



1. CEO - Global Computer Chip Manufacturer. Education is their company's only focus from a corporate giving perspective. They are frustrated by the "one off" nature of their efforts. They are looking for a comprehensive strategic plan that they can support.

Key Quotes:

- *They have moved manufacturing to China because of China's ability to provide the trained technicians that they need...**not because of cost.***
- *Somewhere back in the 1980s the US Educational system took a wrong turn when they began to see traditional manufacturing jobs declining in the US.*
 - *We need fewer workers who are more STEM trained to work what were the equivalent of the old manufacturing jobs (now they are advanced manufacturing jobs).*

2. COO – Hospital and Medical School

Key Quotes:

- *Many foreigners send their children to boarding schools back in their home country to get a Quality STEM education*

3. Chair – Community Education Collaborative

Key Quotes:

- *World-class schools have world-class principals and teachers*

4. Executive Director - Global Logistics Center.

Key Quotes:

- *Our education system has not adapted to the change in the work place from when most jobs were manufacturing line jobs where individuals did single focus assembly line jobs to today where the vast majority of jobs require technology, team work, critical thinking and problem solving skills.*

5. CEO – Advanced Manufacturing Company.

Key Quotes:

- *No one knows what an engineer does unless their parent is an engineer*

6. Founder and Executive Director - International Institute for Regenerative Medicine.

Key Quotes:

- *I am a believer in the importance of tours, job shadowing and internships. I get hundreds of letters from school children who have toured our labs. I think for many of them the tour was what piqued their interest in learning more about science.*
- *I have talked with Dean Kamen and we are collaborating on an afterschool STEM team focused on the biosciences.*



- *I believe that regenerative medicine can be this generation's call to action like the race to the moon was for previous generations.*

7. President – Local Economic Development Alliance

Key Quotes:

- *Our area is lagging the state in job creation. People's skills are not matching the jobs available. Currently have between 500 and 1,000 "High Tech" job available.*

8. CEO – International BioTech Firm.

Key Quotes:

- *The Local Tech College immersed themselves in our business and developed a training program that prepared their students to work in our laboratories*

9. President - Hospital.

Key Quotes:

- *It is hard for educators to break the mold and think outside the box*
- *We need to make STEM schools accessible across all county/school system lines*
- *When we were recruiting Top Talent, I spent a lot of time convincing the spouse that our schools would meet the needs of her kids*

10. Vice President MRO Sales – National Aviation Services Company

Key Quotes:

- *We have 1,200 mechanics that require an associate degree plus certification and we have a very difficult time filling open position. We cannot bid for new work if we cannot find the workforce required.*
- *We moved a large program to Florida because we could not find the trained workers that we needed in the local region.*
- *K-12 is the only place to focus if we are going to have the stem trained students that we need. The earlier in the process we focus...the more likely we are to be successful*

11. Director Human Resources – Global Logistics Company

Key Quotes:

- *We are having a very hard time filling technician position because applicants cannot pass the math test*
- *Local Universities (and other State Universities) are not producing the industrial engineers (logistical) that we need so we have to go out of state to universities in Arkansas and Georgia to recruit graduates*



12. President – International Airline Actuation Systems Company.

Key Quotes:

- *Machinists with the STEM skills we need are very hard to find*

13. President & CEO – International NanoTech Corporation

Key Quotes:

- *For every PhD we hire we need at least one associate degree technician to assist them with their work*

14. Executive Director –North American Truck Company

Key Quotes:

- *We are graduating too few engineers. We need local kids to obtain engineering degrees that want to come back home to work.*

15. Vice President – Global Computer Chip Manufacturer

Key Quotes:

- *We have the same problem here as our peers do in Silicon Valley, we cannot find enough qualified technicians(RF Technicians and Equipment Technicians) to meet our local hiring needs*

16. Area Vice President – National Cable Company

Key Quotes:

- *We need curriculum to teach kids wireless technology to meet our local hiring needs*

17. President – Medical Devices Company.

Key Quotes:

- *The Town Fathers don't talk about the new economy jobs*

Key Quotes:

- *We must excite kids by showing them real world connections to the fundamental principles they are learning in STEM classes*

Key Quotes:

- *Problem based learning like the real world includes failures and teaches perseverance and determination which instills self-confidence along with a positive self-image*