

## Episode 102: Real World Learning in USD 232

Show transcript from May 17, 2023

1

00:00:01,799 --> 00:00:04,989

This is what's new in 232 podcast edition.

2

00:00:05,000 --> 00:00:09,649

A place for news information and discussion with interesting topics and guests.

3

00:00:13,579 --> 00:00:16,649

Welcome to What's New in 232 podcast edition.

4

00:00:16,659 --> 00:00:19,559

I'm Alvie Cater and over the next 15 minutes or so,

5

00:00:19,569 --> 00:00:28,590

we will discuss real world learning and it is a term that we've been using across the system with our board of education and with our families.

6

00:00:28,819 --> 00:00:33,119

And uh before we start talking about real world learning,

7

00:00:33,189 --> 00:00:34,740

don't say that too fast.

8

00:00:34,950 --> 00:00:37,599

I'm going to introduce our guest that we have with us this morning.

9

00:00:37,610 --> 00:00:40,790

So I'd like to say hello to Doctor Cindy Schwartz.

10

00:00:41,299 --> 00:00:41,950

Good morning.

11

00:00:41,959 --> 00:00:42,590

How are you?

12

00:00:42,599 --> 00:00:43,310

I'm doing well,

13

00:00:43,319 --> 00:00:47,689

Cindy and tell us a little bit about what you do and uh how long you've been with us?

14

00:00:48,290 --> 00:00:55,709

I am the career and technical education coordinator for the district and this is my 16th year in USD 232.

15

00:00:55,790 --> 00:00:56,060

Well,

16

00:00:56,069 --> 00:01:02,759

we're looking forward to hearing what you have to share with us today and then uh sitting across from me is Kevin Jeffries.

17

00:01:03,360 --> 00:01:04,129

Hi,

18

00:01:04,139 --> 00:01:06,290

thanks for uh being here today and Alvie,

19

00:01:06,300 --> 00:01:07,930

thanks for including me in this.

20

00:01:07,989 --> 00:01:12,569

Um I am the real world learning business to education coordinator for the district.

21

00:01:12,580 --> 00:01:15,410

I've been with us just a little under a year.

22

00:01:15,419 --> 00:01:15,889

And,

23

00:01:15,900 --> 00:01:15,910

uh,

24

00:01:15,919 --> 00:01:17,489

prior to that I'd been,

25

00:01:17,500 --> 00:01:17,769

uh,

26

00:01:17,779 --> 00:01:22,985

the Chamber of Commerce executive in Leawood for almost 24 years was a banker.

27

00:01:22,995 --> 00:01:23,995

Was a CPA,

28

00:01:24,004 --> 00:01:24,944

was an urban planner,

29

00:01:24,955 --> 00:01:28,184

done a lot of varied business things over the years.

30

00:01:28,194 --> 00:01:28,644

Well,

31

00:01:28,654 --> 00:01:28,714

I,

32

00:01:28,724 --> 00:01:32,925

and I think your background is really critical to what we're gonna be talking about today.

33

00:01:32,934 --> 00:01:34,035

So we'll come back to that.

34

00:01:34,044 --> 00:01:38,885

And uh our final guest with us today is Dr Joe Kelly.

35

00:01:38,894 --> 00:01:39,964

Good morning.

36

00:01:40,199 --> 00:01:43,650

Uh Pleasure to be here uh And excited to talk about real world learning.

37

00:01:43,660 --> 00:01:47,730

Uh I am the director of secondary Curriculum and instruction for the district.

38

00:01:47,739 --> 00:01:54,389

Uh I manage resources uh and I help teachers with anything that they need in the district to help kids.

39

00:01:54,849 --> 00:01:56,389

So real world learning,

40

00:01:56,400 --> 00:02:05,000

it is something that a lot of districts uh especially here in the Kansas City Metro are using and our families are going to hear a lot about this in the coming years,

41

00:02:05,010 --> 00:02:08,369

but really to understand and define what that is.

