

Keeping our eye on long-term goals of equipping students to be successful in their workplaces and in shaping our world would suggest we keep in mind the African proverb, “If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.”

—Kristina J. Doubet, p. 24

Middle school educators are in this unique position to help our students understand that if you work hard and you really want something, you can achieve it—you just have to know what the next step is.

—Alma Lopez, p. 68

With so many high-paying jobs going unfilled, the so-called “skills gap” may be an “opportunity gap,” which educators can close by providing students with better information about good jobs and greater access to high-quality career preparation.

—Bryan Goodwin, p. 80

If we want to prepare our students for this modern world full of unpredictable, complicated problems, we can’t just arm them with information. We must help them become sophisticated and flexible thinkers who can handle whatever challenges come their way.

—Harvey F. Silver, Abigail L. Boutz, and Jay McTighe, p. 38