



PARTNERSHIP FOR  
21ST CENTURY SKILLS

# Preparing Ohio Students for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

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Partnership for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills

Summit on Urban Education

Columbus, OH

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# Overview

## Key Message

21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills  
should become the “design specs”  
for K-12 Education in Ohio.

(e.g. Hartford American  
Leadership Forum)

# Overview

- Why are 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills so important?
- What is the Framework for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills?
- What should your district do?

# Why 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills?

Why are 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills  
so important?

**4 Reasons**

# Why 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills?

1. The world has changed dramatically.

Are our students ready for the new global economy?

# New Context

# Skills Required

<b>Global Competition:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Global Awareness</li><li>•Self-Direction</li></ul>
<b>Global Cooperation:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Global Awareness</li><li>•Collaboration</li><li>•Information &amp; Communication Technology (ICT) Literacy</li></ul>
<b>Information Growth:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Information Literacy</li><li>•Critical Thinking</li><li>•Problem Solving</li></ul>
<b>Rate of Change:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Flexibility</li><li>•Adaptability</li><li>•Innovation &amp; Improvement Skills</li></ul>
<b>Computerization &amp; Off-Shoring:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Critical Thinking &amp; Problem Solving</li><li>•Innovation &amp; Improvement</li></ul>
<b>More Jobs &amp; Careers:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Critical Thinking &amp; Problem Solving</li><li>•Innovation &amp; Improvement</li><li>•Flexibility &amp; Adaptability</li></ul>
<b>Service Economy:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Communication Skills</li><li>•Life and Career Awareness</li></ul>

# Why 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills?

Are our students ready for the new global economy?

- Critical thinkers & problem solvers?
- Globally aware?
- Self-directed?
- Good collaborators?
- Information & technology literate?
- Flexible & adaptable?
- Innovative?
- Effective communicators?

# Why 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills?

2. The requirements of the workforce are changing.

# Why 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills?

## Workforce Survey:

“Are They Really Ready to Work?  
Employers’ Perspectives on the Basic  
Knowledge And Applied Skills of New  
Entrants to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Workforce”

Released October 2, 2006, by The Conference Board, Corporate Voices for Working Families, Partnership for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills, The Annie E. Casey Foundation, Dell Inc., The Ford Foundation, Microsoft, Pearson Education, Philip Morris USA Youth Smoking Prevention, SAP, State Farm and the Society for Human Resource Management groups.

# Why 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills?

- What skills are most important for job success when hiring a high school graduate?

Work Ethic	80%
Collaboration	75%
Good Communication	70%
Social Responsibility	63%
Critical Thinking & Problem Solving	58%

# Why 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills?

- Of the high school students that you recently hired, what were their deficiencies?

Written Communication	81%
Leadership	73%
Work Ethic	70%
Critical Thinking & Problem Solving	70%
Self-Direction	58%

# Why 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills?

- What applied skills and basic knowledge are most important for those you will hire with a four-year college diploma?

Oral Communication	95.4%
Collaboration	94.4%
Professional/Work Ethic	93.8%
Written Communication	93.1%
Critical Thinking/Problem Solving	93.1%

# Why 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills?

- Of the four-year graduates you recently hired, how do they rate?

	Deficient	Excellent
Oral Communication	9.8	24.8
Collaboration	8.1	24.6
Professional/Work Ethic	18.6	16.8
Written Communication	27.8	15.8
Critical Thinking/Problem Solving	9.0	27.6

# Why 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills?

- What skills and content areas will be growing in importance in the next five years?

Critical Thinking	78%
I.T.	77%
Health & Wellness	76%
Collaboration	74%
Innovation	74%
Personal Financial Responsibility	72%

# Why 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills?

3. American voters support 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills in K-12 education.

# Why 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills?

A presentation of key findings from a national survey of 800 registered voters conducted September 10-12, 2007.