42

00:02:08,380 --> 00:02:08,610

We,

43

00:02:08,619 --> 00:02:15,740

we need to take a step back and go to sort of the foundation for all of this and that is work based learning.

44

00:02:15,910 --> 00:02:16,690

And with that,

45

00:02:16,699 --> 00:02:18,660

I'm gonna turn it over to Doctor Schwartz.

46

00:02:18,940 --> 00:02:19,250

All right.

47

00:02:19,259 --> 00:02:19,770

Thank you.

48

00:02:20,539 --> 00:02:25,589

Uh We started our workplace learning initiative um about three or four years ago,

49

00:02:25,600 --> 00:02:27,479

we partnered with K S D E,

50

00:02:27,699 --> 00:02:37,839

there was a grant opportunity that was available and I talked to the superintendent about whether or not we wanted to take on this initiative because it was just a pilot opportunity.

51

00:02:38,100 --> 00:02:38,889

And we were,

52

00:02:38,899 --> 00:02:39,729

we were accepted.

53

00:02:39,740 --> 00:02:44,089

We were one of um five school districts in Kansas who were piloting this,

54

00:02:44,100 --> 00:02:45,199

this opportunity.

55

00:02:45,350 --> 00:02:52,070

It was a three year grant and the whole purpose was to support the Kansans Can initiative.

56

00:02:52,270 --> 00:02:57,789

So we had um focus on career awareness at the elementary level,

57



00:02:57,800 --> 00:03:04,169

career exploration at the middle school level and then uh career preparation at the high school level.

58

00:03:04,369 --> 00:03:05,529

And so all of those,

59

00:03:05,539 --> 00:03:10,149

we had leveled committees just to help out to make sure that everyone was aware.

60

00:03:10,460 --> 00:03:13,820

Uh The committee is really focused on sharing with each other,

61

00:03:14,020 --> 00:03:19,279

which was uh a really great opportunity just to have everybody um sharing what they learned,

62

00:03:19,330 --> 00:03:23,869

especially when it came time to then merge into real role learning.

63

00:03:24,410 --> 00:03:24,759

OK.

64

00:03:24,770 --> 00:03:26,949

So with that framework in place,

65

00:03:26,960 --> 00:03:36,690

uh uh there's this uh organization known as the Kauffman Foundation here in Kansas City and the Kauffman Foundation really got behind uh this,

66

00:03:36,699 --> 00:03:39,220

this concept of real world learning.

67

00:03:39,380 --> 00:03:40,500

And uh in fact,

68

00:03:40,509 --> 00:03:42,759

we are participating in one of the cohorts for that.

69

00:03:42,770 --> 00:03:43,690

Is that correct?

70

00:03:43,850 --> 00:03:44,789

That is correct.

71

00:03:44,800 --> 00:03:48,880

We are and we um same actually,

72

00:03:48,889 --> 00:03:50,050

same uh starting point,

73

00:03:50,059 --> 00:03:52,410

we had to get support from the superintendent,

74

00:03:52,580 --> 00:03:54,509

support from our Board of Education.

75

00:03:54,789 --> 00:03:58,139

And then that led us to kind of where we are now with that,

76

00:03:58,149 --> 00:03:58,160

uh,

77

00:03:58,169 --> 00:04:03,839

we should talk about how this fits in then to what we want from our schools.

78

00:04:03,889 --> 00:04:04,639

And,

79

00:04:04,649 --> 00:04:04,660

uh,

80

00:04:04,669 --> 00:04:06,940

and that's kind of goes back to the redesign,

81

00:04:06,949 --> 00:04:11,240

uh from uh the state level uh of how we educate students.

82

00:04:11,389 --> 00:04:14,960

And so I'm gonna turn it over to Doctor Joe Kelly to help us with that.

83

00:04:14,970 --> 00:04:15,600

Thank you.

