

LYFTing Up Local Champions: It's not a person – it's a pipeline!

Thursday, January 15 • 8 am - 2:30 pm • Ridgewater College, Hutchinson Campus

Conference Agenda

Registration, Breakfast & Pre-Session Networking

8:00 am - 8:50 am

Arrive early for breakfast and join our “Who’s on Your Team?” networking activity, a fun and fast way to meet people who can strengthen your community’s pipeline.

Framing the Day: The Power of Local Champions and Strong Teams

9:00 am – 9:15 am

Be inspired for a day centered on “LYFTing” up local champions and building your bench.

Learning from the Field: Teamwork in Action

9:15 am - 10:10 am

Hear from educators and employers who are rewriting what’s possible for students. Discover what has made their work successful - and who helped them along the way.

Learning from the Field: Economic/Workforce Realities

10:10 am - 11:10 am

Walk in someone else’s shoes as we explore what educators should know about employers, what employers should know about schools, and how student interests fit into the picture.

Real Stories - Real Impact - Real Perspectives

11:10 am - 12:00 pm

Prepare to be moved. Hear firsthand how career-connected learning changes lives.

Lunch and FutureForward™ Engagement Challenge

12:00 am - 12:45 pm

Fuel up and have some fun as we recognize current champions and learn how FutureForward™ can bring even more champions to the table.

From Stuck to Unstoppable: Who’s Driving Change?

12:45 pm – 1:20 pm

Share your toughest questions - and see how others are tackling theirs. Explore the players driving change.

From Inspiration to Action: Building our Pipeline

1:20 pm – 2:10 pm

Roll up your sleeves and turn ideas into action. Walk away with clear action steps for 2026.

Collective Insights & Closing Reflections

2:10 pm - 2:30 pm

Walk away energized with one commitment you’ll make to LYFT up champions and strengthen your community’s team in 2026.



Partners:

