



Passion Project Concept

Cumberland County Public Schools

Overview

Students take many courses in the pursuit of their diploma and are also immersed in various activities and employment outside of the classroom in Cumberland County Public Schools. But do they know which 21st century competencies they are developing along the way? Do students have sufficient opportunities to discover their skills, strengths and passions?

Passion Projects help students:

- Understand how 21st Century competencies are applied in life, work, and citizenship.
- Communicate their skill sets to prospective future colleges/ universities and employers.
- Discover in themselves skills, strengths and passions they may not realize are present.

Students earn badges for participating in Passion Projects. By providing badges, the school division, business community, and higher education are saying that they value the 21st century skills demonstrated. The process involves:

- Student identification of competencies on which to focus and earn a badge;
- Student selection and planning of a passion project (authentic performance task) that students complete to obtain the badge;
- Collaboration with an expert in the field of study/topic of investigation for the Passion Project. Collaboration with an expert may include, but is not limited to:
 - Help early in the process to generate an idea,
 - Support in developing understanding of the problem/challenge,
 - Sharing personal insight about the field/topic,
 - Critiquing drafts
- Student completion of the passion project.
- Student submission of tangible evidence:
 - Work samples that bring the experience to life
 - Self-assessment rubrics
 - Reflection journal
- Critique of the final product by an expert.
- The verification of evidence and issuing of the badge by placing the notation on the students' transcript.





Cumberland County Public Schools Passion Project Design Principles

My project allows me to....

Joy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Explore my passions in order to identify my personal interests and find joy in learning.	<i>"To find out what one is fitted to do, and to secure an opportunity to do it, is the key to happiness." — John Dewey</i>
Authenticity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Learn through authentic experiences.	<i>"Education is not preparation for life; education is life itself." — John Dewey</i>
Problem-Solving	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Apply 21st century skills by solving an authentic problem.	<i>"We only think when confronted with a problem." — John Dewey</i>
Reflection	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Reflect about my areas of strength and growth with the targeted 21st century skills by critically analyzing my work with others.	<i>"We do not learn from experience... we learn from reflecting on experience." "Failure is instructive." — John Dewey</i>
Process-Driven	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Self-assess the targeted 21st century competencies during the learning process, as well as at the culmination.	<i>"...The quality of mental process, not the production of correct answers, is the measure of educative growth." — John Dewey</i>
Collaboration	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Collaborate with others (peers, experts, etc..)	<i>"Education is a social process." — John Dewey</i>
Transfer	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Think about how I will use my skills in other areas and set goals.	<i>"Arriving at one goal is the starting point to another." — John Dewey</i>



Cumberland County Public Schools Badge Requirements

Creativity	<p>Overview:</p> <p>Creativity involves generating ideas to meet the needs of a target audience. It involves testing ideas, receiving feedback, and making improvements while showing resilience throughout the process. Creative processes result in products/performances/solutions that meet the needs of the intended audience and are considered to be value and unique.</p> <p>Badge Requirements:</p> <p>Create a final project at work, in an internship, or in any content area that uses the skills below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Understand and describe the needs and interests of the target audience.2. Generate ideas, considering the success criteria and the needs of the target audience.3. Give and receive feedback, take risks, and persevere.4. Collaborate with peers to share, test, and evaluate ideas.5. Shape original ideas into an original product or performance to meet the success criteria.6. Reflect on the quality of their work in relation to the constraints and the needs of the target audience. <p>You can submit an application to earn a Creativity badge for any project that you have completed that meets these requirements. On the application you'll need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Demonstrate and provide evidence for how you demonstrated proficiency during and at the end of the project using the Creativity Rubric.• Reflect about your areas of strength and growth with the targeted 21st century skills by critically analyzing your work with others.• Describe what you learned about yourself and your interests in the process.• Think about how you will use your skills in other areas and set goals.
Oral Communication	<p>Oral communication involves using effective interpersonal skills during conversations and discussion to build positive relationships with others and promote collaborative learning. Oral communication is a two-way process that requires a speaker and a listener. It includes listening effectively to decipher meaning, including knowledge, values, attitudes and intentions. One important aspect of oral communication is showing cultural understanding and global awareness when engaging with learners of other cultures. In addition to having</p>