84

00:04:15,610 --> 00:04:16,160

So,

85

00:04:16,170 --> 00:04:16,179

uh,

86

00:04:16,190 --> 00:04:17,100

several years ago,

87

00:04:17,109 --> 00:04:17,869

Doctor Watson,

88

00:04:17,880 --> 00:04:21,130

who is the Commissioner of Education in the State of Kansas,

89

00:04:21,160 --> 00:04:22,089

uh did a tour,

90

00:04:22,100 --> 00:04:24,540

a listening tour uh across the state,

91

00:04:24,809 --> 00:04:26,559

uh and found out that a,

92

00:04:26,570 --> 00:04:33,059

a lot of our communities and businesses wanted schools to help students understand the importance of soft skills,

93

00:04:33,260 --> 00:04:38,040

uh being able to communicate clearly showing up on time being responsible.

94

00:04:38,260 --> 00:04:47,279

Uh and one of the ways uh that uh we've come together to uh help students do that is uh providing them more opportunities to learn more about the workplace,

95

00:04:47,589 --> 00:04:54,179

uh identify what they're interested in what they have an aptitude for and what they can earn a living uh at doing uh in the future.

96

00:04:54,250 --> 00:05:01,250

And so getting kids out and connecting them with uh businesses and helping them understand the importance of uh you know,

97

00:05:01,260 --> 00:05:07,160

those soft skills has been an emphasis uh in public schools across the state for several years.

98

00:05:07,269 --> 00:05:16,570

We also look at um making sure that every student who graduates from us D 232 uh is prepared to go to college.

99

00:05:16,579 --> 00:05:20,309

But we also know that they don't necessarily need to go to college,

100

00:05:20,320 --> 00:05:27,279

they can uh achieve other certifications uh and find meaningful uh and valuable career options.

101

00:05:27,549 --> 00:05:33,750

And uh so talk a little bit about the success rate that ties into this uh whole real world learning concept,

102

00:05:33,760 --> 00:05:34,149

right?

103

00:05:34,160 --> 00:05:40,230

So the state defines a success as a student completing two years of post secondary study,

104

00:05:40,679 --> 00:05:43,540

uh or earning a professional certification.

105

00:05:43,609 --> 00:05:48,359

Uh And so those are the ways that we are measuring it currently in our district.

106

00:05:48,489 --> 00:05:52,529

Uh And really a goal of ours is to improve that every single year.

107

00:05:52,540 --> 00:05:58,380

So that students can basically get a uh into a position where they are,

108

00:05:58,390 --> 00:06:03,869

are earning a livable wage uh and contributing to society and something that they're interested in doing.

109

00:06:04,130 --> 00:06:05,709

So we're gonna come back to that,

110

00:06:05,720 --> 00:06:09,420

that concept of helping students figure out what it is they'd like to do.

111

00:06:09,670 --> 00:06:14,540

Uh But when we look at um the success rate uh and,

112

00:06:14,549 --> 00:06:19,579

and helping students be successful post education here at us D 232,

113

00:06:19,760 --> 00:06:20,109

we,



114

00:06:20,119 --> 00:06:23,089

we have to connect students to their interests.

115

00:06:23,290 --> 00:06:23,980

And so Kevin,

116

00:06:23,989 --> 00:06:27,600

that's where you uh have played an important role this school year,

117

00:06:27,809 --> 00:06:31,279

I've been really pleased to kind of help with our district's mission,

118

00:06:31,290 --> 00:06:31,500

you know,

119

00:06:31,510 --> 00:06:35,160

maximizing each student's success and,

120

00:06:35,170 --> 00:06:37,809

and how they uh become self sufficient.

121

00:06:37,980 --> 00:06:44,209

And so I was also when I was at the Chamber of Commerce involved in a program through the University of Kansas,

122

00:06:44,220 --> 00:06:50,510

their Edwards campus to talk to them with other businesses about what do businesses need.

123

00:06:50,519 --> 00:06:52,890

And these to echo what Doctor Kelly said,

124

00:06:52,899 --> 00:06:54,489

these soft skills are important.

125

00:06:54,500 --> 00:06:58,220

So we as a business community are very aware of how important that is.

