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Junior Editor's Report

DO SCHOOLS DO ENOUGH TO HELP STUDENTS IN THE REAL WORLD?

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Ever think about how schools might not be doing enough to help you or your children in the real world? Well good, because so do I. Many students graduate feeling unprepared for adulthood, on academics, they often overlook real-world knowledge that young adults need.

In addition to the academic curriculum, I believe five major areas listed below should also be included.



Financial Skills

Most high school curricula offer math, English, and science; but what about credit scores, taxes, or even how to manage debt? Many young adults enter the world without understanding how to budget, invest, or any other financial responsibilities. These skills are crucial for a young adult.

Mental Health

Academic pressure is super high, though emotional well-being is rarely discussed. Schools expect their students' grades to be good; but the stress that comes with that expectation can take a toll on a person yet no one teaches how to manage stress, cope with anxiety, etc. Understanding and using these life skills is beneficial; because after high school graduation, there are so many challenges you will face, especially if you choose to attend college right away. That is just a new level of mental preparation you need to learn, so you can feel okay and your academic achievement remains high. Mental Health is super important and needs to be talked about much more so people can feel that they are heard and not going through it alone.

Career Preparation

Students graduate without any guidance on how to get a job, write a resume, interview, etc. Knowing this in school could help so many young adults. Schools often focus more on college and getting degrees; but sometimes, that isn't always an option. There are many alternatives. Trade

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schools is one example. Many people graduate not knowing what they want to do, and they are worried that paying tuition. When they don't know what they want to do, this can be a waste of time, money, and also lead to being in debt. So, learning more about other career paths even if it's just temporary until you feel you *want* to attend college, can be important to so many.

Communication Skills

Learning and effectively communicating with others is key. Of course, we all know how to speak to each other; but when it comes to professional settings, some of us may be stuck on how to speak professionally. Some people are really afraid of speaking or just don't have the skill set to do so.

Basic Laws and Rights

I find history nowadays being taught about World War I and II, which of course is highly beneficial to know; but there are other much more important things. I feel like schools fail to teach students about their rights and laws that connect to the real world. Many students leave school not knowing how the government works, what their rights are, or even how history in general shapes today's world. Not knowing such details can leave people susceptible to being lied to and gaslighted about how the system works. Schools focus on remembering events rather than focusing on the effects they had then and now. There is so much history that still affects today's society and needs to be taught in school curricula so young adults will have a deeper understanding.

In conclusion, focusing on more than just basic academics can help so many more students and make them successful in the real world. Without Financial Education, Career Preparation, Managing Stress, etc., students will feel unprepared. The world is changing fast, and it's time for educators to understand that and catch up. Learning about these topics benefits not just students but the people around them. Others knowing how educated you are helps you move into better positions; you knowing what you know can also help others acquire better positions.