

# Hampton Elementary School

## Monthly Board of Education Update

### Principal Report

April 22, 2021

Information gathered from an article written by Bri Stauffer and collaborating work with Knowledge Works

21st Century learning skills are those abilities that today's students will need to succeed in their future careers/professions. Several scholars have written about the need for educators to develop educational plans that address student's future needs. Below is a list some of the more prominent skills that teachers and leaders include in their collaboration in order to best prepare students for after graduation and higher level education.

- |                      |                         |                   |
|----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Critical thinking | 5. Information literacy | 8. Flexibility    |
| 2. Creativity        | 6. Media literacy       | 9. Leadership     |
| 3. Collaboration     | 7. Technology literacy  | 10. Initiative    |
| 4. Communication     |                         | 11. Productivity  |
|                      |                         | 12. Social skills |

These skills are intended to help students keep up with the lightning-pace of today's modern markets. Each skill is unique in how it helps students, but they all have one quality in common. They're essential in the age of 21<sup>st</sup> century of the internet and technology.

Learning skills

Literacy skills

Life skills

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**Learning skills (the four C's)** teaches students about the mental processes required to adapt and improve upon a modern work environment.

**Literacy skills (IMT)** focuses on how students can discern facts, publishing outlets, and the technology behind them. There's a strong focus on determining trustworthy sources and factual information to separate it from the misinformation that floods the Internet.

**Life skills (FLIPS)** take a look at intangible elements of a student's everyday life. These intangibles focus on both personal and professional qualities.

#### Category 1. Learning Skills

These four skills are by far the most popular 21st Century skills.

More educators know about these skills because they're universal needs for any career. They also vary in terms of importance, depending on a student's career aspirations.

- **Critical thinking:** Finding solutions to problems
- **Creativity:** Thinking outside the box
- **Collaboration:** Working with others
- **Communication:** Talking to others

Critical thinking is the most important quality for someone to have in health sciences. It's what helps students figure stuff out for themselves when they don't have a teacher at their disposal. In any field, innovation is key to the adaptability and overall success of a student or employee. Learning creativity as a skill requires someone to understand that "the way things have always been done" may have been best 10 years ago — but someday, that has to change. Collaboration means getting students to work together, achieve compromises, and get the best possible results from solving a problem. The key element of collaboration is an open minded willingness to work as a team. All participants have to be willing to sacrifice parts of their own ideas and adopt others in order to get results. That means understanding the idea of a "greater good," which in this case tends to lead to success. Finally, communication is the glue that brings all of these educational qualities together. That has the potential to eliminate confusion in a workplace, which makes your students valuable parts of their teams. Effective communication is also one of the most underrated soft skills in the United States. For many, it's viewed as a "given," and some programs may even take good communication for granted. But when students and staff communicate poorly, whole projects fall apart. No one can clearly see the objectives they want to achieve. No one can take responsibility because nobody's claimed it. Without understanding proper communication, students in the 21st Century will lack a pivotal skill to progress their careers.

## **Category 2. Literacy Skills**

**Literacy skills are the next category of 21st Century skills.**

They're sometimes called IMT skills, and they're each concerned with a different element in digital comprehension.

**The three 21st Century literacy skills are:**

- **Information literacy:** Understanding facts, figures, statistics, and data
- **Media literacy:** Understanding the methods and outlets in which information is published
- **Technology literacy:** Understanding the machines that make the Information Age possible

Information literacy is the foundational skill. It helps students understand facts, especially data points, which they'll encounter online. More importantly, it teaches them how to separate fact from fiction. In an age of chronic misinformation, finding truth online has become a job all on its own. It's crucial that students can identify honesty on their own. Media literacy is the practice of identifying publishing methods, outlets, and sources while distinguishing between the ones that are credible and the ones that aren't. This is how students find trustworthy sources of



information in their lives. Without it, anything that looks credible becomes credible. But with it, they can learn which media outlets or formats to ignore. They also learn which ones to embrace, which is equally important. Technology literacy goes another step further to teach students about the machines involved in the Information Age. As computers, cloud programming, and mobile devices become more important to the world, the world needs more people to understand those concepts. Technology literacy gives students the basic information they need to understand what gadgets perform what tasks and why. This understanding removes the intimidating feeling that technology may have to some students. After all, if you don't understand how technology works, it might as well be magic. But technology literacy unmask the high-powered tools that run today's world. As a result, students can adapt to the world more effectively. They can play an important role in its evolution.

