This Roundtable session included more than 148 teachers, students, parents, community leaders and business members who came together to share ways to help students develop a “life ready” mindset and understand the important of high expectations in helping students accomplish their goals.

Then each table had conversations addressing the following questions and here are the summaries:

Key take-aways:

1. Think about a time someone inspired confidence in your learning (whether a parent, teacher, mentor, coach, manager, etc.). What did that person do? What difference did it make? (most common in bold)
   - Asking trusted adults (like a teacher) when needing moral support and guidance for transitioning into post-secondary education.
   - Great professor-student relationships, student life and parent support helped to be impactful in their lives.
   - Parents/family have the greatest influence on educational and employment needs.
   - Being inspired by impactful individuals and the effect of their actions professionally, emotionally, and academically.
   - Mentor and parent support combined helped them learn and improve mindset from shared experiences and stories.
   - Having great student leaders not giving up on others when times get rough, having high expectations for oneself & others, and feeling inspired by community involvement.
   - Friendly competition from friends/students.
   - Working with your supervisor to learn and be exposed to valuable experiences.
   - Having an impacting negative experience and turning it into a positive one to learn from.
   - Setting high expectations and leading by example.
   - Making important connections led to being exposed to experiences and building great relationships.
   - Military academic program helped student not quit and preserve.

2. What can we do more of that would help young people be ready for their future? (most common in bold)
   - With support from the local community, emotionally building relationships with students from different backgrounds have equal access to career/educational opportunities & experiences.
   - With the help of mentoring and exposure to valuable opportunities, students can become accountable and strengthen skills that deal effectively when experiencing failure.
   - Maintaining students’ mental health (boost confidence or provide safe environment) is crucial to helping kids align their aspirations and expectations in attaining a high school diploma.
   - Making sure parents, students, mentors, district, and community involvement help home in on student’s focus and aspirations are being met with meaningful involvement.
• Giving students access to make connections and opportunities to talk about disfunction or issues with bringing their full potential
• Learning to recognize, be tolerant and accept students with different needs.
• Instilling students’ confidence and ways to understand their strengths and weaknesses (i.e.: aptitude tests)
• Teaching student’s life skills.
• Providing teacher support and giving schools more exposure to the community (i.e.: community-school events).
• Provide opportunities to be exposed to leadership and debate opportunities.
• Provide after-school programs, study skills and life-skills exposure.
• Expanding internships, academics, job shadowing experiences, and engaging community/partners.
• Sitting down with students individually to assess need for support or guidance.
• Innovative digital instruction for all.