



Preparing Students for the Rapidly-Changing World: Implications for Instruction and Assessment

Loretta Goodwin
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Why is this issue important now?

- General agreement: the way students have been taught and assessed in the past is no longer sufficient to address the demands of coming decades
- Employers complain about student lack of preparation
- Dropout crisis persists: Every 9 seconds ...
- 3 in 10 first-year college students require remedial math and science

Why is this important now?

- Demands of global economy and technology require more than basic skills
- International and domestic assessments reveal US is lagging in knowledge and skill preparation
- PISA: US lagging in math and science literacy
- NAEP: persistent math and science achievement gaps
- Civic Engagement

What will prepare students?

- Emphasize a combination of deep knowledge and skill development – for every student
- Infuse instruction with skills and competencies such as problem-solving, complex communication
- Tony Wagner's Seven Survival Skills
- Develop student expertise and experience through constant application
- Foster persistence, motivation, and resiliency

How do we begin to address the challenges?

- Provide learning environments that foster the knowledge and skill development we seek
- Train and support teachers
- Re-examine how we assess the new skills and knowledge students are acquiring
- Learn from places like Urban Academy, and the New York Performance Standards Consortium

Contact Information

Loretta Goodwin
Senior Director
American Youth Policy Forum
1836 Jefferson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20036

LGoodwin@aypf.org

(202) 775-9731