

21st Century Skills for Today's Student

What Classrooms of Today Look Like

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF CURRITUCK COUNTY SCHOOLS



Doctors, teachers, electricians, entrepreneurs, financial advisers, journalists, mechanics, and veterinarians grow here.

Classrooms of today have to be designed not only to meet the unique learning needs of each child, but also have to be able to prepare students for careers not yet in existence. As such, classrooms and instructional practices have to focus on developing those essential skills necessary for success in any environment.

The 4 C's outline the skills all students need to develop regardless of their post-secondary plans.



Critical Thinking & Problem Solving

- Analyze how parts of a whole interact with each other to produce overall outcomes in complex systems
- Effectively analyze and evaluate evidence, arguments, claims, and beliefs
- Interpret information and draw conclusions based on the best analysis
- Solve different kinds of unfamiliar problems in both conventional and innovative ways

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Communication

- Articulate thoughts and ideas effectively using oral, written, and nonverbal communication skills in a variety of forms and contexts
- Listen effectively to decipher meaning, including knowledge, values, attitudes, and intentions
- Use communication for a range of purposes (e.g. to inform, instruct, motivate, and persuade)
- Use multiple media and technologies to communicate ideas effectively



Collaboration

- Demonstrate ability to work effectively and respectfully with diverse teams
- Exercise flexibility and willingness to be helpful in making necessary compromises to accomplish a common goal
- Assume shared responsibility for collaborative work, and value the individual contributions made by each team member



Creativity

- Create new and worthwhile ideas (both incremental and comprehensive concepts)
- Elaborate, refine, analyze, and evaluate original ideas to improve and maximize creative efforts
- Develop, implement, and communicate new ideas to others effectively
- View failure as an opportunity to learn; understand that creativity and innovation are part of a long-term, cyclical process of small successes and frequent mistakes

Source: "An Educator's Guide to the "Four Cs"." NEA. N.p., n.d. Web. 30 Apr. 2018.