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Business, Community and Post-Secondary Leaders In-Person Session Feb. 2, 2024 Top Themes

Given your role and your knowledge of K-12 education in Calgary, what priorities for student learning should the CBE focus on?

Theme	Number of Mentions
Culture of openness and acceptance; empathy; being a good human; prioritizing inclusive classrooms for all students; stop trying to make classrooms homogenous; respect diverse student needs and abilities; equitable approach, remove barriers; belonging is important; citizenship	58
Well-being; holistic approach to learning that considers mind body and spirit; resiliency	26
Critical thinking; creative problem solving	24
Experiential learning – field experiences; opportunities to go deeper beyond the classroom – depth of learning; multiple ways; longer term. E.g. beyond field trips. Early exposure to career exploration opportunities; consider employability.	23
Openness to community and partnerships to provide supports to classrooms; credit through community partnerships	18
Social skills, soft skills; consider how Covid has impacted; communication skills	13
Student agency, voice and choice; opportunity to follow passions	7
Fourth year for high school students a possibility – intentionally mapped out and not an afterthought	5
Emerging technologies; digital/media literacy	5
World issues, i.e. climate change	4
Transitions into adulthood; life skills; financial skills	4
Literacy	3



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When thinking about societal and economic changes in Calgary, what competencies and skills will CBE students need to thrive in life, work and continued learning?

Theme	Number of Mentions
Citizenship; competencies to be a good human/citizen/collaborator and part of a community; graduating with a culture of kindness/making everything they touch better; empathy; diversity; inclusive learning; remove barriers	38
21st century needs critical thinkers, innovative skills, creativity, problem finding & problem solving, visioning. Current education is not adequately preparing students; students don't benefit from canned opportunities.	29
Well-being; resilience; holistic approach to learning; belonging and connection; self-regulation; self reliance	20
Soft skills: resiliency – risk-taking, flexibility, welcoming communities, be as a community, critical thinking, reliability, communication, accountability; relationships; conflict resolution	14
Application of curriculum in real life opportunities and lived experiences of adulthood.	11
Open to learning and other perspectives; focus on process of learning and not getting it right	10
Greater partnership with parents and families – how to support teaching life skills; family room spaces at schools	9
Competencies are key; competencies over content	9
Stronger partnerships between schools and partners	9
How is student success defined?	7
Use technology for teaching students; digital citizenship	6
Collective good and collaboration over individual success; think collaboratively in complexity and diversity of opinion	5
Why are we still doing standardized tests, PATs?	4
Reduce administrative work so time for the teacher-student connection to be strong	3
Student agency and voice; opportunity to follow passions	4