Bill McInturff



Geoff Garin



**80%**

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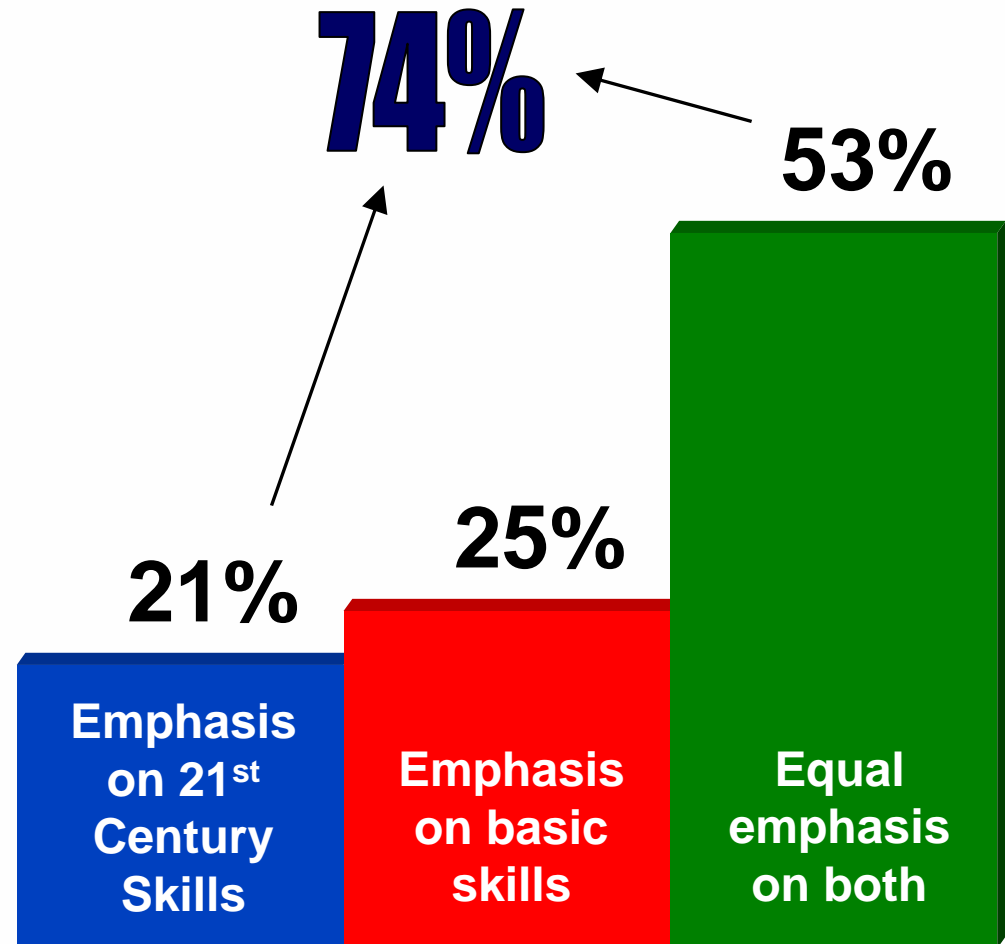
**Say the things  
students need to learn  
in school today are  
different than what  
they were 20 years  
ago.**

**53% Say  
Very Different**

# Three-quarters of voters want there to be at least equal emphasis on 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills.

## 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills Vs. Basic Skills

A recent survey of over four hundred employers across the United States found that 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills such as computer and technology skills, critical thinking, self-direction, and communication skills are more important to success in the workplace than are basic knowledge skills such as reading, writing, and math. In your opinion, how should schools seek to balance the teaching of 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills and basic knowledge skills...



Nine out of 10 voters agree more of these skills need to be incorporated into the classroom.

88%

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**10% Say Important,  
but not the responsibility  
of schools**

Of respondents believe these are important skills that schools can and should be able to incorporate into their curriculum.

In fact, there is near universal agreement that these skills are critical to our future economic success.

99%

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**81% Say  
Very Important**

Of respondents feel it is important to our country's future economic success that our children learn these 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills, such as computer and technology skills, critical thinking, self-direction, and communication skills.

# Why 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills?

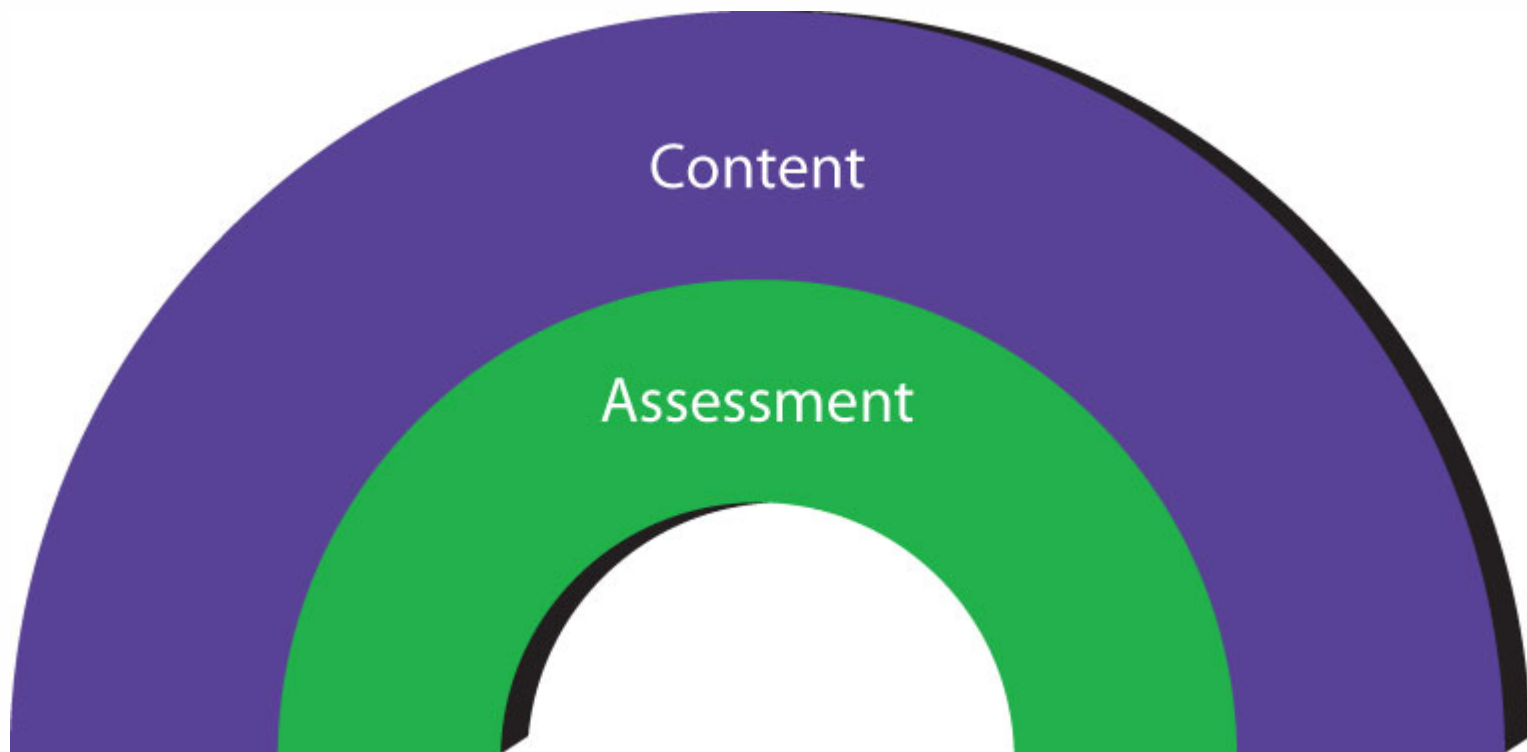
4. Ohio students must become effective 21<sup>st</sup> Century Citizens.