	<p>effective conversations, oral communication also includes skill in delivering effective oral presentations to communicate the results of inquiry.</p> <p>Badge Requirements:</p> <p>Create a final project at work, in an internship, or in any content area that uses the skills below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Exchange ideas and opinions during sustained conversations.2. Communicate a clear and effective oral message using a 21st century tool.3. Listen carefully to others by conducting an interview, assessing an oral presentation, etc...)4. Engage in critique with peers and experts.5. Deliver an effective oral presentation to communicate the results of inquiry and field questions.6. Reflect accurately about the level of success of your communications. <p>You can submit an application to earn an Oral Communication badge for any project that you have completed that meets these requirements. On the application you'll need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Demonstrate and provide evidence for how you demonstrated proficiency during and at the end of the project using the Oral Communication Rubric.• Reflect about your areas of strength and growth with the targeted 21st century skills by critically analyzing your work with others.• Describe what you learned about yourself and your interests in the process.• Think about how you will use your skills in other areas and set goals.
Critical Thinking	<p>Critical Thinking involves creating a clear set of questions that open the door to investigate an issue/problem, selecting relevant information, and building understanding about the various perspectives that exist about the issue/problem. In problem-solving investigations, critical thinking involves identifying, evaluating, and selecting solutions that are effective and plausible. In investigations that involve taking an argumentative stance about an issue, critical thinking involves developing a claim, identifying relevant evidence, and addressing counterclaims.</p> <p>Badge Requirements:</p> <p>Create a final project at work, in an internship, or in any content area that uses the skills below:</p>



	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Create a prioritized set of inquiry questions on which to focus.2. Select and evaluate relevant information to build understanding.3. If problem-solving, present conclusions about how to best solve the problem, citing evidence.4. If taking an argumentative stance about an issue, develop a claim, identify relevant evidence, and address counterclaims.5. Reflect accurately about your critical thinking skills. <p>You can submit an application to earn a Critical Thinking badge for any project that you have completed that meets these requirements. On the application you'll need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Demonstrate and provide evidence for how you demonstrated proficiency during and at the end of the project using the Critical Thinking Rubric.• Reflect about your areas of strength and growth with the targeted 21st century skills by critically analyzing your work with others.• Describe what you learned about yourself and your interests in the process.• Think about how you will use your skills in other areas and set goals.
Citizenship	<p>Citizenship involves understanding your specific rights, roles and responsibilities within a complex civic system. Active citizens analyze and consider the impact of their actions.</p> <p>Badge Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify a local, regional, national, and/or global civic problem that matters to them.• Connect the problem to laws/public policy.• Take “civic actions” to try to impact their selected issue/problem. <p>And...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reflect accurately about the quality of civic engagement. <p>You can submit an application to earn a Citizenship badge for any project that you have completed that meets these requirements. On the application you'll need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Demonstrate and provide evidence for how you demonstrated proficiency during and at the end of the project using the Citizenship Rubric.• Reflect about your areas of strength and growth with the targeted 21st century skills by critically analyzing your work with others.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Describe what you learned about yourself and your interests in the process.● Think about how you will use your skills in other areas and set goals.
Collaboration	<p>Collaboration involves working productively in teams for sustained periods of time to develop high-quality products. Strong collaborators demonstrate ability to work effectively and respectfully with diverse teams. They exercise flexibility and willingness to compromise to accomplish common goals. Effective collaborators assume shared responsibility for collaborative work and value the individual contributions made by each team member.</p> <p>Badge Requirements:</p> <p>Create a final project at work, in an internship, or in any content area that uses the skills below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Work productively in a team for a sustained period of time to develop at least one high-quality product as a team.● Collaborate with the team to design and manage a work plan that outlines the overall goal and sufficiently describes action items, people responsible, and deadlines. Effectively use tech tools for shared collaboration to manage the work.● Help resolve conflict or address challenges within the group; negotiate to reach workable solutions.● Consistently complete your action items on time and keep your team members informed about your progress.● Give constructive feedback in a manner that is well-received by the recipients; Proactively solicit and show appreciation for constructive feedback.● Reflect accurately about the quality of your collaboration skills. <p>You can submit an application to earn a Collaboration badge for any project that you have completed that meets these requirements. On the application you'll need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Demonstrate and provide evidence for how you demonstrated proficiency during and at the end of the project using the Collaboration Rubric.● Reflect about your areas of strength and growth with the targeted 21st century skills by critically analyzing your work with others.● Describe what you learned about yourself and your interests in the process.● Think about how you will use your skills in other areas and set goals.

