
**Schools of the Future: Overview**

1. **Resources on the NAIS Website ([www.nais.org](http://www.nais.org)):**
   - Click on or search for *The Third Great American Revolution* as context for Schools of the Future conversations.
   - Click on or search for *The Five Cs + One:* Skills and Values for the 21st C.: Also see separate blogs on each of the C’s: Creativity, Collaboration, Critical Thinking, Communication; Character; Cosmopolitanism (Cross-cultural Competency). (Search for Bassett Blog on Creativity; Bassett Blog on Character; etc.)
   - Click on or search for Bassett Tedx Talk on Schools of the Future: *The Big Shifts* (27 minutes)
   - Click on or search for *Independent School* Fall 2009 magazine article on “Demonstrations of Learning for 21st. C Schools”: Note the six skills I wrote about at the beginning of that article have subsequently morphed into the 5 “C’s” + One)
   - Click on or search for “Schools of the Future” for resources and profiled innovative schools and programs.

2. **Related Resources**
   - See Grant Lichtman’s Ted Talk on Innovation [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UZEZTyxSl3g](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UZEZTyxSl3g) and his blogs on the American tour of 60 independent schools reputed to be among the vanguard of the “schools of the future,” and blogging about each of them: [http://learningpond.wordpress.com](http://learningpond.wordpress.com)
   - Project-Based Learning & Interdisciplinary Collaboration:
     - Click on or search for Edutopia’s website and its Introduction to Project-Based Learning
     - Click on or search for IMSA (IL Math and Science Academy) Center for Project-Based Learning
     - Click on or search for *The Center for Technology and School Change* (Columbia Teachers College)
     - Click on or search for *The Buck Institute for Education*, specializing in Professional Development in support of Project Based Learning
     - Click on or search for the *Council for Spiritual & Ethical Education* (CSEE) and the *Institute for Global Ethics* (IGE) for curriculum and training in the “character” C – including the virtues and “the softer skills” of emotional intelligence (EQ), “grittiness,” and the like.

**Resources on Testing**

- Click on or search for the NAIS monograph on *Data-Informed Decision-Making* that reviews the field in terms of student outcomes (normative & formative tests, surveys, etc.)
- Click on or search for the formative assessment film clip called “Preview of the Discotest Movie” • See research paper on formative assessment from Discotest: [https://dts.lectica.org/PDF/2012_0929_virtuous_cycles.pdf](https://dts.lectica.org/PDF/2012_0929_virtuous_cycles.pdf)

