



# TRI-CITIES ROP

## 2018 Business Advisory Meetings Summary

We asked our business advisory partners questions about today's workplace environment, industry needs, and future employment opportunities. Here is a sample of what they had to say:

### INDUSTRY SECTORS REPRESENTED

Arts, Media & Entertainment

Building & Construction Trades

Business & Finance

Education, Child Development & Family Services

Engineering & Architecture

Health Science & Medical Technology

Hospitality, Tourism & Recreation

Information & Communication Technologies

Marketing, Sales & Services

Public Services

Transportation

*QUESTION: What does it take to be successful in your industry?*

- ☑ Be aware of Social Media. Things you do now, may have negative consequences later!
- ☑ You can't just want the glorious job. You must earn it! Most often, an individual must work his/her way up, beginning with an entry-level position.

- ☑ "Soft Skills" continue to be the most important thing we can teach students.

- ☑ Ambition, a sense of urgency, time management, and multi-tasking are essential to being productive
- ☑ How to talk and interact with others in a professional manner

- ☑ Learning never ends!
- ☑ Get the proper education in order to perform essential duties of the job.

*QUESTION: What are the most critical issues facing your industry today?*

- ☑ Quality training
- ☑ Public perception of the job
- ☑ No one gets a second chance to make a first impression
- ☑ Well-rounded qualified candidates
- ☑ Exposure to equipment in the field

*QUESTION: What changes do you feel need to be addressed in our curriculum?*

- ☑ More safety instruction
- ☑ Cell phone etiquette
- ☑ Professional appearance, including piercings, tattoos, clothing, etc.
- ☑ How to work independently and as a member of a team
- ☑ More students need the opportunity for work-based learning
- ☑ Create a career "road map"

*QUESTION: What qualities of an individual are most significant when selecting one candidate over another?*

- ☑ We take into consideration what an individual has done to set him/herself apart, i.e., volunteer work, taken extra classes, earned certifications, etc.
- ☑ An individual with a good attitude can be trained, but the one with the skills and a bad attitude will not
- ☑ Strong work ethic and work availability
- ☑ Good communication skills and a willingness to learn
- ☑ A strong portfolio with work samples
- ☑ Ability to assess oneself, identifying his/her strengths/weaknesses

*QUESTION: As a business person, parent, and/or community member, what do you want teachers to know?*

- ☑ Deadlines matter! Do all of us a favor, do not accept late work!
- ☑ Grades don't matter at work. If it is not correct, do not accept it. No such thing as an A- work product.
- ☑ Be upfront and honest.
- ☑ Instill in students that learning is a lifelong process. Prepare for the future and opportunities will come.

- ☑ Financial literacy is important! Understand the importance of their spending habits versus savings, how to file taxes, etc.
- ☑ Collaborate with your fellow teachers and find projects that can bring disciplines together.
- ☑ Show students all education and career options
- ☑ Provide classroom management so that it is conducive to learning
- ☑ Contextualize your teaching so that students can apply it to real-life scenarios
- ☑ Hands-on learning is a critical part of the learning process
- ☑ Teach students to think
- ☑ Teach students how to talk to people, not just a screen!