

**THEMES**

Guiding Question #2 – **What skills and competencies do students need to be postsecondary ready?**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Academic (Content) Skills</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Basic skills / study skills (11)</li><li>• Basic literacy (reading, writing, math, speaking)</li><li>• Scientific literacy</li><li>• Mathematical literacy</li><li>• Advanced math skills</li><li>• Consumer math</li><li>• Basic content knowledge</li><li>• Mastery of subject area</li><li>• College-level academics</li><li>• History and geography mastery</li><li>• Knowledge – historical facts, political science, social sciences</li><li>• No remediation</li><li>• Read unknown content and comprehend</li><li>• Test taking</li><li>• Skills outlined in “Aligning CO’s Education System”</li></ul></li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Academic Competencies</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Higher level of competency (8)</li><li>• Research skills and reflection (3)</li><li>• Argumentation skills (2)</li><li>• Ability to study: organize / think</li><li>• Critical thinking</li><li>• Creativity</li><li>• Affective intelligence / arts</li><li>• Desire &amp; motivated to learn</li><li>• Analytical skills</li><li>• Compare and contrast</li><li>• Evaluating material / evidence</li><li>• Good metacognition</li><li>• Identify points of view and positions</li><li>• Intellectual curiosity</li><li>• Interdisciplinary awareness</li><li>• Problem-solving</li><li>• To question received wisdom</li><li>• Willing to ask for help</li><li>• Read: identify author’s purpose, reasons, and support for reason</li><li>• Career pathways</li></ul></li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Communication skills</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Self-expression skills (2)</li><li>• Good communication skills</li></ul></li></ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Listening</li> <li>• Speaking</li> <li>• Writing</li> <li>• People / interaction skills</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Leadership skills</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People / interaction skills</li> <li>• Accept / give appropriate feedback</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Technology skills</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Technology / information literacy (10)</li> <li>• Basic computer skills / keyboard</li> <li>• Globally competitive technology</li> <li>• Microsoft Works</li> <li>• Informational literacy</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Basic life skills</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Time management (14)</li> <li>• Financial literacy (6) and responsibility</li> <li>• Budgeting</li> <li>• Consumer skills</li> <li>• Balance between job, family, school</li> <li>• Stress management</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Practical Skills</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knowledge of social networking</li> <li>• Understanding learning process</li> <li>• Understanding postsecondary system</li> <li>• Exposure to higher education</li> <li>• Systems savvy</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Character Attributes / Personal Skills</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emotional maturity / good mental health (6)</li> <li>• Self-advocacy (5)</li> <li>• Ability to fail successfully (5)</li> <li>• Interest in growth and development</li> <li>• Emotional skills</li> <li>• Acceptance [of] failure as a learning opportunity</li> <li>• Adaptability</li> <li>• Flexibility</li> <li>• Independence</li> <li>• Inquisitive mind</li> <li>• Persistence</li> <li>• Strong character</li> <li>• Prioritize</li> <li>• Initiative</li> <li>• Motivation</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Self-discipline</li> <li>• Self-sufficiency</li> <li>• Self-expression</li> <li>• Self-regulation</li> <li>• Stamina / grit</li> <li>• Exceed the minimum</li> <li>• Assertiveness</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Work Ethic (14)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Time management (14)</li> <li>• Personal responsibility for decisions (10)</li> <li>• Time management (14)</li> <li>• Goal driven (13)Discipline</li> <li>• Accountability</li> <li>• Focus / direction</li> <li>• Assertiveness</li> <li>• Commitment</li> <li>• Commitment to education</li> <li>• Multi-tasking</li> <li>• Persistence</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ethics</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Civility</li> <li>• Commitment</li> <li>• Commitment to education</li> <li>• Integrity</li> <li>• Community service</li> <li>• Decision-making (based on core values)</li> <li>• Desire to contribute – citizenship</li> <li>• Personal responsibility for choice[s] made</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Cultural Awareness &amp; Competency including...</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding ethnic diversity (7)</li> <li>• Ability to work in a diverse environment</li> <li>• How to work with people from different cultures</li> <li>• Activities / extra curricular experience</li> <li>• Awareness of community</li> <li>• Cultural shift needs to occur (*bigger than CDE)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Note: Numbers in parentheses indicate the number of groups that had this particular theme on their list of answers to this guiding question. Not all themes have a number indicator because not all themes were discussed at the meeting.