126

00:06:58,399 --> 00:07:01,390

And so what I've used done is use my business connect.

127

00:07:01,665 --> 00:07:06,765

I've gathered over the years to help connect students with opportunities to learn more about it.

128

00:07:06,774 --> 00:07:14,005

And I've done it at a variety of grade levels and age levels and try and make it appropriate for what that age level needs.

129

00:07:14,015 --> 00:07:19,125

So they can learn about a career as an engineer or maybe working in a machine shop.

130

00:07:19,135 --> 00:07:23,804

There's so many different things kids can do and we wanna try and match them with what their interests are.

131

00:07:24,239 --> 00:07:33,380

So now we're gonna get down to some of the practic practical things of uh this R W L because it's easier to say that real world learning.

132

00:07:33,730 --> 00:07:36,519

Uh But what does it look like in our schools?

133

00:07:36,529 --> 00:07:41,910

And I think I'm gonna uh uh pitch it over to uh doctor because she's been really involved.

134

00:07:41,920 --> 00:07:42,130

Uh you know,

135

00:07:42,140 --> 00:07:48,089

going back to the framework of work based learning and now that it's evolved into real world learning.

136

00:07:48,100 --> 00:07:52,190

So talk uh uh a little bit about what we can see uh as we go through the levels.

137

00:07:52,739 --> 00:07:54,269

So as we go through the levels,

138

00:07:54,279 --> 00:08:00,149

uh we can really see a lot of those essential workplace skills um kind of it,

139

00:08:00,160 --> 00:08:02,470

it takes me back to if you've ever seen the,

140

00:08:02,480 --> 00:08:04,299

the sunflower that,

141

00:08:04,309 --> 00:08:06,309

that the Kansas State Department has,

142

00:08:06,320 --> 00:08:10,709

that advertises C T E and there's a sunflower for each of the levels.

143

00:08:10,720 --> 00:08:14,109

So I went to ce career and technical education.

144

00:08:15,230 --> 00:08:20,570

And the sunflower in the middle of the sunflower is the essential workplace skills,

145

00:08:20,799 --> 00:08:22,380

um which is all of your,

146

00:08:22,390 --> 00:08:22,480

you know,

147

00:08:22,489 --> 00:08:23,339

communication,

148

00:08:23,350 --> 00:08:24,359

problem solving,

149

00:08:24,369 --> 00:08:25,450

collaboration,

150

00:08:25,619 --> 00:08:27,119

willingness to learn.

151

00:08:27,130 --> 00:08:28,410

Um And then ultimately,

152

00:08:28,420 --> 00:08:32,539

that ties into K S D E s Kansans can outcomes.

153

00:08:32,549 --> 00:08:41,900

So the Kansas State Department of Education and their outcomes um and they are a part of our US D 232 portrait of a graduate which soon we will unveil.

154

00:08:42,200 --> 00:08:45,778

Uh We did a lot with all of these different levels.

155

00:08:45,789 --> 00:08:48,559

Um They each have their career fairs.

156

00:08:48,568 --> 00:08:49,258

We've,

157

00:08:49,408 --> 00:08:51,838

we've done a lot to really help uh you know,

158

00:08:51,848 --> 00:08:55,679

support our student interests and what some of those activities are.

159

00:08:55,689 --> 00:08:56,088

So,

160

00:08:56,098 --> 00:09:03,838

uh our most recent example was uh at Stars Side Elementary uh which is one of seven elementary schools that we have here in US D 232,

161

00:09:03,848 --> 00:09:06,958

they had a career on Wheels Day.

162

00:09:07,280 --> 00:09:08,020

Uh But that,

163

00:09:08,030 --> 00:09:16,409

that simple concept of exposing students to a variety of careers is an example of that career exploration that's happening at the elementary level.

