

**Afternoon Session: Reviewing the Four Strands Using Essential Practices Rubric to Prioritize Focus**

Retreat participants broke into four groups and spent time reflecting on the original Ford NGL Strand Essential Practices, assessing and scoring current regional practice and identifying priorities. Each Strand Group had an opportunity to share the priorities that they identified, and then all retreat attendees participated in a gallery walk and used dots to vote for the elements they felt were most important. Below are the priority areas identified for each strand with the “dot vote” tally in parenthesis.

**Strand 1: Transforming Teaching and Learning**

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1. Leadership in school district who understand teaching and learning (16)
2. More contextual learning – relevant and applicable (not just academics) (3)
3. Focus PD on-
  - 1.1 Global awareness (2)
  - 1.2 Inquiry-based instruction (4)

**Stand 2: Transforming Secondary School Experience**

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1. Agreements with post-secondary (27)
2. Employer involvement and WBL opportunities (2)
3. Expand communities or practice
4. Cohort scheduling (FTEs)
5. Program evaluation
6. Middle to high transitions (3)
7. ~~Agreement with local 2-4 year colleges that students can earn college credits while in high school~~
8. Not a choice for rigorous the academy (1)
9. Strengthen Support Structures: Social Determinants, Addressing Obstacles to Participation (23)

**Strand 3: Transforming Business and Civic Engagement:**

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1. 3.6 - Broader communities – Aware and engaged – will accelerate action (23)
2. 3.2 - Biz & Civic leaders support and sustain master plan (9)
3. 3.4 - What the heck is a career pathways entrepreneur? CLARIFY!

**Strand 4: College and Career Readiness**

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1. Parent support and communications (11)
2. Community awareness (9)
3. Comprehensive counseling support (20)
4. Indicator interventions – identify mid-points of interventions (3)