

# **Connecting School-Business Partnerships with Internship Opportunities**

**Sycamore Advisory Commission**

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# Committee Charge

- Update last year's research
- Focus on opportunities to forge internships/mentorships for SHS students
- Identify businesses that could offer internship opportunities
- Create a database of these businesses

# Research Methodology

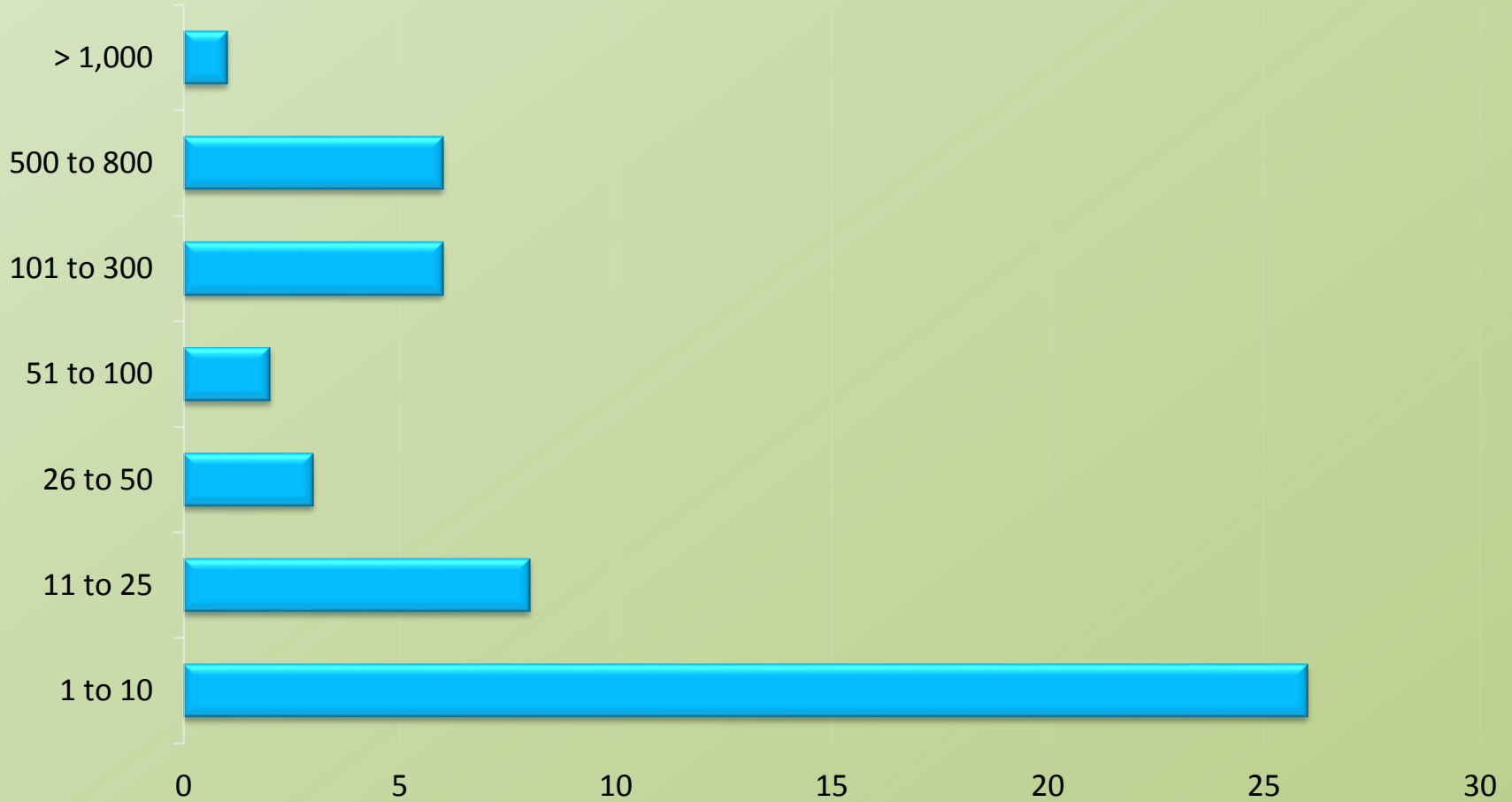
- Met with Superintendent and SHS Principal to determine information needed
- Developed and sent survey to 372 businesses
- Response rate of 14% (52/372)
- Survey limitations

