

Southington Public Schools

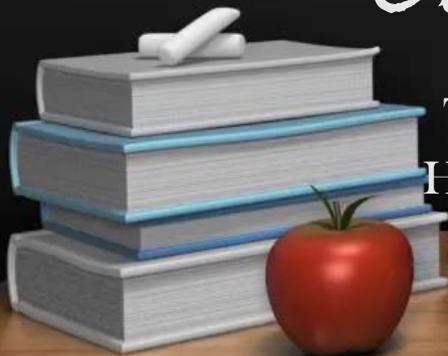
Vision 2020

PARADIGM SHIFT

Education Today...

Education Tomorrow

Terry Lombardi, Patricia Queen, Dr. Perri Murdica
Holly Boudreau, Jessica Bruenn, Marisa Calvi-Rogers,
Jen Discenza, Dan Murdzek, Kelly Nichols,
Amy Perry, Tina Riccio, Julie Zellner



2020 LONG-TERM PLANNING

Stakeholder Priorities

- 1** Critical Thinking
- 2** Partnerships
- 3** Individualized Learning
- 4** Communication
- 5** Research and Development



1

CRITICAL THINKING

“It presupposes assent to rigorous standards of excellence and mindful command of their use. It entails effective communication and problem-solving abilities and a commitment to overcome our native egocentrism and sociocentrism.”

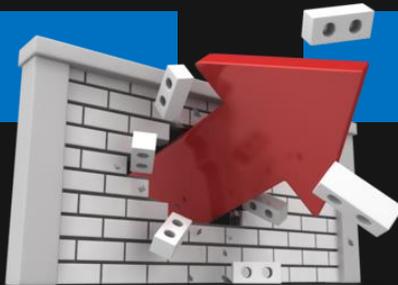


Richard Paul and Linda Elder
The Miniature Guide to Critical Thinking Concepts and Tools
Foundation for Critical Thinking Press, 2008

1

CRITICAL THINKING

Today



Tomorrow

Learning How to Learn

by: Joseph D. Novak
D. Bob Gowin

- *Emerging opportunities to apply knowledge and shift away from retention of knowledge.*
- *Continuing the development of Webb's Depth of Knowledge (DOK) measurements and alignment to the Common Core State Standards.*

- *Establish "globally competitive, internationally benchmarked" curriculum standards across all subject areas.*

NextEd, Core Recommendations from CAPPS

- *Establish opportunities for self-direction, self-discipline, self-monitoring, and self-corrective thinking.*
- *Implement instruction of metacognitive techniques and practices.*

2

PARTNERSHIPS

Today

- Emerging “real-life” authentic learning opportunities for students.



- High school students fulfill graduation requirements on-site in a traditional setting with prescribed coursework.



- Emerging partnerships continue to support K-12 instruction.



Tomorrow

- Require all students to graduate with a “Capstone” authentic learning experience (internship/service learning) that provides students with opportunities to apply their critical thinking skills.

- Redefine graduation requirements to encourage and include higher education partnerships and distance learning coursework.

- Expand the BOE partnership with a wide range of constituents that must result in ALL community stakeholders taking ownership of the fiscal equation and solution to support public schools.

3 INDIVIDUALIZED LEARNING

Today

- *Traditional school calendar, school day.*



Tomorrow

- Create a more flexible school calendar.
- Establish a variety of learning locations in order to offer opportunities within and beyond the school walls and regular hours.
- Move from textbooks to eBooks.

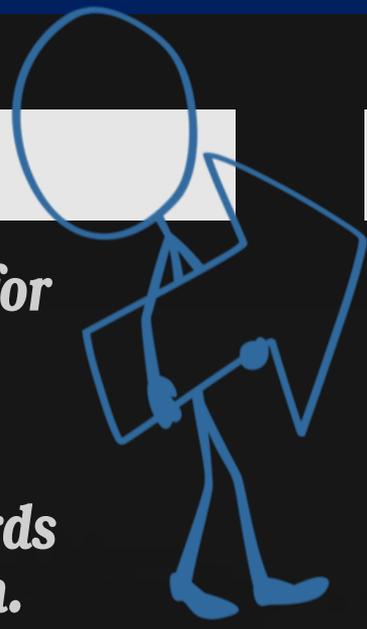


3

INDIVIDUALIZED LEARNING

Today

- *Emerging opportunities for internships.*
- *Continuing growth towards differentiated instruction.*
- *Implementing student success plans.*



Tomorrow

- *Expand the classroom to include choices that meet each student's needs.*
- *Expand differentiated instruction.*
- *Customize student success plans that effectively raise achievement expectations for all students and result in student ownership of learning.*