164

00:09:16,820 --> 00:09:19,789

And then as we cycle up into middle school and high school,

165

00:09:19,799 --> 00:09:23,590

now we're looking at individual plans of study and Doctor Kelly,

166

00:09:23,599 --> 00:09:24,950

you want to talk a little bit about that,

167

00:09:24,960 --> 00:09:27,700

how that ties into real world learning,

168

00:09:27,710 --> 00:09:28,150

right.

169

00:09:28,159 --> 00:09:28,469

You know,

170

00:09:28,479 --> 00:09:32,440



and we're fortunate at the middle level to actually have 1/5 core class.

171

00:09:32,450 --> 00:09:36,099

So we usually look at four cores English math or studies and science.

172

00:09:36,250 --> 00:09:38,830

Uh but we were able to add a class called pathways.

173

00:09:38,840 --> 00:09:40,570

Uh and in the pathways class,

174

00:09:40,580 --> 00:09:42,479

students are able to explore their,

175

00:09:43,239 --> 00:09:51,250

what they have an aptitude for and look at possible jobs uh in the current market uh through the pathways course curriculum.

176

00:09:51,440 --> 00:09:54,440

Uh And they use a platform called Ze O to do all,

177

00:09:54,450 --> 00:10:08,469

all of this exploration and they create an electronic portfolio uh that includes a resume uh and uh some of their interests and skills and communications to businesses who may be interested in uh employing them in the future.

178

00:10:09,080 --> 00:10:14,210

And so the idea is that uh when uh I finish eighth grade as a student,

179

00:10:14,599 --> 00:10:17,400

uh and I'm going to start my freshman year,

180

00:10:17,609 --> 00:10:20,530

what does my individual plan to study look like at that point?

181

00:10:20,539 --> 00:10:20,840

So,

182

00:10:20,849 --> 00:10:21,640

at that point,

183

00:10:21,650 --> 00:10:22,010

uh you know,

184

00:10:22,020 --> 00:10:29,130

we're not asking students to um commit to uh four years,

185

00:10:29,140 --> 00:10:30,830

but they have a plan at least.

186

00:10:31,190 --> 00:10:34,260

Uh And so that plan can change through the years.

187

00:10:34,280 --> 00:10:36,229

Uh But when they start as a freshman,

188

00:10:36,239 --> 00:10:41,700

they know uh they have an idea of what their course load will look like for all four years.

189

00:10:42,020 --> 00:10:49,989

And so that ties in into our C T E which is career technical education pathways that we have the course offerings that we have.

190

00:10:50,000 --> 00:10:50,150

So,

191

00:10:50,159 --> 00:10:50,859

a student,

192

00:10:51,070 --> 00:10:51,080

uh,

193

00:10:51,090 --> 00:10:56,030

Dr Schwartz will then have an idea of which path they want to take by the time they're,

194

00:10:56,039 --> 00:10:56,049

uh,

195

00:10:56,059 --> 00:10:57,820

a junior and a senior in high school.

196

00:10:57,830 --> 00:10:58,390

Is that correct?

197

00:10:58,400 --> 00:10:59,219

Exactly.

198

00:10:59,390 --> 00:10:59,429

Yeah,

199

00:10:59,440 --> 00:11:02,030

it's really nice just to have those opportunities,

200

00:11:02,059 --> 00:11:02,270

you know,

201

00:11:02,280 --> 00:11:07,429

within the high school that students can experiment on what they feel is best for them.

202

00:11:07,440 --> 00:11:07,559

Um,

203

00:11:07,570 --> 00:11:09,489

just to kind of help them with their career journey.

204

00:11:10,090 --> 00:11:11,900

So uh just to recap,

205

00:11:11,909 --> 00:11:18,880

we're talking about uh at the most basic level at the elementary uh exposing students to a variety of jobs and careers,

206

00:11:19,099 --> 00:11:21,750

uh things that they may not have known about.

207

00:11:22,070 --> 00:11:23,669

Uh because as you know,

208

00:11:23,679 --> 00:11:25,159

that sometimes we,

209

00:11:25,169 --> 00:11:30,479

we know about jobs and careers because of relatives or something that we see on television.