# What is the Framework for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills?

# P21 Members

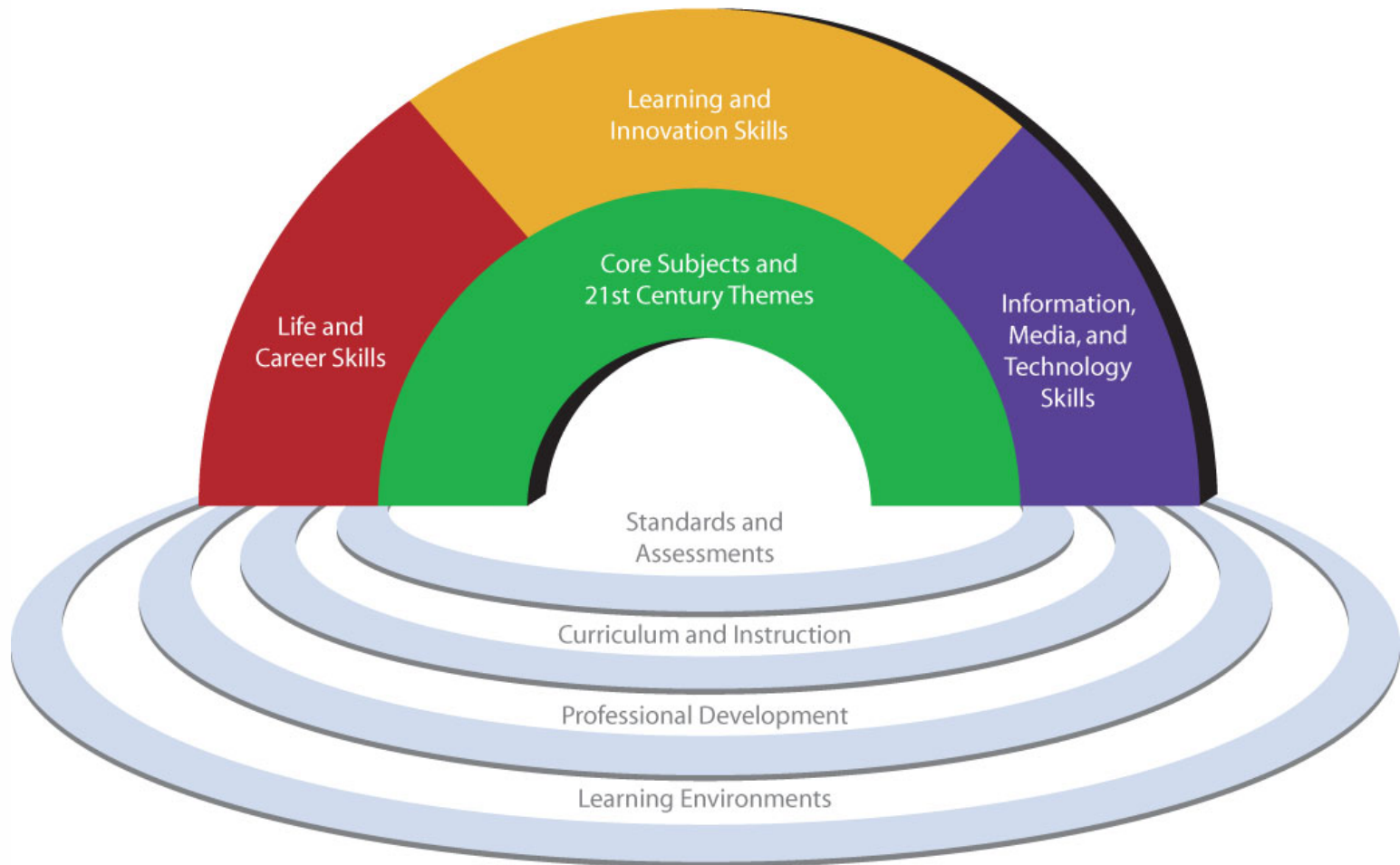


## 20<sup>th</sup> Century Education Model

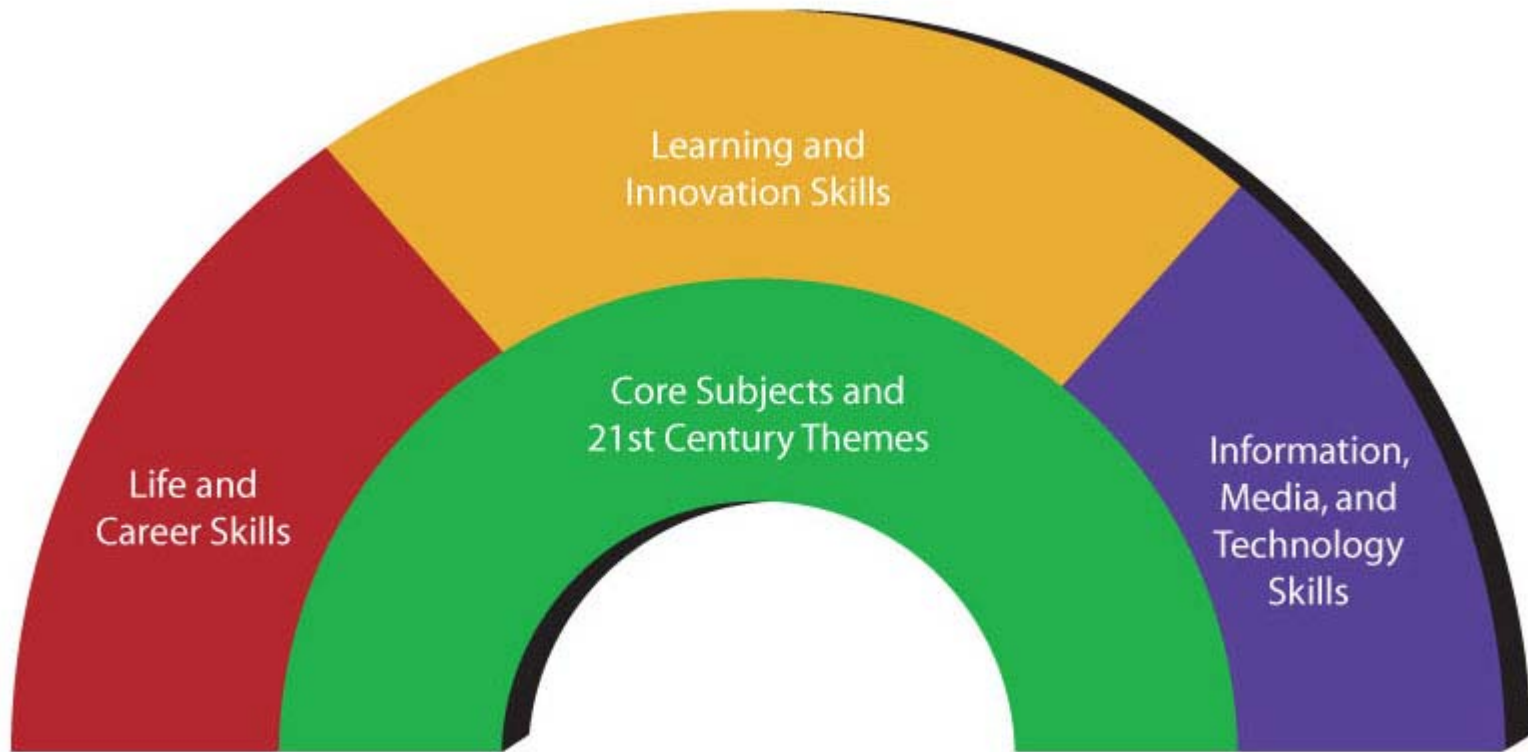


# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills Framework

21st Century Student Outcomes and Support Systems



# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills Framework



# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills Framework

## Core Subjects

- Economics
- English
- Government
- Arts
- History
- Geography
- Reading or Language
- Arts
- Mathematics
- Science
- World Languages
- Civics

## 21<sup>st</sup> Century Themes

- Global Awareness
- Financial, Economic, Business & Entrepreneurship Literacy
- Civic Literacy
- Health Literacy

## Learning & Innovation Skills

- Critical Thinking & Problem Solving
- Creativity & Innovation
- Communication & Collaboration

(These skills are critical in a flat world)

## Information, Media & Technology Skills

- Information Literacy
- Media Literacy
- ICT (Information, Communications & Technology) Literacy

## Life & Career Skills

- Flexibility & Adaptability
- Initiative & Self-Direction
- Social & Cross-Cultural Skills
- Productivity & Accountability
- Leadership & Responsibility

## What's new about 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills?

New Understanding of Coverage

New Areas of Emphasis

Critical Thinking and Problem Solving Skills for EVERYONE	Innovation and Creativity Skills
Life and Career Skills for EVERYONE	Information, Media and Technology Skills

## What tools are available?

1. [www.21stcenturyskills.org](http://www.21stcenturyskills.org)
2. Route 21 (to be launched Nov. 7<sup>th</sup>)



What should your district do?

