



2017 Manufacturing & Education Connections Interactive Discussion Results June 14, 2017

Participants said

How are industry and education partnerships mutually beneficial? Whose responsibility is it to establish partnerships? How?

- Partnership promotes real world learning, enhances quality of students and workforce and prepares students with soft skills.
- Partners share mutual responsibility to continually reach across and form relationships, share knowledge, changes and trends.
- Partnership responsibility needs to come from the school systems, parents, businesses, government, non-profits and chambers of commerce.
- Partnerships are not sustainable when employers and educators are not measured against the results, thus they don't see it as beneficial in many cases.
- The community needs more frequent meetings like today's forum.
- Peer influence has incredible impact. Give young workers a platform to talk about salary, advancement opportunities, benefits and lifestyle for students and their parents.
- Sustainable commitment is required by employers and educators to establish field trips, information sharing sessions, career fairs, internships, apprenticeships and job shadow opportunities.

What do parents need to know to make them more comfortable with manufacturing as a career? Whose responsibility is it to tell them? How?

- Parents need more information on educational requirements, types of jobs, great salary, excellent benefits, opportunity for growth, continued development and employer funded college opportunities.
- Today's manufacturing is different from "back in the day"; now it's safe, drug free and a clean work environment.
- Responsibility and exposure to career information needs to come from school systems, community partners, manufacturers, chambers of commerce, economic development agencies, and all levels of government.
- School counselors and career facilitators needs be exposed to the various types of manufacturing environments and the various education levels (high school, technical college, university) required for today's jobs.
- Industries need to talk to students at an early grade level and keep the conversation alive through high school.
- Discuss the topic at school events, industry forums, parent-teacher associations, scout meetings, etc.
- Develop a commitment to sustained programs - facility tours, job fairs with information booths, career nights, etc.

HOW ARE YOU MAKING THE CONNECTION?

Photos from interactive
discussion session

