

## **Frontier Central School Community Vision Committee**

Frontier Educational Center, Board Room

March 8, 2016 - 6:30 PM

### **Key thoughts and critical reflections from stakeholder groups/ committee members...**

#### **1. List the key points and/or ideas from this presentation that you feel are important for Frontier.**

- Prefer - Job seeking skills, resume, interview, etc. people skills, eye contact, handshake, manners
- Frontier needs to teach: positive work ethic, teamwork, creativity and resourcefulness, self-representation (dress, eye contact)
- Character counts ahead of job, knowledge, and skills! How to prepare students in school, perhaps to fill in gaps from personal/home background?
- Job search skills for graduating seniors
- The ability to communicate with others; business writing skills; ability to read and comprehend. We need to focus on preparing students on some basic skills such as filling out an application, preparing a resume and how to present one's self at an interview.
- Personal integrity and work ethic, as well as time management skills go very far. We may be missing some of these within curriculum while stressing college readiness (I think involving the parents and homes may be a key).
- Our kids need to know that the soft skills are as important
- Soft skills! - having a "presence"; diversity awareness - be careful making assumptions with new people; understanding/need to realize each person has individual perspective - different than yours; all three phases of communication crucial to understanding information - reading and writing, critical thinking (actually solving problem) ► related to math ► using practically, lifelong learning; line management ►

getting organized; career search skills - is this taught? Hand-written letter vs. email; trying to develop good leaders

- Our kids need to know that the soft skills are as important in their careers as the job-based knowledge; reinforces the need for good reading/writing/communication skills as well as creativity and critical thinking
- **Students need to be professional in oral, verbal, and non-verbal communications; students need to be able to problem-solve and come up with solutions; promote life-long learning; talent and passion; students need to be trained on how to pursue a job**
- It seems to me that school districts need to: simulate work environments more in classroom projects, class work, have kids work on real-life projects which could be cross-curricular; provide incentives for workplace behaviors - promptness to classes, appropriate dress would be rewarded - instead of punishment use incentives (“Wardrobe Wednesdays”); have students work on teams more
- Students must have “people” skills to be successful in the workplace; empathetic, compassionate, caring (hard to teach all of these traits at school)
- Personal qualities and people skills; professional knowledge and skills; professionalism and customer service; opportunities for students to practice these skills
- To help student learn, understand how their role in the workplace/ career requires qualities that go beyond the classroom; different forms of communication, literacy (email, text, resume, professional writing...)

## **2. What do you feel are the most important employability skills that our students have to master by graduation?**

- Proper manners, accountability
- Good character, resourcefulness, self-representation, willingness to learn
- Integrity, responsibility/work ethic, communication, compassion

- Character, attitude, communication skills
- Communication skills, ability to read and write, basic comprehension
- Character and leadership skills (plus the reading and writing core skills relating to even just getting into college or going into the workforce)
- First and foremost, needs to be tailored to each student's interest, career interest; soft skills ► character and "I'll help" attitude
  - willingness to understand, see their perspective ► customer service; ELA & Math ► emphasis on understanding and expressing thoughts - using logic to make decisions - all 3 communication; this leads to lifelong learning, rather than relying on being taught. Career search skills ► easy to teach - SUPER IMPORTANT (resume, cover letter, interviewing, etc.)
- Time management; efficiency/organization; empathy/compassion for others; reading/writing/grammar; ATTITUDE
- Positive attitude; problem-solving; reading (critical) and writing; being organized/time management; job-specific mathematics/practical application; honesty and character
- Writing skills - grammar; appropriate dress; knowing how to speak to adults - to network, to interview and sell themselves; need mock interviews/job readiness classes
- Students need to be educated in customer service.
- Oral, written and non-verbal communication skills
- Professionalism , responsibility