## 5 Strategies

# What should your district do?

## 1. Develop a Consensus

Develop a consensus among the key stakeholders (including the business community) on the 21<sup>st</sup> century skills needed by students in Ohio.

# What should your district do?

## 2. Upgrade Professional Development

Create a teacher professional development strategy for 21<sup>st</sup> century skills.

Examples:

- Lawrence Township (Indiana)
- North Carolina
- West Virginia

# What should your district do?

## 3. Imbed 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills in core subjects



Use the ICT Literacy Maps for:

- Math
- Science
- English
- Geography
- Social Studies (late 2007)

THIS MAP WAS CREATED IN COOPERATION WITH THE NATIONAL SCIENCE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

ICT Literacy Maps are the result of months of research, development and feedback from educators and business leaders across the nation. The Partnership has issued ICT Literacy Maps for the core subjects of

Geography, Math, English and Science. These tools are available at [www.21stcenturyskills.org/updates/](http://www.21stcenturyskills.org/updates/)

The Partnership for 21st Century Skills advocates for the integration of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Literacy into K-12 education so that students can learn and achieve in the core academic subjects at much higher levels. The Partnership defines ICT Literacy as the use of 21st century tools to perform learning skills.

The Partnership has forged alliances with key national organizations that represent the core academic subjects including English, Math, Science and Geography. As a result of these collaborations, the Partnership has developed a series of ICT Literacy Maps that illustrate the intersection between ICT Literacy and core academic subjects. The maps enable educators, administrators and policymakers to gain concrete examples of how ICT Literacy can be integrated into core subjects.