### **Category 3. Life Skills**

**Life skills is the final category.** Also called FLIPS, these skills all pertain to someone's personal life, but they also impact professional settings.

- **Flexibility:** Deviating from plans as needed
- **Leadership:** Motivating a team to accomplish a goal
- **Initiative:** Starting projects, strategies, and plans on one's own
- **Productivity:** Maintaining efficiency in an age of distractions
- **Social skills:** Meeting and networking with others for mutual benefit

Flexibility is the expression of someone's ability to adapt to changing circumstances. This is one of the most challenging qualities to learn for students because it's based on two uncomfortable ideas:

1. Your way isn't always the best way
2. You have to know and admit when you're wrong

That's a struggle for a lot of students, especially in an age when you can know any bit of information at the drop of a hat. Flexibility requires them to show humility and accept that they'll always have a lot to learn — even when they're experienced. Still, flexibility is crucial to a student's long-term success in a career. Knowing when to change, how to change, and how to react to change is a skill that'll pay dividends for someone's entire life. It also plays a big role in the next skill in this category. Leadership is someone's penchant for setting goals, walking a team through the steps required, and achieving those goals collaboratively. True success also requires initiative, requiring students to be self-starters. This skill only comes naturally to a handful of people. As a result, students need to learn it to fully succeed. This is one of the hardest skills to learn and practice. Initiative often means working on projects outside of regular working hours. The rewards for students with extreme initiative vary from person to person. Sometimes they're good grades. Other times they are new opportunities or ventures. That goes double when initiative is practiced with qualities like flexibility and leadership.





ENROLLMENT											
Grade	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June
Preschool	8	8	9	9	9	10	9	9	9		
Kindergarten	10	10	7	7	7	7	7	6	6		
One	10	10	10	10	9	9	9	9	9		
Two	10	10	8	8	8	9	10	10	9		
Three	9	9	10	10	9	9	9	9	9		
Four	8	7	7	7	7	7	7	6	6		
Five	11	13	9	9	9	9	9	9	9		
Six	9	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8		

Outplacement	Number	Date
	3	September 2, 2020
	3	September 20, 2020
	3	October 20, 2020
	4	November 9, 2020
	4	December 10, 2020
	4	January 21, 2021
	4	February 22, 2021
	4	March 18, 2021
	4	April 22, 2021

Distance Learning	Home School	Back to School/in building
8	10 NOT listed in school #	66/ students total





# miss porter's classroom newsletter week of 4/5/21

## dates to remember:

april 12-16: spring  
break- enjoy!

april 22- earth day:  
wear blue and green

## homework news:

Thank you for all your  
support thus far with the  
homework. Participation  
has been amazing and I  
am really seeing how  
much it is helping in the  
classroom as well!

## what we are learning:

**Reading/Phonics:** Our CVC word practice keeps getting better and better. Before break, we have continued to review our segmenting and blending skills. Students are becoming stronger readers by the day! Our literacy stations continue to reinforce these skills as well as sight words, rhyming, and syllables.

**Writing:** We continue daily writing practice in our April journals. Students are now learning how to make a full sentence and what that looks like.

**Math:** We are working on a long topic that focuses on addition. Students are learning that adding means putting two groups of objects together and seeing how many in all. Our math stations support this learning

Our theme has been weather/spring. This will continue after break as we introduce bugs/insects!



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## April Spirit Days

Dates	Spirit Day Themes
4/1/21	Spring into Sports- Wear your favorite sports gear!
4/8/21	HES is Shining Bright- Wear neon colors!
4/22/21	Earth Day- Wear blue and green!
4/29/21	Holiday Day- Dress up as your favorite holiday!