210

00:11:30,710 --> 00:11:32,590

Uh but this idea of,

211

00:11:32,599 --> 00:11:37,580

of bringing in the community uh engaging with our students really sets the,

212

00:11:37,590 --> 00:11:37,739

the,

213

00:11:37,750 --> 00:11:47,919

the stage or the creates that foundation for middle school and then high school that gets us to uh job shadows internships and client connected projects.

214

00:11:47,929 --> 00:11:51,840

And that essentially is real world learning right there.

215

00:11:51,880 --> 00:11:52,539

So,

216

00:11:52,549 --> 00:11:58,960

um talk to uh let's actually kick it over to Doctor Swartz again who's done a lot of work in that area.

217

00:12:00,000 --> 00:12:00,030

Yeah,

218

00:12:00,039 --> 00:12:08,630

it's really important for our students to um experiment and kind of basically try on a career before they spend a lot of money on a college.

219

00:12:08,640 --> 00:12:10,909

Education and then get there and realize,

220

00:12:10,919 --> 00:12:10,929

oh,

221

00:12:10,940 --> 00:12:12,609

this is not what I want to do.

222

00:12:12,900 --> 00:12:19,650

And so having these opportunities and connections to business and industry are going to be vital to us.

223

00:12:19,659 --> 00:12:22,289

Um especially we tried out one just recently,

224

00:12:22,299 --> 00:12:23,190

there's a pilot,

225

00:12:23,469 --> 00:12:25,630

we tried it in our English 12 classes.

226

00:12:25,640 --> 00:12:27,650



And uh Kevin Jeffries and I are,

227

00:12:27,659 --> 00:12:29,419

are really thankful that we,

228

00:12:29,429 --> 00:12:29,599

you know,

229

00:12:29,609 --> 00:12:32,000

had two teachers who were willing to do this.

230

00:12:32,179 --> 00:12:36,859

But a client connected project is something where exactly like it sounds.

231

00:12:37,039 --> 00:12:49,750

Uh the students are solving a problem that the client has and the client brings the problem to us and the students work in groups to try and figure it out and then present their findings at the end after they've done some research.

232

00:12:50,119 --> 00:12:57,760

And so this took us through uh almost a whole semester of the students really working on the problem together and trying to solve it.

233

00:12:58,119 --> 00:13:00,900

But I know that sounds really simple.

234

00:13:00,960 --> 00:13:02,619

It does take a lot of set up.

235

00:13:02,630 --> 00:13:06,820

Um We had some other companies involved that help us with professional development.

236

00:13:07,159 --> 00:13:08,570

Our students didn't understand,

237

00:13:08,580 --> 00:13:11,000

especially um English 12 students,

238

00:13:11,390 --> 00:13:13,979

they didn't understand how to use design thinking.

239

00:13:14,200 --> 00:13:25,450

And so we brought in an outside company to help us give professional development to the students and the teacher just so they understood that process of kind of going through the problem solving process and what do you do with that?

240

00:13:25,849 --> 00:13:28,000

Uh But the set up of this.

241

00:13:28,010 --> 00:13:36,549

Um it was so important to have Kevin Jeffrey's position because if we didn't have him um opportunities like this would not be available.

242

00:13:36,940 --> 00:13:45,049

So I will say that uh the Coffin Foundation uh is underwriting uh the funding so that we can have Kevin Jeffries here with us.

243

00:13:45,059 --> 00:13:45,489

So,

244

00:13:45,500 --> 00:13:51,039

uh Kevin tie into uh um uh everything that you're doing when it comes to job shadows,

245

00:13:51,049 --> 00:13:53,750

internships and client connected projects.

246

00:13:54,200 --> 00:13:54,239

Well,

247

00:13:54,250 --> 00:13:54,669

you know,

248

00:13:54,679 --> 00:14:00,159

one of the things I think has been most interesting too for the students is to learn how to interface with the business.