**Innovative Schools List, by Topic Areas:**

**21st C. Skills/Backward Design/Mapping the 5+1 C’s:**
- Montessori School of Denver (CO) (Julie Bragdon jbragdon@msd-co.org). Have finished mapping 3 of the 5 Cs.
• Severn School (MD) Five C’s curriculum focus: Contact Lise Charlier, Academic Dean, l.charlier@severnschool.com
• Future Protocol Rubric at Washington International School (DC) (Jim Reese reesej@wis.edu) Rubric for school of the future conversations.
• Ravenscroft School (NC) (Doreen Kelly, dkelly@ravenscroft.org) Backward Design mapping on leadership, citizenship, and technology, in collaboration with design team from Center for Creative Leadership (CCL) • Episcopal Day School (GA) (Ned Murray nmurray@edsaugusta.com) Mapping (K-8) in both the academic and affective domains.
• Town School (NY) (Matthew Stuart, mstuart@townschool.org) Using Grant Wiggins’s UBD Backward Design Process for aligning the curriculum and sparking interesting, authentic conversations amongst faculty members.
• Parish Episcopal School (TX) (Dave Monaco dmonaco@parishepiscopal.org) Profile of a Parish Student: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZJj-135RAM&feature=youtu.be School video citing the 21st C. outcomes (the “C’s”), the future of assessment (demonstrations of proficiencies in a digital portfolio), within a highly effective marketing message (a “mission promise”).
• Key School (MD) (Marilyn Meyerson MMeyerson@keyschool.org) Backward design, curriculum mapping and 21st century skills, infused by differentiated instruction, global perspective, environmental sustainability, diversity related issues, as well as community service.
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• Tower School (MA) (Peter Philip peter.philip@towerschool.org) Skills focus approach: Traditional Skills include (but are not limited to): arithmetic, the scientific method, reading, writing, language acquisition, good character, teamwork; plus 21st C. Skills include digital citizenship, environmental stewardship, global awareness, cultural competency.
• Allen Academy (TX) (John Rouse jrouse@allenacademy.org) Using a variation of Wiggins’ UBD approach by blending Heidi Hayes Jacobs’ ideas from Mapping the Big Picture, with the “Big Ideas” and Essential Questions from UBD.
• Crystal Spring Uplands School (Christy Dillon cdillon@csus.org) Multi-year effort to “uncouple” from the AP’s and zero in on 21st c. skills.
• St. Gregory’s College Preparatory School (AZ) (Jonathan E. Martin jmartin@stgregoryschool.org EGG: http://21k12blog.net/2011/10/25/st-gregorys-character-and-21st-century-skills-report-card-the-egg-essentialgoals-for-gregorians: Essential Goals for St. Gregory students provides a rubric and assessment template to measure and track a combination of 21st century skills and character qualities.
• Applewild School (MA) (Chris Williamson cwilliamson@applewild.org) 21st C. Core Values/Core Competencies Grid and Resource Chart.
• Saint Stephen’s Episcopal School (FL) (Sallie Ivin sivin@saintstephens.org) All teachers in all divisions (PreK-12) to incorporate the 5 C’s within their curriculum and give 10 minute presentations about how they are using the 5C’s +1 in their classrooms with their students.
• Independence School (DE) (Vicky Yatzus VYatzus@tisde.org) Strategic plan includes a redesign of curriculum to become student centered and to focus on 21st century skills; initially each faculty member to choose one unit of study to switch it up to include to a student-centered approach, a global perspective, the new technologies, etc. as a first step towards bigger discussions regarding curriculum.
• Trevor Day School (NY) (Pam Clarke pclarke@trevor.org) Curriculum mapping in place, and now partnering with the Cloud Institute for Sustainability Education to inculcate the 21st century skills into the curriculum; “audit” of each department’s progress each year.
• Garrison Forest School (MD) The James Center Program: STEM; Financial Literacy: Service Learning: Pathways to Leadership
• Tilton School (NH) (Margaret Allen mallen@tiltonschool.org) 5 C’s domains (including areas such as residential life and athletics) linked tightly to content learning, including a standards-based approach to grading and assessment producing a consistency of the framework and the intentionality of the design.
• Shorecrest (FL): 5 Cs Strategic Plan
• Calhoun School (NY): Block Scheduling: See Summer 2012 issue of Independent School magazine for “Interrupting the Grammar of School – How To Remake your Daily Schedule To Reinforce your School’s Values”

iPad Schools
• St. Francis of Assisi, Baltimore
• Alexander Dawson School (CO) (5th & 6th grade = iPads; 1st & 2nd grade = iPods)
• Tower School (MA)
• Alexandria Country Day School (VA)
• Cushing Academy (MA)
• St. Stephen's Episcopal Day School (FL): 1:1 iPads, plus project-based learning
• Lots of resources ... apps, hardware, software, management, pedagogy, networks, policy docs, security: [http://shambles.net/ict/#mobile](http://shambles.net/ict/#mobile)

Signature Programs
• Hens/eggs business (4th grade – from growing the chicks, caring for them, cleaning cages, harvesting eggs, marketing, packaging, & doing the P/L spreadsheet) at Lamplighter School (TX)
• Forensics (6th grade – every year a faculty member “commits a crime, like stealing the teddy bear from the kindergarten classroom) at Rio Grande Prep (NM) or partnering in solving a mystery with a school in France, all in the pluperfect tense at Collegiate School (VA)
• Rube Goldberg Contraptions Competitions (building complicated machines to do simple tasks) at many schools, including Fay School (MA) and Morgan Park Academy (IL)
• Robotics Competitions (all grade levels), at many schools, including Delbarton School (NJ) and Falmouth Academy (MA)
• The Solar Car Challenge, many schools, especially the Winston School (TX)
• The Green Cup Challenge, competing for the most saved energy and reduced waste, many schools, including Andover, Miss Porter’s, Lawrenceville
• Expeditionary Learning, many schools including Watershed School (CO) and Teton Science Schools (WY) studying science and the environment in Outward-bound like excursions
• Entrepreneurship “start your own business” track K-8 at Aspen Academy (CO)
• Egg drop competition (building a structure that prevents an egg from breaking after being dropped from the 2nd story), many schools.
• Global Curriculum: Washington International School (DC); Punahou School (HI) • “Shark Tank” Entrepreneurship Program at Bullis School (MD)