3

INDIVIDUALIZED LEARNING

Today

Departmentalized in-depth curricula

Tomorrow

- Interdisciplinary implementation of Common Core State Standards.
- Require integrated opportunities for ALL students (K-12):
 - **Life Skills** ~ Implement social/emotional and financial health topics
 - **Critical Thinking** ~ Develop adaptive problem-solving skills
 - **Communication** ~ Develop public speaking and active listening skills
 - **Global Citizenship** ~ Implement early second language instruction

3 INDIVIDUALIZED LEARNING

Today

- *Teachers provide direct instruction moving at a pace that ensures all curriculum is covered.*
- *Elements of student-directed, rather than teacher-directed, classrooms in every school.*



Tomorrow

- Shift toward more student-directed learning.
- Model and Support teachers in their new role as facilitators in student-centered classrooms.
- Require student-directed, collaborative partner projects.

4

COMMUNICATION

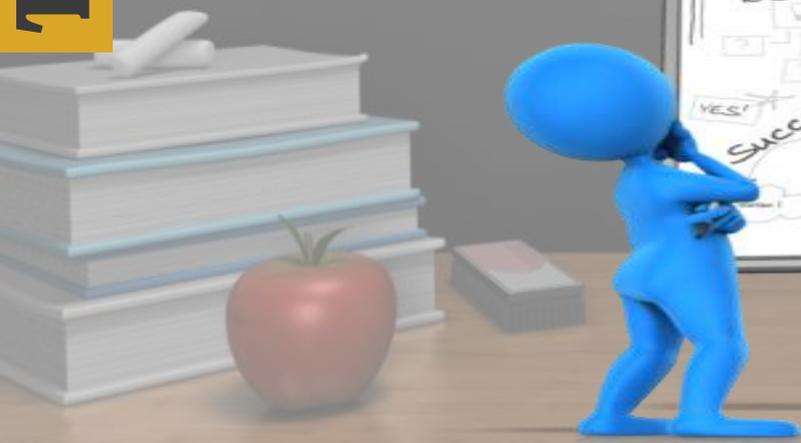
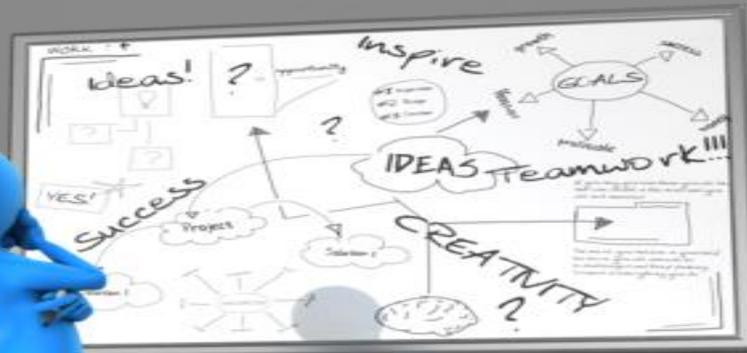
Tomorrow Today

Students have inequitable access to technology with limited opportunities to communicate beyond Southington.

Provide equitable access to technology in order to communicate globally from any site in the district.

Curriculum includes general phrasing such as, “Students will communicate ideas clearly by listening and speaking.”

Redesign the curricula to enhance interpersonal skills to engage effectively with various audiences and purposes.



4

COMMUNICATION

Today

The majority of extracurricular clubs that enhance communication skills are currently offered at the middle and high school levels.



Tomorrow

Increase extracurricular opportunities for ALL students in Grades K-12 to express ideas beyond the traditional school day.



5 RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

Today

- *Established professional development schedule.*
- *Limited opportunities for collaborative planning, teaching, and learning.*

Tomorrow

- *Develop facilitation skills through professional development.*
- *Revise teachers' schedules to allow for common planning and team time.*
- *Foster more opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration.*



DISTRICT AS A CHANGE AGENT

TODAY



Established roles and responsibilities of superintendent, school leadership, Board of Education, and union bargaining groups.



TOMORROW

Redefine the roles and levels of authority commensurate with responsibilities allowing for a more streamlined approach to facilitate change.

Evaluate the plan to ensure that students are being challenged and prepared to be successful in our ever-changing global society.

VISION 2020

WHAT'S NEXT?

*How would you prioritize?
Where would you begin?*





REAL TIME

Within the next 3-5 years...

Investigate, evaluate, and take action on:



Learning is the constant; time is the variable



Curricular changes reflecting 21st Century Skills for global citizenship



Equitable infrastructure ~ technology and safety



Partnerships that create experiences beyond school



Changing graduation requirements



Building staff capacity through professional development