# Type of Business/Industry

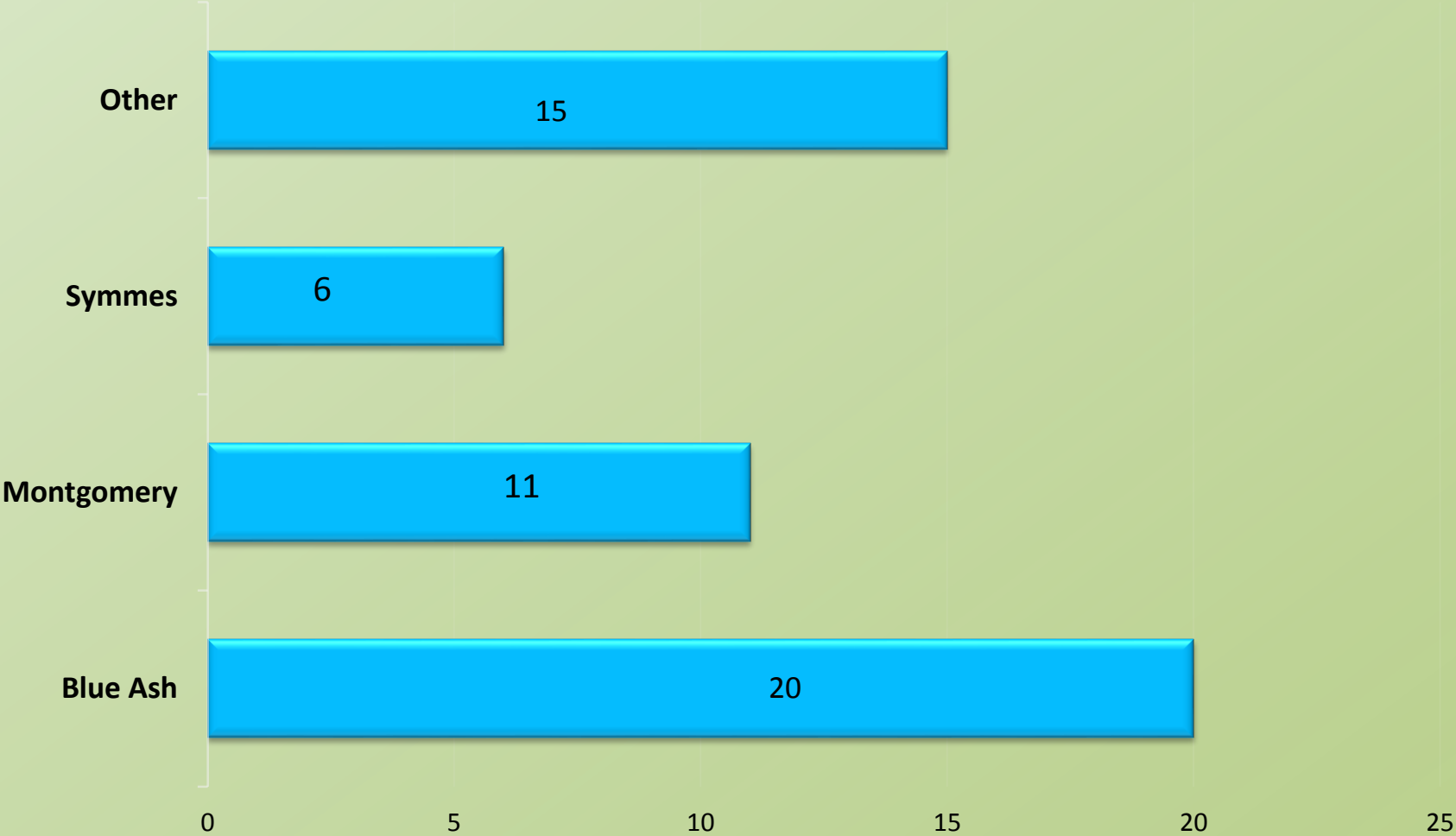
**Total Number: 52**

- **Retail 9 (17 %)**
- **Technology/analytics 8 (15%)**
- **Health, wellness, medical 7 (15 %)**
- **Service 6 (12 %)**
- **Manufacturing 4 (8 %)**
- **Other 4 (8 %)**
- **Learning, training 3 (6 %)**
- **Financial 3 (6 %)**
- **Non-profit 3 (6 %)**
- **Fitness 2 (6 %)**
- **Construction/Remodeling 2 (4 %)**
- **Engineering 1 (2 %)**

