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FEATURED

## Future of Work survey shows disconnect between jobs, young people

By Ethan Forman Staff Writer Jun 22, 2017



ETHAN FORMAN/Staff photo Mary Sarris, executive director of the North Shore Workforce Investment Board, left, and Laura Swanson, executive director of the Enterprise Center at Salem State University, present findings Thursday of a survey that looked at the future of work on the North Shore.

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SALEM — Employers on the North Shore covet workers who above all show an ability and willingness to learn, a new workforce survey released Thursday morning shows.

"In the future, everyone has to learn," said Mary Sarris, executive director of the North Shore Workforce Investment Board, a co-sponsor of the Future of Work on the North Shore survey.

Administered over the past 18 months, the survey provides a snapshot of the skills or interests that might be demanded of the future North Shore workforce, and what careers job seekers and students see for themselves in the future. It includes 1,668 responses from employers, educators, students, job seekers and officials.

Employers also said they want future employees to be fluent in technology and able to work with a diverse set of colleagues.

The survey was a collaboration of the workforce investment board and the North Shore Alliance for Economic Development, which is housed at the Enterprise Center at Salem State University. The workforce investment board oversees the North Shore Career Center, which oversees federally funded job and training services in 19 communities.

A packed audience heard the survey's findings Thursday at Salem State University.

### Disconnect among young workers

