THE $100k FOUNDATION PRESENTS: PATHWAYS TO POSSIBILITIES

FEBRUARY 2026

THE INSPIRATION REPORT



On February 24th 2026, the $100k Foundation brought
6 entrepreneurs to a high school to share their stories in front of
500 grade eleven and twelve students.

This report highlights:
the speakers, the survey results, and what the teachers had to say
about the experience.

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“HOW MANY OF YOU KNOW WHAT YOU WANT TO BE WHEN YOU GROW UP?”

This was where the conversation started because it’s one of the most common questions that adults ask kids.

Don’t you remember when someone asked you this too? Of course you do.



BUT THE BETTER QUESTION IS, "HOW MANY OF YOU DON'T KNOW?"

It's important to remember that not every child has someone that cares enough about them to actually want to know.

Nor do they have access to people working unique careers to show them different pathways.



45% NEVER HAD ACCESS

to meeting an
entrepreneur or business owner.



MEET THE SPEAKERS



Josiah Martin Joseph

Beauty Views
Home Services

Chanée Dowdie

Honey Soul Food
Food & Beverage

Javon Martin

Papr Mache
Media Production

Nathaniel Gardner

Wise Equity
Financial Services

Brandon Fenton

North Division
Event Planning

Jaylen Babb-Harrison

JBH Fresh
Barbershop

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After hearing these stories

78% DISCOVERED

a new pathway
to a potential career.



After hearing these stories

51% ARE INSPIRED

to start their own
business or side-project.





We asked them,

"WHAT DID YOU LEARN?"

and these are the options they selected:

64%
advice for my future.

33%
how someone overcame obstacles.

21%
what daily work actually looks like.

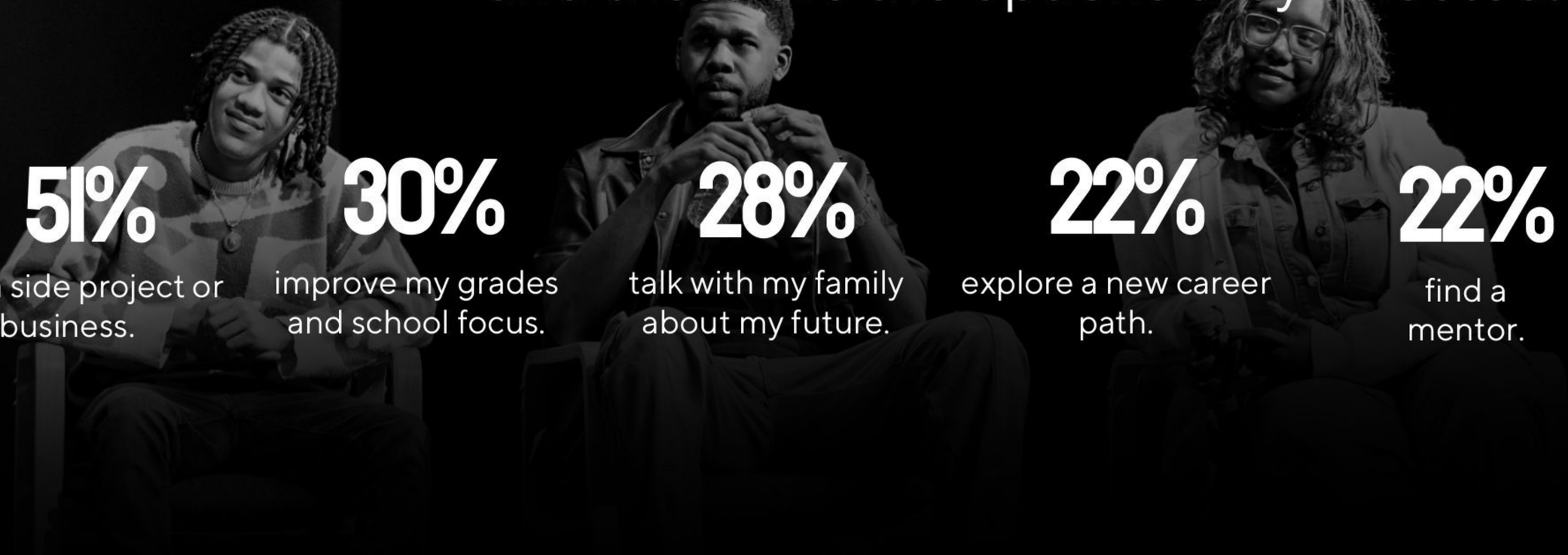
13%
career paths I didn't know existed.

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We asked them,

"WHAT NEXT MOVES FEEL RIGHT?"

and these are the options they selected:



51% start a side project or business.

30% improve my grades and school focus.

28% talk with my family about my future.

22% explore a new career path.

22% find a mentor.

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THE SYSTEM FOR OUR YOUTH IS BROKEN.

We're on a mission
to create access by exposing youth to
real careers, real mentors, and real
opportunities before they fall behind.



