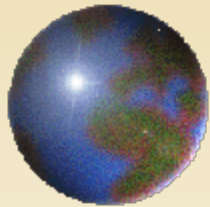


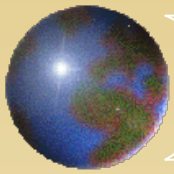
InterLink Business Survey

Preparing to Compete
in the
Global Marketplace

Summer ~ 2005

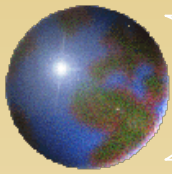


www.interlink-ntx.org



Question Asked.....

As Globalization of the Workforce continues to evolve, how can students (middle school to high school) prepare themselves to compete in a global workforce upon graduation from high school?



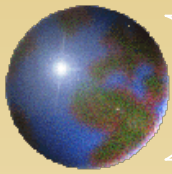
Steve Boecking, Vice President

Excel in a foreign language...

Spanish (or any other language) may be boring or difficult for the first couple of years, then it becomes easy.



<http://www.alliancetexas.com/AOS>

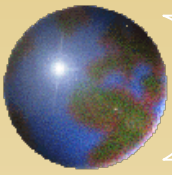


Donna R. Parker, Senior Director - Client Relations & Development Carter & Burgess, Inc.

Carter=Burgess

www.c-b.com

- ❖ Go back to the basics of geography that you were taught in grade school....know where countries are located and what drives their local economies and communities.
- ❖ Learn a foreign language.... e.g. Spanish, French, German, but don't forget to be a master of the English language.
- ❖ Watch TV, yes, I said watch TV, but make sure it's one of the international channels that gives you a good idea of what is going on in the world.
- ❖ Make good grades in your chosen subjects (and challenge yourself to hard subjects.)
- ❖ Visit a company in your local area that does international business. They will welcome your interest.

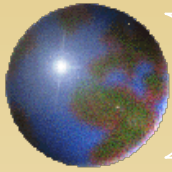


Max G. Davis, Corporate HR Manager, Raytheon, Inc.

- ☩ Take more math and science courses
- ☩ Participate in extracurricular activities (taking on a leadership role as often as possible)
- ☩ Get involved in competitions such as First Robotics and BEST

Raytheon

www.raytheon.com



Art Lacy, Chief Revenue Officer
Quality FCE and Associates LLC

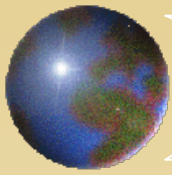
- ✦ There are three communications tools that seem to be universally understood:
 - ✦ Math/Science
 - ✦ Technology/Computers
 - ✦ Written/Spoken languages

- ✦ To be useful in the global economy (i.e. get a job), one must gain substantial skill levels in at least one of these three tools.

- ✦ To be excel in the global economy (i.e. be the hiring manager, or owner), one must gain substantial skill levels in at least one of the first two AND the third.

- ✦ The "hard " skills provide the ability to know HOW to do the job. The "soft" skills provide the ability to lead others to understand WHY the job is important enough for them to invest their time and resources.

- ✦ In my opinion, students should set goals to acquire all three tool sets. You may not be able to master these tools ... but any progress along these lines will be important when competing in the global economy.



**Did you know that 80% of workers use science and engineering skills
in their occupations?***

Students should:

- 1) Take the most rigorous curriculum available at their school.
- 2) Take courses that allow them to apply learned math and science concepts. One relevant and interesting way to do that is through high-tech engineering courses like the one offered to schools through the Infinity Project (www.infinity-project.org), a math- and science-based engineering curriculum targeted to high school students.
- 3) As the 21st century continues to evolve, it will increasingly be led by those who are competent problem solvers and individuals who possess critical thinking and reasoning skills. That is what engineers do and what the global workforce demands.

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*Source: Calculated from Science and Engineering Indicators 2002 Text Tables 3-1, 3-2, pages 3-6, 3-7