



Community Conversation Themes

1. Communication

2. Community

3. Relationships – Diversity

4. Skills, Jobs, Hands-On Learning

5. Challenge – Higher Expectations for all



Session 1: How have schools affected our lives, and how do they affect our community?

- Providing students with opportunities to be involved – example: Community Conversations
- Parents want to be involved and feel supported for their involvement
- Parents feel their students are special and want their children to have special attention
- Provide more opportunity for community involvement
- All stakeholders must communicate effectively – parents, teachers, superintendent, administrators, Nellie Mae small group
- Foster parent and teacher relationship
- Provide challenging classes for all students – example: lower ability classes need to be challenged
- Encourage personal relationships through advisory and mentorships
- Provide consistency in rigor and expectations
- Demand high expectations for ALL students from ALL ADULTS
- Communication in all areas – example: dissemination of school events and calendars should be consistent throughout the district.

- parents, teachers, Supt., administrators – really big area – how do we break it into doable action



Session 2: What do we want our graduates to know and be able to do?

- Use life skills – soft skills and intern opportunities
- Learn Basic skills – Math and English and provide relevance for real life engagement
- Provide hands on learning – example: internships
- Provide opportunities for students to demonstrate ethical behavior
- Connect classwork to outside experiences
- Improve discipline
- Promote interest in Civics
- Provide exposure to many different opportunities
- Reinforce availability of resources that are available to students
- Challenge students in a positive way



Session 3: How can we embrace racial and ethnic diversity?

- Do not undermine students (language barrier)
- Employ more Diverse teachers and staff
- Teach and expand on the understanding of different culture
- Awareness of expression or reaction towards those that do not speak English fluently; do not treat differently
- Respect differences – not all people speak like me, look like me, act like me



Session 4: Making a Difference – What can we do in our community?

- Bring community into our classrooms – example: Career Day
- Foster better communication through event relationships
- Celebrate current diversity: *Spanish, African American*
- Outreach to the community to support internships that will provide real life experiences and soft skills
- Increase engagement with community partners
- Provide opportunities for student to network with community
- Get ALL students involved in community events – the more students are involved in community events, the more they will be interested in their community.