

**STUDENT FORUMS AT BANFF COMMUNITY  
HIGH SCHOOL:  
FUTURES PLANNING 2007/08  
(Approx. 50 participants from grade11)**

**Question #1: What skills and qualities will you need?**

**Skills:**

Organizational skills (self, work, others)  
Languages  
Decision making skills  
Negotiating skills  
Some degree of education  
Problem solving  
Writing skills  
Good manners  
Can work in groups and work alone  
Financial management and budgeting skills, investing, controlled spending, assets  
People management and social skills; ability to interact with other people  
Teamwork  
Communication  
Leadership  
Ability to teach others  
Time management  
Goal setting  
Computer/technology skills  
Practical work experience; skills in an area of job interest, business skills  
Life experience: licenses(drivers, first aid), experience being on your own  
Presentation skills: public speaking, good preparation, basic writing skills  
Multimedia: web page design, powerpoint or other presentation software, photo essay  
Writing skills (e.g. essay writing)  
Improvisation skills  
Hygiene

**Qualities:**

Common sense  
Assertiveness  
Healthy  
Friendly  
Determination (work, self) to succeed  
Creative  
Work ethic  
Open minded

Hard working  
Polite  
Responsible  
Compassionate (others, what you do, self)  
Respect  
Flexibility, adaptability to your environment  
Work well under pressure  
Ability to have fun  
Positive attitude  
Passion for the game  
Energy  
Punctuality  
Adaptability  
Productivity  
Independence  
Patience  
Moral

**Knowledge:**

Technology knowledge  
Process of how things work  
Knowledge of mistakes made through out history/past  
Awareness of other cultures

**Question #2: How can school best prepare you for that future?**

Create a safe learning environment

- knowing that everyone has a voice and has a right to be heard
- eliminate bullying
- appropriate discipline
- helping kids want to come to school
- having a positive attitude
- assured safety: make sure there is no violence
- environment to help us develop people skills
- positive work environment
- environment for good manners

Caring about student problems

- listening
- providing respect (mutual)

Meeting the needs of all students

- music programs
- athletic facilities
- foods program
- art/fashion

- carpentry
- technology, computer use

#### Variety of courses

- gives you more opportunities and options to pursue
- finding what you like/don't like
- different levels of classes for different people
- options for leadership
- teach the ability to teach others
- build social skills as well as academic
- teach morals/ethics/values

#### Evaluating class lengths

- too long or too short?
- more/less classtime depending on subject and needs
- reasonable hours

#### Good teachers

- get students involved and interactive
- excite students about learning
- make class fun
- principal involvement
- focusing on student's strengths rather than weaknesses (all have strengths)
- more respect for students
- informed teachers

#### Use different learning/teaching techniques

- teaching in a way which will benefit all students (visual, audible, literary, physical, etc)
- allowing different methods/ways to get ideas of students across (e.g. textbooks, movies, computer programs, internet, experience/real life)
- allow music during study periods or when working on something in class – it helps some people
- educate us and get us to present work in a variety of different forms/formats (e.g. speeches, essays, other written works, movies, acting, self tests)
- development of a work ethic
- challenge us!

#### Provide equal opportunity

- not only focusing on/providing for strong or weak students
- don't single out
- finding alternative options to post secondary (after high school)
- career counseling
- no preconceived expectations about a student based on their family or friends

#### Providing more education about 'life' skills

- business management
- financial planning and money management
- CALM, other life skills classes
- learning 'people' skills
- life planning skills
- field trips to give students exposure to possible life choices
- able to work/volunteer at these opportunities in school
- guidance for future transition to post-secondary
- tips/advice for healthy living
- abundance of fitness opportunities

#### Application to real life

- spend more time in class connecting topic to real life
- a class that involves job experience, money management and understanding of what you will need to be successful
- practical skills for work learned in school
- provide more courses that will influence your personal interests

#### Accepting difference

- religions
- races
- learning strengths
- education for open mindedness for those who are different

#### More study time, less homework

- use half of time of class for study time, focusing on topic of the day
- appropriate work load
- start later in day when we are more able to learn

#### Updated facilities

- updated resources
- books, technology

#### Social opportunities

- provide more social opportunities

### **How can your community best prepare you for that future?**

Provide facilities (recreation, literary, support)

Financial opportunities

Providing different programs that will help younger people in society

Mentorship

Businesses setting up internship-type programs