Schools with Exemplary 1:1 Laptop Programs
• Cincinnati Country Day School (OH)
• The School at Columbia University (NY) [http://theschool.columbia.edu/program](http://theschool.columbia.edu/program). Don Buckley ([http://theschool.columbia.edu/faculty-and-staff/profile/buckley](http://theschool.columbia.edu/faculty-and-staff/profile/buckley)) has been a leading-edge innovator at the school and has expertise in design thinking and online textbooks. His e-mail address is dbuckley@theschool.columbia.edu.
• St. Andrews Episcopal School (MD) Center for Transformative Teaching & Learning (CTTL) [www.thecttl.org](http://www.thecttl.org)
**Strong STEM/STEAM (Science/Technology/Engineering/Art/Math) Programs**
Urban School (CA), Westover (PA), Laurel (OH), Harpeth Hall (TN), Garrison Forest (MD), Hathaway Brown (LH), Castilleja (CA), Meadowbrook (National Lego Robotics Competition Winner) (MA); Andover (MA); Exeter (NH), Hotchkiss (CT), Watershed (CO), Punahou (HI), Iolani (HI), Rowland Hall (UT), Marymount (NY), and many more.

**Foreign Language Innovations:**
- Breck School (MN): Part-time Immersion Mandarin or Spanish in lower School

**Expeditionary/Experiential/Project-based/Progressive Ed Schools**
- Josh Hahn, Hotchkiss School (CT) jhahn@hotchkiss.org
- Jessie Barrie, Albuquerque Academy (NM)
- Meghan Brown, The Westminster Schools (GA)
- Vicki Weeks, Lakeside School (WA)

Also, the following schools center part or all of their curriculum on expeditionary and inquiry/project-based learning (PBL):
- Watershed School (Boulder, CO) [jasonberv@gmail.com](mailto:jasonberv@gmail.com)
- Illinois Math & Science Academy (IL) (magnet school for the gifted)
- Duke School (NC)
- Journeys School of Teton Science Schools (WY) [Nate.McClennen@journeysschool.org](mailto:Nate.McClennen@journeysschool.org)
- Hawken School (OH) University Circle Extension Campus
- Eagle Rock (CO): Professional Development training offered year-round
- Nueva School (CA)
- Key School (MD)
- Capitol Hill Day School (DC)
- Masters School (NY)
- Urban School (CA)
- Washington International School (DC)

**Classrooms of the Future**
- Cushing Academy (MA): invented Wii interactive iClass Tables
- St. Andrews Episcopal School (MD) Center for Transformative Teaching & Learning (CTTL) [www.thecttl.org](http://www.thecttl.org)
- The Energy Lab at Hawaii Prep Academy (HI): [http://www.hpa.edu/academics/energy-lab](http://www.hpa.edu/academics/energy-lab)
- Middle School without rooms: the city as classroom, Lighthouse School (MA)
- The Hawken School (OH) Center for Experiential and Service Learning at University Circle: [http://www.hawken.edu](http://www.hawken.edu)
- IDEO school design projects: [http://www.ideo.com/thinking/focus/design-for-learning/](http://www.ideo.com/thinking/focus/design-for-learning/)
- The Nueva School (CA) i-Lab: [http://nuevaschool.org/programs/i-lab](http://nuevaschool.org/programs/i-lab)
• Manlius Pebble Hill School (NY): Open space classroom: climbing wall; folding tables; outdoor wooded area. • Liberty Science Center (NJ): Live from the Cardiac Center—interactive live demonstrations of heart surgery for grades 6 – 12: http://abcnews.go.com/Health/video/inside-operating-room10022610&tab=9482931&section=1206835&playlist=3547557&page=1
• Stanford Design School classroom prototype: http://middleschoolblog.blogspot.com/2010/03/stanforddschool-tour.html