# Number of Employees



# Companies' Geographic Distribution



**Current placements  
to any school**

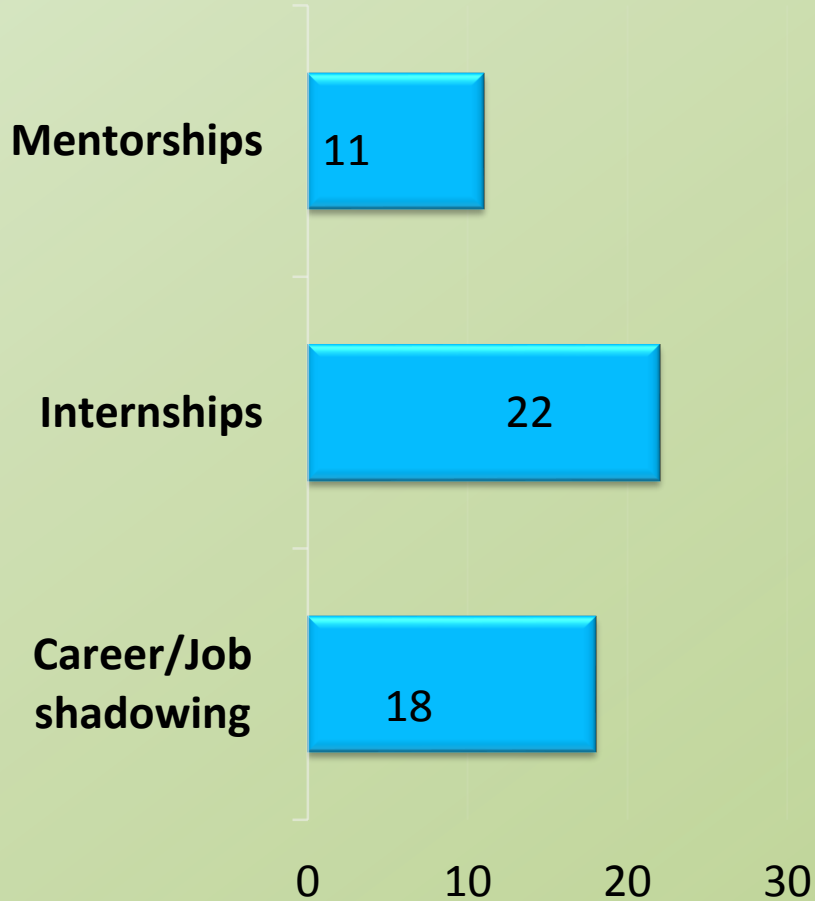
**27 (52%)**

**Provide placements  
to SHS students**

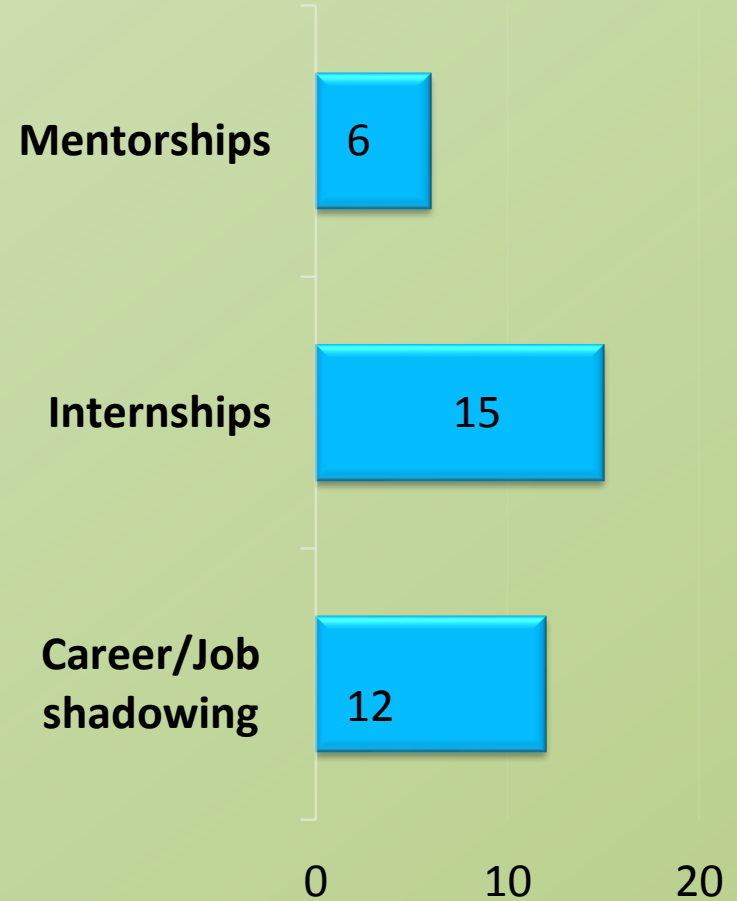
**19 (37%)**



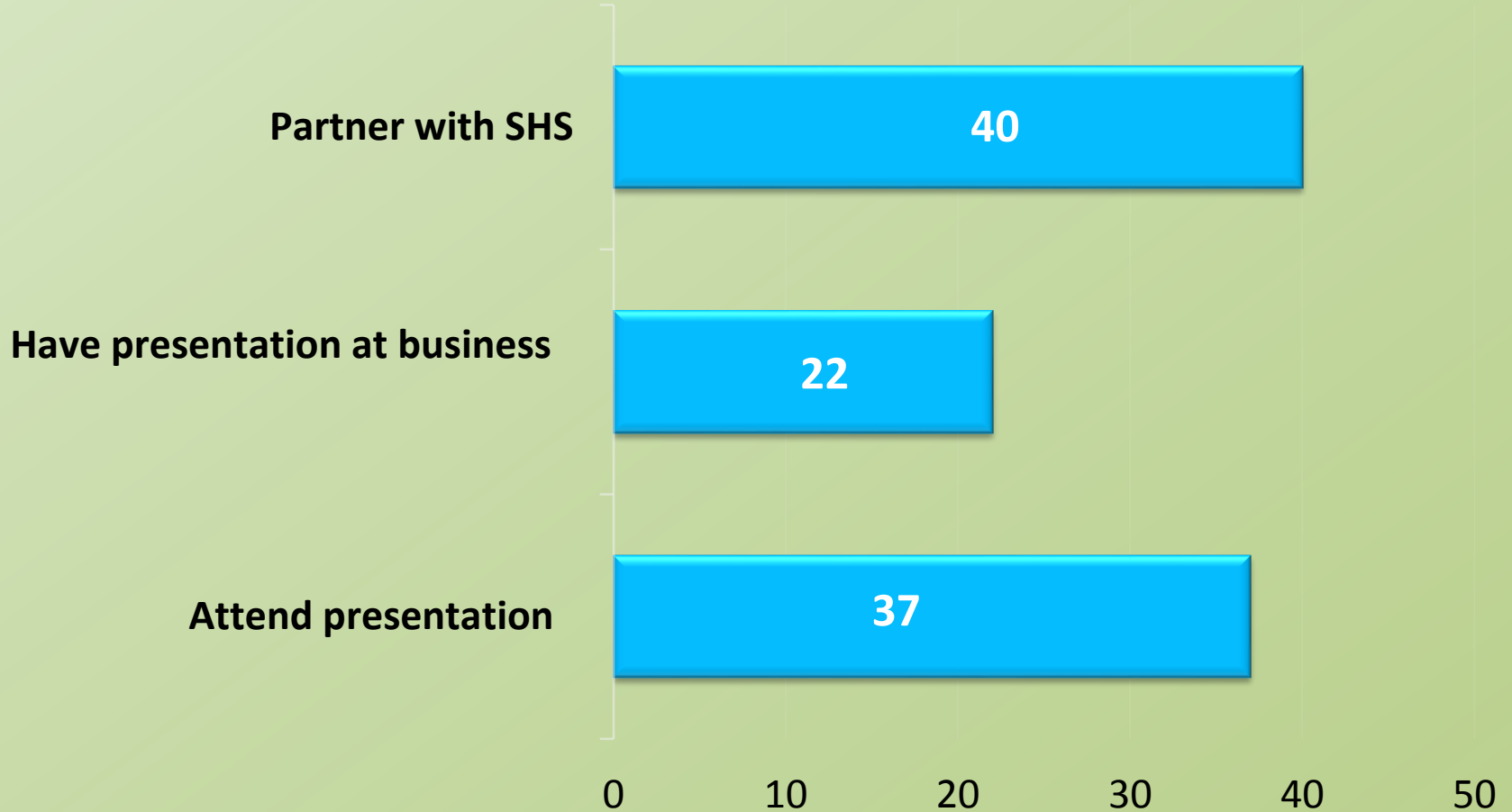
## Type of placements provided All Schools



## Type of placements provided SHS



# Companies Willing to Learn More



# Top Character Traits & Skills Expected

- Computer / Technology
- Customer service / Office
- Hardworking / Willing to learn
- Collaboration / Positive attitude / Character
- Initiative / Problem solving

# Connection to SHS

- Sycamore High School alumni - **8**
- Parent of a current or past student - **17**

# Research Contribution

- Increased the pool of interested businesses from 40 to 52
- Current pool represents a wide variety of businesses

# Recommendations

- Request SAFA undertake the maintenance and development of the relationship between SHS and area businesses
- Continue to approach businesses for future placements
- Continue to maintain relationships with existing businesses, including an annual welcome to business day at SHS

# Recommendations (continued)

- Develop promotional materials to garner more interest for placements in local business community
- Develop best practices and basic expectations material for students (brochures, videos, etc.)