridan Community Education Foundation to benefit students in all three county school districts. A preliminary report on the future vocational needs of the county by a consultant identified technology, hospitality, and health care as the three areas where jobs will be available. The grants help the school districts, working in collaboration, to offer programs in the areas of hospitality and health care. Prostart II is a hospitality program that builds on students' interest in hotel and restaurant services. Certified Nursing Assistants trains future health providers in a sequence of new courses funded by the Whitney grant. Students at all county high schools are eligible to participate in the new courses that will begin in Fall, 2003.

Tim Tarver, chair of the Whitney Benefits Education Committee said, "This is a model for collaboration among districts, with Sheridan College involvement as well. Whitney Benefits is pleased to encourage and support our students as they prepare for the new jobs in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century." Craig Dougherty, Superintendent of School District Number Two added: "The state is really pushing on districts to coordinate vocational offerings and this will be an example of that type of partnership." Rod Svec, Superintendent of School District Number One offered: "We are pleased to partner with School Districts Two and Three on these new vocational programs and are so glad Whitney Benefits has found such a significant way to contribute to our vocational offerings in the county".

**For further information  
about the contents of this Press Release contact:**

Tim Tarver, Chairman,  
Whitney Benefits Education Committee  
672-8905

Tom Sachse, Board Member  
Sheridan County Education Foundation  
674-7405, Ext. 312