The towering piles of paperwork looked down on me as I sat across from the man sitting behind the desk, calmly pulling all the strings. Amid the pandemic, my dad who owns an insurance company that has thus far been operating solely on offline sales, made a decision: to shift their sales and marketing to the digital world. This was risky because the company would need to increase their expenses and cost to make the software, increasing internet bills and increasing hardware, but I realized that risk-taking was intrinsic to the job.

I have always been afraid of making mistakes in practically everything, but as an entrepreneur you are bound to make mistakes. Recognizing this helps me get rid of the fear of failure. In business there is also no ceiling to how successful your business can become. There’s always something that an entrepreneur can do to their business to make it even more successful than it is. Therefore, I want to become a successful entrepreneur just like my dad.

In order to do so, I did not only rely on the knowledge of business from class; I also joined various programs. One of them was a business immersion program in Singapore where we created a product and pitched it to angel investors. The product my group and I pitched was designed to combine all of women's healthcare into one simple medium, which won third place. The angel investors mentioned that our product brought awareness to a social cause that is often overlooked and that the convenience of the website was really thoughtful.

Of course, we wouldn’t be able to achieve this award without the help of our mentors. Networking with mentors proved to be helpful because I was able to unlock a lot of meaningful advice and general knowledge about entrepreneurship. I think networking is a huge aspect of business because you can grow your business significantly quicker. With more connections, we can broaden our access to information, stay updated, and learn about the developments of various industries. Most importantly, networking works on building stronger relationships and bonds with people, who are essentially your life vests when you’re stranded in the ocean. They keep you afloat.

Another important aspect of business I need to master is finance; hence I also joined a financial analyst bootcamp. Without knowing how much your firm makes or loses, you won’t know how to budget the money to develop the business further. The speaker even went the extra mile by telling me her experiences working as a financial analyst so I know how businesses might work hand in hand with them. Through this bootcamp I was also able to notice something about my dad’s company. Through hardships like economic recessions and decrease in sales, the company has been able to stay alive and gradually increase their sales. A major reason for this is good financial management. The company is able to notice external threats that could affect their profits and sales revenue, and then to budget how much the business should spend depending on how much they are making. I learned from finance that entrepreneurs should be quick in making their decisions but not hasty. Quick decisions are fast but vigilant while hasty decisions are rash.

In business from the ground up morning seminar I am interested in learning about marketing. The seminar is practical as they promote us to develop product ideas. This further exercises my business knowledge to be implemented in real-world situations. I am also very excited to meet new people through grouping and further branch out my connections .

In the afternoon economics seminar, I am interested in learning how to be strategic. This is a steppingstone into perfecting the art of making quick and vigilant decisions. I am not familiar with game theory as I am very green to the economic side of things, however I am willing to learn what that is and be able to identify how it is related to the business world.

I would like to join this summer program to further expand my knowledge about business as well as experiencing more business-related scenarios. I would also be able to connect with more people and further understand different characters and personalities and how to work with them. My goal sometime down the road is to become an entrepreneur, but the ultimate goal is to become a more moral and well-rounded human being. I believe that business teaches an individual a lot of things that are unteachable and I would like to experience these life lessons myself to become a contributor in society.