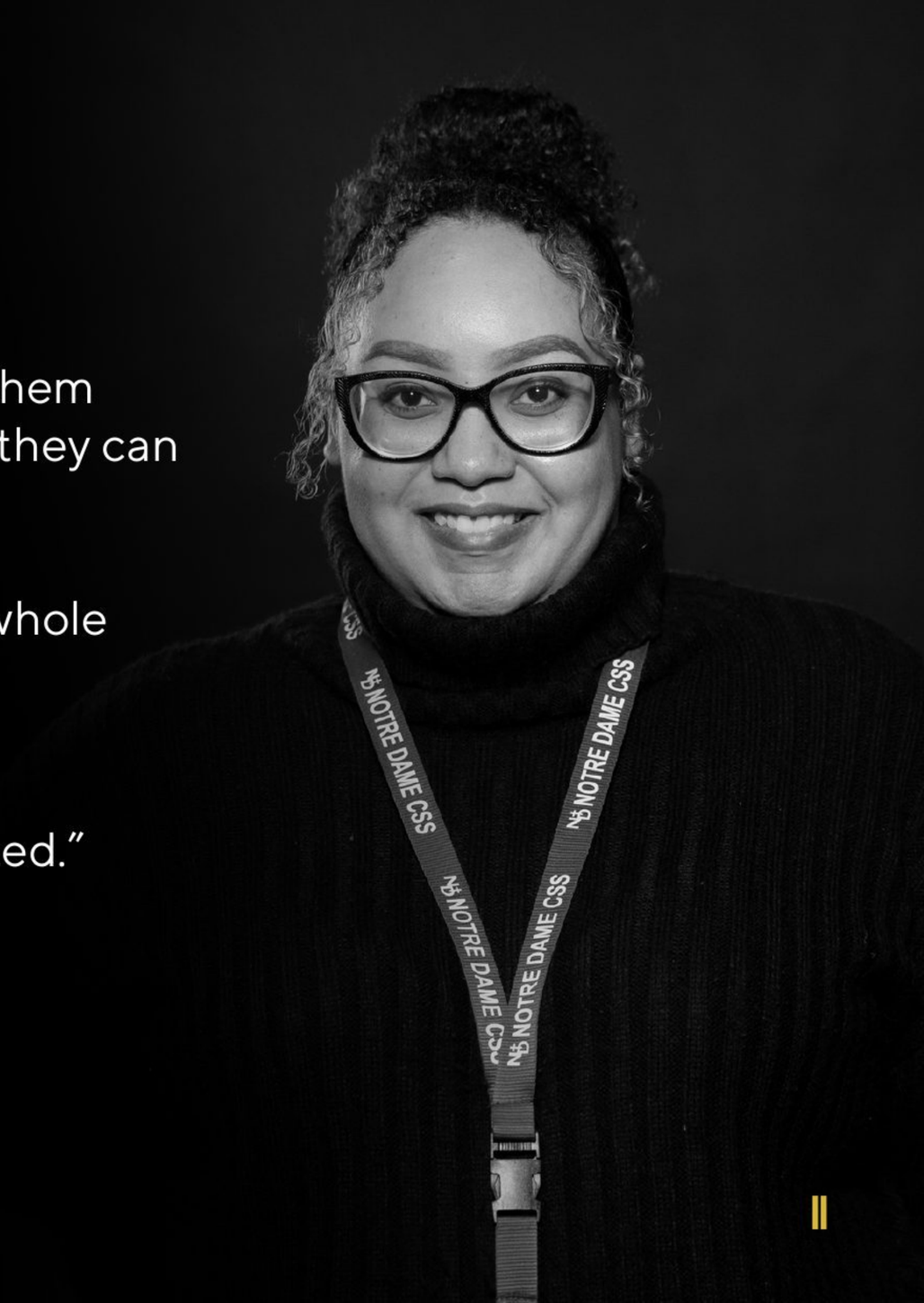
THE TEACHER SAID,

“I think you met them at their level. You were able to keep them engaged and interested. I think that it inspired them cause they can lean into, ‘What ideas can I put into action?‘

I think you did well keeping them focused throughout the whole duration of the session, they’re easily distracted.

But since you spoke to them at a pace and with words they understand, I think you did that really well. Very well executed.”

Jerusalem Groves
Grade 11 Teacher



THE TEACHER SAID,

"I thought the whole presentation was really great. I'm happy that our demographic can see themselves reflected on stage. I think you made a great impact on most students, especially when they see how young most of you are.

Literally you have one of them that is two years older than them. But I think it's important to show them the different jobs other than doctor, engineer. There are so many things that you can do.

I teach in a school with demographics like this, I think showing them that you can do other things than what your parents think are actual jobs. And you talking about valuable skills that you didn't think you need- people skills, time management, showing up for people. These are things we tell the kids.

It's great that they can see these being transferable outside of school and in the real world."

Evelyn Samonte
Grade 12Teacher



We think

YOU SHOULD JOIN US

We inspired 500 kids, but imagine...
How many more could we inspire together?

Contact the person who sent you this deck
and let them know you want to get involved.

Visit www.paprmache.com/100kfoundation to learn more.



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