

## **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 21<sup>st</sup> 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=UZEZTyxSI3g> 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>
- 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), "gritiness," 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](mailto: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](mailto:l.charlier@severnschool.com)

Future Protocol Rubric at Washington International School (DC) (Jim Reese [reesej@wis.edu](mailto:reesej@wis.edu)) Rubric for school of the future conversations.

- Ravenscroft School (NC) (Doreen Kelly, [dkelly@ravenscroft.org](mailto: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](mailto:nmurray@edsaugusta.com)) Mapping (K-8) in both the academic and affective domains.
- Town School (NY) (Matthew Stuart, [mstuart@townschool.org](mailto: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](mailto:dmonaco@parishepiscopal.org)) Profile of a Parish Student: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZJJj-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](mailto: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.
- Tower School (MA) (Peter Philip [peter.philip@towerschool.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:cwilliamson@applewild.org)) 21st C. Core Values/Core Competencies Grid and Resource Chart.
- Saint Stephen's Episcopal School (FL) (Sallie Ivin [sivin@saintstephens.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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
- Allandale Columbia School (NY): [http://rochester.ynm.com/content/all\\_news/rochester/519805/school-usesipads-in-the-classroom/](http://rochester.ynm.com/content/all_news/rochester/519805/school-usesipads-in-the-classroom/)
- 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>

### **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)
- Flint Hill School (VA) <http://www.flinthill.org/podium/default.aspx?t=127331>
- The School at Columbia University (NY) <http://theschool.columbia.edu/program>. Don 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](mailto:dbuckley@theschool.columbia.edu).
- St. Andrews Episcopal School (MD) Center for Transformative Teaching & Learning (CTTL) [www.thecttl.org](http://www.thecttl.org)
- Resource: Coalition of Lighthouse Schools <http://sites.google.com/site/lighthouseschoolscoalition/home> • Resource: The Laptop Institute <http://www.laptopinstitute.com/schoolspotlight>

## **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
- Trinity School (GA): Rosetta Stone integrated into world languages program: [http://www.trinityatl.org/academics/Trinity\\_School\\_Curriculum\\_Guide.pdf](http://www.trinityatl.org/academics/Trinity_School_Curriculum_Guide.pdf).
- Washington International School (DC): Dual language immersion.

## **Expeditionary/Experiential/Project-based/Progressive Ed Schools**

Resource: ISEEN Independent School Experiential Education Network: <http://iseeninfo.com/>

- Josh Hahn, Hotchkiss School (CT) [jhahn@hotchkiss.org](mailto: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@journeyschool.org](mailto:Nate.McClennen@journeyschool.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**

- Bullis School (MD): Flip Teaching. See article [http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/education/the-flipturning-a-classroom-upside-down/2012/06/03/gJQAYk55BV\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/education/the-flipturning-a-classroom-upside-down/2012/06/03/gJQAYk55BV_story.html) & video [http://fc.bullis.org/~stacey\\_roshan/?OpenItemURL=S016A197C](http://fc.bullis.org/~stacey_roshan/?OpenItemURL=S016A197C) • 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>
- 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>
- Beaver Country Day School (MA)'s NuVu Studio (housed at MIT): <http://www.bcdschool.org/nuvu> • Stanford University School of Design (dSchool) K-12 school design: <http://dschool.stanford.edu/projects/k12.php>
- IDEO school design projects: <http://www.ideo.com/thinking/focus/design-for-learning/>
- The Nueva School (CA) 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>
- EdVisions Off Campus School <http://bit.ly/8XhbVv>. EdVisions schools reinventing space to facilitate projectbased, individualized learning. <http://www.edvisions.com/custom/SplashPage.asp> • Bertshi School (WA): Green design and collaborative learning.
- Reviews and resources by Steve Taffee (Castilleja School-CA) of books on school & classroom design: [http://www.diigo.com/user/sjtaffee/space\\_planning?type=all](http://www.diigo.com/user/sjtaffee/space_planning?type=all) <http://taffee.edublogs.org/2010/06/17/the-third-teacher-a-review/> <http://taffee.edublogs.org/2010/06/25/schools-for-the-future-a-review/> <http://taffee.edublogs.org/2010/06/16/architecture-for-achievement-a-review/>

### **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 & middle 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.)
- Holton Arms School (MD): 21st. C. Skills & Habits of Mind Framework. Online Schools for Girls. Six Hats Thinking for decision making.
- 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](http://www.ronclarkacademy.com/ron_clark_academy)

- Culver Academies: The School for the Entrepreneur. Comprehensive leadership training curriculum.
- Stevenson School (CO): Integrating 21st C. skills into the curriculum: tuned in with [www.21stcenturyskills.org](http://www.21stcenturyskills.org) <<http://www.21stcenturyskills.org>> ISTE NETS [www.novemberlearning.com](http://www.novemberlearning.com) <<http://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.”
- Boulder Journey School (CO): Reggio Emilia approach for early childhood education: constructivist learning, Master’s Program with interns in all classes, video documentation of how children learn.
- 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
- Washington International Schools (DC): International Center. Student eJournal focusing on global issues: <http://studentnewsaction.ning.com/>
- ISEEN Independent School Experiential Education Network: Hotchkiss (CT), Albuquerque Academy (NM), The Westminster Schools (GA); Lakeside School (WA) <http://iseeninfo.com/>
- Clear Springs School (AK): “Wisdom of the hands” woodworking program <http://www.leevalley.com/newsletters/Woodworking/4/4/article2.htm>
- 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-](http://21k12blog.net/2010/09/08/21st-c-learning-at-st-gregs-examples-from-curriculum-night/#more-2067)

[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](mailto:mhoffman@stlukeschool.org) <<mailto: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](http://www.grabthetorch.org), P. O. Box 24, Nahant, Ma. 01908, 781-864-5758, [daldrich@grabthetorch.org](mailto: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