



Blue Ribbon Commission Meeting # 7 Thought Exchange Responses

April 2023

Exchange Summary

Blue Ribbon Commission, New York State Education Department
February 16, 2023

Foundational skills, like initiative, time management, and collaboration, are shown to prepare students for school, college, career, civic engagement and life, and are priorities of the business world. How can these skills be fostered and encouraged in K-12 education?



PARTICIPATION

Breakdown of Participation



1,378
Participants



757
Thoughts



17,815
Ratings



WORDCLOUD
Top Rated







THOUGHTS



Key Thoughts





Internships, apprenticeships, work-based learning opportunities Applying learning empowers students to be leaders and better understand that their learning matters and is relevant

4.2  (33 )
Ranked #1 of 757

More real world curriculum. Less emphasis on standardized testing. How a student does on a Regents exam has no real world applicability. Students always ask, "when am I going to use this?" and it seems to be getting inherently more difficult to answer.

4.2  (33 )
Ranked #2 of 757

These skills are often not taught, as regents are the main focus. I would like to see alternative, hands-on real world graduation pathways. The current Regents pathway is not preparing our students for life after high school, especially if they are not attending college.

4.2  (31 )
Ranked #3 of 757



THOUGHTS Real World



- More real world curriculum. Less emphasis on standardized testing. How a student does on a Regents exam has no real world applicability.** Students always ask, "when am I going to use this?" and it seems to be getting inherently more difficult to answer. 4.2 ★★★★★ (33 👤)
- WBL - like shadowing, school based enterprise** Seeing these skills in action is important as well as being able to practice them in real world situations 4.2 ★★★★★ (31 👤)
- through hands on real world experiences** internships, job shadowing, project based assignments that contribute to their communities 4.1 ★★★★★ (32 👤)

Exchange Summary

Blue Ribbon Commission on Graduation Measures, New York State
Education Department
May 3, 2023

What are the barriers, including the unseen barriers, to student achievement that are not reflected in current graduation requirements? How can we address those?



PARTICIPATION

Breakdown of Participation



747
Participants



479
Thoughts



9,286
Ratings



WORDCLOUD

Top Rated





THOUGHTS

Key Thoughts



Large class sizes hinder student development, personalized instruction, and the ability for teachers to know each student and form plans around need. Smaller classes allow teachers to work with students individually, know their students better, spend more time with each, and better educate each!

4.4 ★★★★★ (20 👤)

Ranked #1 of 479

More practical skills and soft skills need to be taught in school

4.3 ★★★★★ (24 👤)

Ranked #2 of 479

Funding for vocational training is needed state wide. Give kids an opportunity to leave HS with a skill as well as academics. Give them employability. Vocational programs are expensive but needed. Create a state funded program with real employment internships. Provide hands on training opportunities.

4.3 ★★★★★ (21 👤)

Ranked #3 of 479



THOUGHTS

Employable Vocational Skills



Funding for vocational training is needed state wide. Give kids an opportunity to leave HS with a skill as well as academics. Give them employability. Vocational programs are expensive but needed. Create a state funded program with real employment internships. Provide hands on training opportunities.

4.3  (21 )

Employable vocational skills are needed, not just a college career track. We need state funded vocational training for anyone who needed skill. Work force training can and should go to anyone who needs it, even beyond HS.

4.0  (23 )

We need vocational support and a track for non-college vocational students. Keep them from dropping out with vocational programming. Teach vocational plumbing, vocational carpentry, vocational LPN, vocational electrical, vocational computer work, vocational auto, vocational business

4.0  (22 )



THOUGHTS Literacy



ALL students need to be taught how to read by teachers who are taught how to teach reading - the science of reading it's the foundation of DEI

4.1  (23 )

literacy - and that means teachers trained to identify and support struggling readers without properly prepared staff, students fail and often will dis-engage.

4.0  (29 )

Dropping literacy rates is the biggest barrier - if one can not read , comprehend or write- how will they succeed on a one size fits all exam- Schools across the state need reading programs that follow the science of reading . Literacy rates are not changing with a broken AIS model.

4.0  (20 )