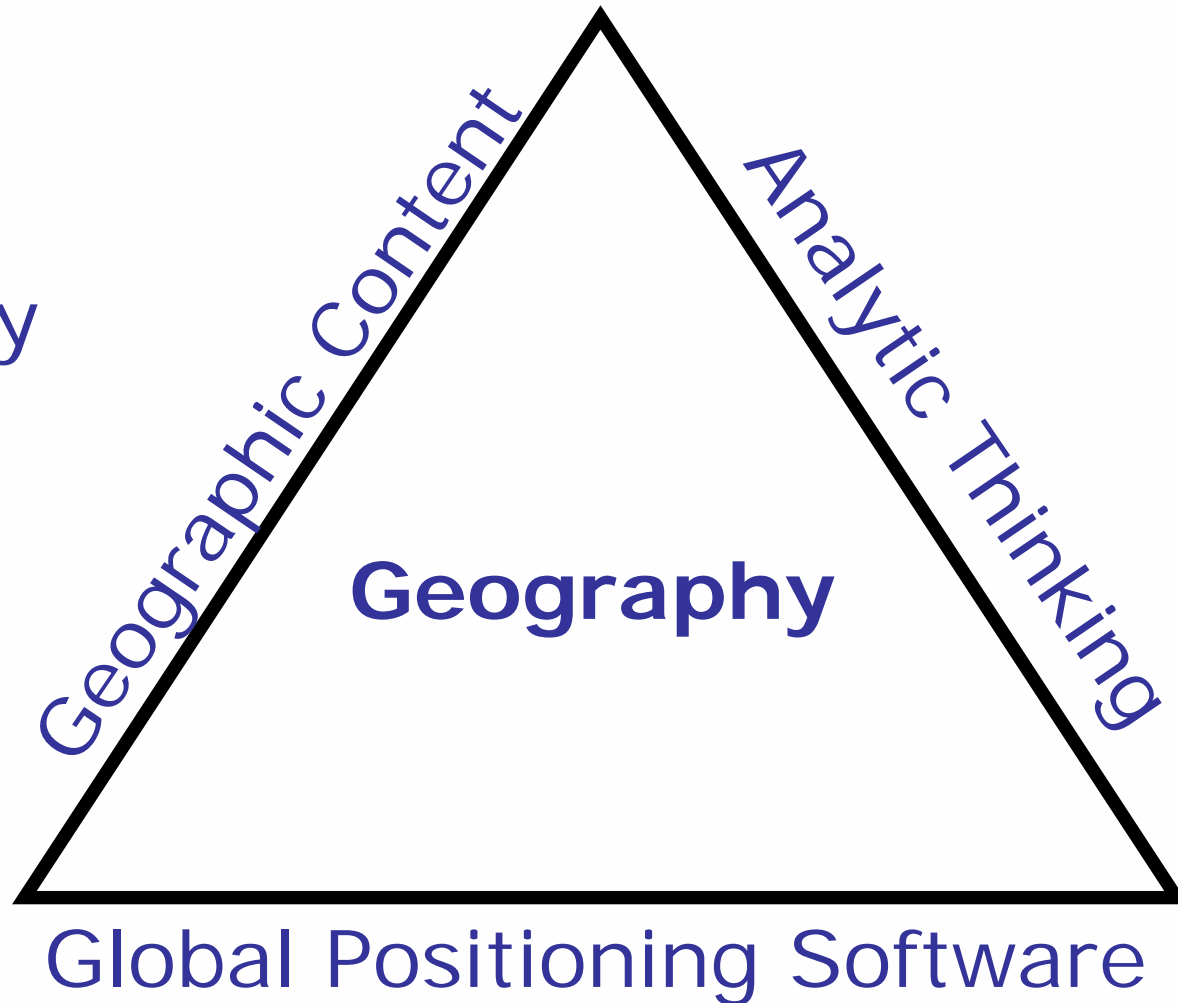


An example from the Math ICT Literacy Map illustrates sample outcomes for teaching communication skills.

# What should your district do?

## 3. Imbed 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills in core subjects (continued)

21<sup>st</sup>  
Century  
Model



# What should your district do?

## 4. Upgrade Assessments

Use a full range of assessments, including high-stakes and classroom assessments, to measure 21<sup>st</sup> century skills.

Examples:

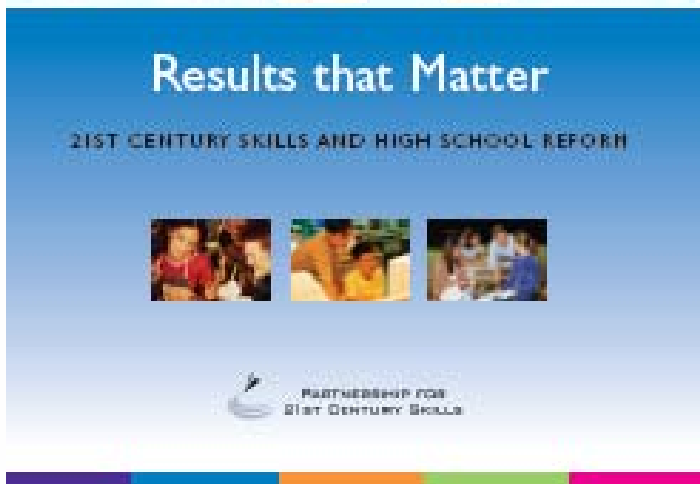
- John Bransford
- College Readiness & Work Audit
- Senior Projects and Student Portfolios

# What should your district do?

## 5. Focus on reforming high schools



- Focus on the results that matter in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.
- Redefine rigor to include 21<sup>st</sup> century skills.



# Conclusion



“There is remarkable consensus among educators and business and policy leaders on one key conclusion: we need to bring what we teach and how we teach into the 21st century.”

TIME Magazine,  
December 18, 2006

# Conclusion

Every student in Ohio must be:

- A critical thinker
- A problem solver
- An innovator
- An effective communicator
- An effective collaborator
- A self-directed learner
- Information and media literate
- Globally aware
- Civically engaged
- Financially and economically literate

# Conclusion

These skills should become the “design specs” for 21<sup>st</sup> Century education in Ohio.

# Contact Us

Let us know how we can help.

## **The Partnership for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills**

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