Right-brained Schools (Emphasis on Creativity) & PBL (project-based learning & inquiry learning):
First, check out these websites on the topic (that mention and illustrate with schools doing this already):
Edutopia: http://www.edutopia.org/project-based-learning-introduction-video and IMSA: http://pbln.imsa.edu/ and IDEO school design projects: http://www.ideo.com/thinking/focus/design-for-learning/ Schools already down the path include the following:
• The Hawken School (OH) Center for Experiential and Service Learning at University Circle: http://www.hawken.edu
• Beaver Country Day School (MA) NuVu Studio (housed at MIT and exportable elsewhere): http://www.bcdschool.org/nuvu
• The Nueva School (CA) i-Lab: http://nuevaschool.org/programs/i-lab: elementary & middles school innovation labs – designing and manufacturing prototypes (via digital fabricators); • Cushing Academy (MA): Center for 21st C. Learning. Bookless library to all digital.
• High Tech High (and High Tech Middle School) (CA): A renowned leader: public charter schools: Entire curriculum project-based
• Wildwood School (CA)
• Urban School (CA): Strong programming in oral video-histories, throw away the textbook math.
• Watershed School (CO): Middle/Secondary School exemplifying developing highly refined critical thinking skills (measured by value-added CWRA testing) and leadership/teaming development via expeditionary learning (NOLS-based principles of “taking care of yourself, taking care of your stuff, and taking care of your responsibilities to the team) and project-based study units (e.g., Water in the West; Farm to Table; etc.)
• St. Anne’s School of Annapolis (MD): K-8 school that organizes its curriculum around five “big questions.”
• Children’s Day School (CA). Right-brained Future curriculum.
• Montessori School of Denver (CO): toddlers-grade 6 mixed age group Montessori school: Amazing middle-school simulations and team-based learning: How a fictional town in the mountains should spend a $60 million federal “stimulus check.” Decided through interface of four teams: leadership team; environmental stewardship team; technology team; entrepreneurship team. Participating in NAIS’s Challenge 20/20 school and paired with a school in Africa: patent-pending on an invention by the class of a new mosquito-netting collapsible tunnel for children to sleep in to prevent malaria (since traditional netting works on beds, and children sleep on the floor). • Ron Clarke Academy (Atlanta charter school): Grades 5 – 8 middle school in inner city Atlanta has as one goal for all students that they will visit 6 of the 7 continents
before leaving school (compliments of Delta Airlines). “A Whole New Mind” school in action and without exception.

http://www.ronclarkacademy.com/ron_clark_academy

- Stevenson School (CO): Integrating 21st C. skills into the curriculum: tuned in with www.21stcenturyskills.org
- ISTE NETS
- www.novemberlearning.com
- Westtown Middle School (PA): Curriculum and faculty professional development centered on innovation around “seven pedagogical filters,” including 21st. C. skill, project-based learning, brain-based learning, and multiple intelligences.”
- Green Learning Academy (Calgary, Canada): Highly individualized student-centered teaching, where each child “chooses” the means by which to learn the various units of the curriculum.
- Ellison School (NJ): strong debate program
- ISEEN Independent School Experiential Education Network: Hotchkiss (CT), Albuquerque Academy (NM), The Westminster Schools (GA); Lakeside School (WA) http://iseeninfo.com/
- St. Gregory’s School (AZ): 21st C. Skills program and testing http://21k12blog.net/2010/04/01/st-gregsstudents-discuss-on-video-the-cwra-college-work-readiness-assessment/ (CWRA). Technology Innovation course: students choose a problem to address or a project to tackle, and then spend the semester working in small teams designing and constructing the project, such as android phone “apps,” electronics for dog bowls (water auto-refilling), robotics, and strobe flash photography; other projects are old-tech: one group is constructing a human-sized counterweight trebuchet http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trebuchet for catapult object hurling: http://21k12blog.net/2010/09/08/21st-c-learning-at-st-gregs-examples-from-curriculum-night/#more-2067
- St. Luke’s School (NY): K-4 and school-wide emphasis on teaching students creativity skills, especially the deBono “Six Hats” approach. Contact Mary Hoffman: mhoffman@stlukeschool.org
- Cushing Academy (MA): Project-based learning
- Meadowbrook School (MA): National Lego Robotics Competition Winner
- Entrepreneurship “start your own business” track K-8 at Aspen Academy (CO)

