

College-prep sessions aimed at parents

By Tanner Kent

tkent@ mankatofreepress. com

MANKATO — A new series of college-prep workshops offered by Mankato Area Public Schools is geared toward parents.

“ We really believe,” said Monde Schwartz, career and technical education coordinator for Mankato schools, “ that it’s invaluable to students if parents are involved in the planning process. ... The whole goal is to give parents some tools they can use.”

The hour-long workshops are geared toward parents and guardians of ninth- and 10thgrade students, but anyone interested is welcome to attend.

Topics will include: what employers want, college readiness, high- demand occupations,

Please see SESSIONS, Page [B3](#)

[See SESSIONS on Page B03](#)

SESSIONS: Parents learn to help their students plan

Continued from Page B1

career clusters and career pathways, tips for planning, and assessments that can be used to link a students' interests with potential careers.

In addition, Schwartz said, the workshops are meant to guide parents in helping their students select high school electives and activities that will help form a foundation for a career.

Mankato schools offer a wide variety of advancedplacement, concurrent enrollment and career-readiness classes. The district also coordinates a handful of career exploration days for students throughout the year.

" We can help students use credits efficiently," Schwartz said, "if we can match a student's values, interests and skills to a career they choose."

The workshops are funded through the South Central Service Cooperative's Perkins Consortium.