249

00:14:00,169 --> 00:14:04,049

That's something that I think that in normal classroom study,

250

00:14:04,059 --> 00:14:07,190

you don't learn about how to communicate by email,

251

00:14:07,200 --> 00:14:08,489

how to set up appointments,

252

00:14:08,500 --> 00:14:09,309

how to,

253

00:14:09,489 --> 00:14:09,700

you know,

254

00:14:09,710 --> 00:14:12,789

present information to a business and that,

255

00:14:12,909 --> 00:14:13,179

you know,

256

00:14:13,190 --> 00:14:16,070

businesses may not be sitting there waiting for you to,

257

00:14:16,080 --> 00:14:17,960

to schedule an appointment with them,

258

00:14:17,969 --> 00:14:19,909

they have other things they're doing every day.

259

00:14:19,919 --> 00:14:22,030

And if you're an extra project,

260

00:14:22,039 --> 00:14:26,750

you're just like one of their departments and you have to think ahead plan your appointments with them.

261

00:14:26,760 --> 00:14:31,549

And so I think this has been a very valuable skill for our students to see this year is that,

262

00:14:31,559 --> 00:14:33,710

that is how business works.

263

00:14:33,719 --> 00:14:35,549

So then when they go out in the workplace,

264

00:14:35,559 --> 00:14:36,929

they'll be aware of that.

265

00:14:37,219 --> 00:14:38,669

And even our middle schoolers too,

266

00:14:38,679 --> 00:14:41,950

you were talking about the things they might not have thought of before.

267

00:14:41,960 --> 00:14:44,010

I think that's been a very interesting part.

268

00:14:44,020 --> 00:14:51,330

Of it too is like I was helped being with some mock interviews with some middle school students and they were wanting to go down a certain career path,

269

00:14:51,340 --> 00:14:58,413

but the career they wanted to follow and the job they wanted at the end didn't necessarily match with their educational goals.

270

00:14:58,453 --> 00:14:59,172

So again,

271

00:14:59,182 --> 00:15:02,172

this gives us an opportunity using these pathways,

272

00:15:02,182 --> 00:15:06,932

classes in the middle school to help kids kind of understand what they need to do to get there.

273

00:15:06,942 --> 00:15:13,122

So give me some examples of some of the companies in the Kansas City area that are working with our students.

274

00:15:13,362 --> 00:15:13,692

Well,

275

00:15:13,703 --> 00:15:16,353

we've been very fortunate that a lot of great companies,

276

00:15:16,362 --> 00:15:20,875

well known ones and some maybe not so well known ones have uh helped us with these projects.

277

00:15:20,885 --> 00:15:21,236

You know,

278

00:15:21,245 --> 00:15:21,765

of course,

279

00:15:21,776 --> 00:15:30,656

we've all heard of Black and Beach and Advent Health and uh now known as Oracle um have have worked with this GB A.

280

00:15:30,666 --> 00:15:40,416

Uh but we also had some kind of ones you might not have thought of normally like the Kansas grade Grain and Feed Association up in Topeka worked with us on a project uh AAA Party rental.

281

00:15:40,426 --> 00:15:42,255



They helped us on some things.

282

00:15:42,265 --> 00:15:43,909

Um you know,

283

00:15:43,919 --> 00:15:50,840

a small American family insurance agency here in Shawnee in the Shawnee area actually helped us with something we've worked with Merck.

284

00:15:50,849 --> 00:15:51,119

I mean,

285

00:15:51,130 --> 00:15:51,390

again,

286

00:15:51,400 --> 00:15:52,700

we've had some really,

287

00:15:52,710 --> 00:15:57,489

we had a young young person work with finite element analysis 3D,

288

00:15:57,500 --> 00:15:59,349

which is a small engineering firm.

289

00:15:59,359 --> 00:16:02,770

So we've had a lot of different kinds of opportunities for the students.

290

00:16:02,780 --> 00:16:03,630

And again,

291

00:16:03,640 --> 00:16:08,070

I've been very fortunate or we've been fortunate that we've not only used my network,

292

00:16:08,080 --> 00:16:16,630

but I've used the network of all the other educators and administrators here in the district to really build on this program and help it continue to grow.

