



Describe the core components/features of your approach/solution.

Our goal is to develop in our students an attitude to be good citizens and workers for society/corporations and educational institutions. To accomplish this, we use the following core components and features:

- Mind-set thinking
- Life-skills
- Project-based learning approach
- Partnership relationship with the community and company
- Holistic support during and after our training program

We blend a mindset thinking of ownership, cultural engineering of project leadership and growth in our students. These mindsets combine the needs of the community and an outlook for the students to be responsible (ownership) for their learning. Our life-skill learning is shown to be a key factor in helping them be a better person and acquire skills that are transferable from job to job.

This thinking culture is engrained in the students while creating a learning team (with a culture and charter), picking and solving a real community/educational or world problems and have students present the solution back to the community. During all these activities, life-skills that were created with the community's input are added to the process.

There are many opportunities for Project Academy to partner with existing institutions that don't have the resources they



need to run a life-skill education program. This is part of our apprentice partnership program.

Our holistic process is understanding the student's life situation before the program and providing on-going support after they begin work. We are providing a community of learners that support each other and have a culture of mutual concern.

Our guiding principles are from the following sources:

CCR policy of Mass *Education Massachusetts Strand 4: Employability and Career Readiness*

- <http://www.doe.mass.edu/cte/frameworks/strand4.pdf>
- <http://www.mass.edu/library/documents/2013College&CareerReadinessDefinition.pdf>
- “Agenda” by Mike Hammer
- Dr. Deming 14 points

A Little about me:

- Retired Electrical Engineer
- Created an educational program www.engineeringlens.org connecting literature to design engineering for PreK-5th grade teachers; used at CEEO group at Tufts and the STEM Education center at WPI. (names on request)
- Lead V.P. Manufacturing and Customer Service in High Tech. organizations