Strong Diversity Programming (including Affinity Groups in the Lower School)
- Shady Hill School (MA)
- Tenacre School (MA)
- Bank St. School (NY)
- Graland Country Day School (CO)
- The Gordon School (RI)
- University of Chicago Lab Schools (IL)

Semester Schools: Classrooms are the farm, the city, the coral reef, the ocean, the mountains, the wilderness, another country, an art center, etc.
- Chewonki (ME)
- CITYterm (NYC)
• Conserve School (WI)
• The Island School (Bahamas)
• Maine Coast Semester; Ocean classroom (MA)
• Mountain School (VT)
• Oxbow School (CA)
• Rocky Mountain Semester (CO)
• School Year Abroad (Overseas)
• SEGL—the School for Ethical and Global Leadership (DC)
Resource: AEE: Association for Experiential Education http://www.aee.org/

Schools with No Awards Assemblies
The Bay School of San Francisco (CA); Concord Academy (MA)

Public Purpose of Private Education Advocacy & Public/Private Partnerships:
• Link-Wildmerding School (CA): Center for Civic Engagement
• Punahou School (HA) Luke Center for Public Service and Wo International Center
• Westminster Schools (GA): Center for Philanthropy & Public School Partnership
• Phillips Exeter School, Andover (MA)
• Eagle Rock School (CO)
• Hyde Schools (ME, CT, DC, New Haven, New York-The Bronx) • Hill School (PA): Course in philanthropy.
• Marymount School (NY): Course in philanthropy. • Emma Willard Schools (NY): Course in philanthropy.
• Spence School (NY): Course in philanthropy.
• Kentucky Country Day School (KY): Course in philanthropy. • Meadows School (NV): Micro-lending student-run bank
• Westover School (CT): Power of giving program.
• Convent of the Sacred Heart (CT): Student-run foundations
• St. Mary’s Episcopal (TN): Student-run fund.
• Garrison Forest School (MD): Public school partnership.
• Winchester Thurston School (PA): Public school partnership.
• Fourth Presbyterian School (MD): Introduced and co-sponsors Montgomery County Spelling Bee
• ISSL (Independent Schools of St. Louis): Annual children’s book sale with book vendors at Christmas • HAIS (Hawaii Association of Independent Schools): Schools of the Future collaboration with public and private schools and foundation funding
• Flintridge Preparatory School (CA) Pasadena Independent Schools Foundation: student-directed youth philanthropy.
• Dave Aldrich, Founder and CEO, Grab The Torch, www.grabthetorch.org, P. O. Box 24, Nahant, Ma. 01908, 781-864-5758, daldrich@grabthetorch.org

Charter Schools/Independent School Model
• DC: SEED; Hyde (also NYC, New Haven)
• CHI: KIPP (also DC and 19 states)
• SAN DIEGO: High Tech High
• ATLANTA: Ron Clark Academy
• ST. LOUIS: Magnet Charters—St. Louis Virtual School

Schools with Effective Character Development Programs
• For Context, download the NAIS/IGE report on Schools of Integrity and see the Bassett Blog on Character
Schools with a Strong Emphasis on Character

• Berkeley Prep Tampa, Tampa, FLA
• Eagle Rock School, Estes Park, CO
• Campbell Hall, California
• Germantown Friends, Philadelphia, PA • Wilmington Friends, Wilmington Delaware
• Episcopal High School, Alexandria, VA.
• Westtown School, Westtown PA
• Woodberry Forest School, Woodberry Forest, VA
• Culver Academies, Culver IN
• Westover School, Middlebury
• University School of Nashville, TN
• Westminster Schools, Atlanta, GA
• Pace Academy, Atlanta, GA
• Savannah County Day School, Savannah, GA
• Gilmour Academy, Cleveland, OH
• Cincinnati Hills Christian, Cincinnati, OH
• New Hampton School, New Hampton, New Hampshire
• Montclair Kimberley School, Montclair, NJ
• Hyde School, Bath, ME
• Summit Country Day School, Cincinnati, OH