293

00:16:17,090 --> 00:16:17,840

So,

294

00:16:17,849 --> 00:16:18,059

uh I,

295

00:16:18,070 --> 00:16:22,109

I believe what I'm hearing is real world learning is just that it,

296

00:16:22,119 --> 00:16:24,690

it's taking some real world problems,

297

00:16:24,960 --> 00:16:28,109

having our students get involved and help solve those problems.

298

00:16:28,119 --> 00:16:29,010

And along the way,

299

00:16:29,020 --> 00:16:34,210

they're learning all these valuable skills that's going to help them in their future.

300

00:16:34,429 --> 00:16:34,849

So,

301

00:16:34,859 --> 00:16:36,969

what is the ultimate objective?

302

00:16:36,979 --> 00:16:38,340

And so Doctor Kelly,

303

00:16:38,349 --> 00:16:42,289

um I think that kind of ties into our vision and mission for the school district.

304

00:16:42,299 --> 00:16:43,890

It does and I think it,

305

00:16:43,900 --> 00:16:46,830

it helps students uh connect with their futures.

306

00:16:47,150 --> 00:16:48,729

Uh And uh you know,

307

00:16:48,739 --> 00:16:49,719

in order to do that,

308

00:16:49,729 --> 00:16:54,280

we have to think outside the box uh in ways that we may not have considered before.

309

00:16:54,440 --> 00:16:56,400

Uh and that's where innovation comes into play.

310

00:16:56,409 --> 00:16:59,780

And that's why teachers are such an important part of this process,

311

00:16:59,789 --> 00:17:01,960

as are the businesses that we are partnering with.

312

00:17:02,539 --> 00:17:17,810

And what's really neat is we have a lot of parents uh obviously who uh are employed outside the home and they have been more than willing to come into our classrooms and help uh get involved in this important uh thing that we call Real World Learning.

313

00:17:17,989 --> 00:17:18,189

Well,

314

00:17:18,199 --> 00:17:18,479

thank you,

315

00:17:18,489 --> 00:17:19,109

Doctor Kelly.

316

00:17:19,119 --> 00:17:25,290

I believe that's all the time we have for this episode of What's new 232 podcast edition.

317

00:17:25,569 --> 00:17:28,170

I do want to thank our guests for being here today.

318

00:17:28,180 --> 00:17:28,520

Thank you,

319

00:17:28,530 --> 00:17:29,420

Doctor Schwartz.

320

00:17:29,609 --> 00:17:30,500

Thank you so much.

321

00:17:30,510 --> 00:17:31,660

And Kevin Jeffries,

322

00:17:31,670 --> 00:17:32,449

glad to be here.

323

00:17:32,459 --> 00:17:33,050

And once again,

324

00:17:33,060 --> 00:17:33,359

thank you,

325

00:17:33,369 --> 00:17:34,060

Doctor Kelly.

326

00:17:34,069 --> 00:17:34,540

Thank you.

327

00:17:34,760 --> 00:17:40,900

Uh We are going to have some information in our show notes uh for you to learn more about real world learning.

328

00:17:40,910 --> 00:17:42,599

We're just scratching the surface.

329

00:17:42,989 --> 00:17:51,040

Uh a couple of organizations uh websites that you can check out would be one real world learning 10.0 R G and of course,

330

00:17:51,050 --> 00:17:52,829

our own URL US,

331

00:17:52,839 --> 00:17:56,719

D 232.0 R G slash R W L.

332

00:17:56,729 --> 00:17:57,130

And again,

333

00:17:57,140 --> 00:17:59,880

we're gonna put this information in our show notes.

334

00:17:59,890 --> 00:18:00,410

All right,

335

00:18:00,420 --> 00:18:01,300

that's it for now.

336

00:18:01,310 --> 00:18:02,400

Until next time.

337

00:18:02,410 --> 00:18:05,420

This is what's new in 232 podcast edition.