

Preparing Tomorrow's Leaders Today



A publication for employees of the St. Clair County School System
December 14, 2009

SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

RAISE THE BAR WITH 21ST CENTURY SKILLS

"You have to have a certain core set of 21st century skills-but with the rapid change that is going on, you have to be able to take those skills and apply them to new situations very dramatically and rapidly."

You may ask, What are the "Action Steps" that administrators and teacher leaders need to take?

1. Learn about 21st century skills...
2. Commit to improving your own 21st century skills...
3. Engage your school community in a dialogue about 21st century skills...
4. Set a vision for integrating 21st century skills into instructional programs...

"Getting Up to Speed"

- ◇ Partnership for 21st Century Skills
www.21stcenturyskills.org
- ◇ A Vision for K-20 Education
http://siiia.net/education/pubs/VisionBooklet_2007.pdf

Listed below are results from "Are They Really Ready to Work" Conference, October, 2008.

I. What skills are most important for job success when hiring a school graduate?

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

II. Of the high school students that you have recently hired, what were their deficiencies?

◇ Written Communications	81%
◇ Leadership	73%
◇ Work Ethic	70%
◇ Critical Thinking and Problem Solving	70%
◇ Self-Direction	58%

III. What skills and content areas will be growing in the next five years?

◇ Critical Thinking	78%
◇ Technology	77%
◇ Health and Wellness	76%
◇ Collaboration	74%
◇ Innovation	74%
◇ Personal Financial Responsibility	72%



Effective Leadership

To be an effective technology teacher/leader, it is important to understand that reaching all students today requires new methods of teaching and different kinds of learning environments.

Teachers and Community Leaders, We have extended the date....

I need for you to log onto the Share Point site <http://www.sharepoint.local/default.aspx> Next, you will log in with your username and password by clicking on the "sign in" button at the top right of the page. Then, go to the District Accreditation tab and complete the Survey Rubric. **Please complete this IMPORTANT task by December 18th, 2009.** If you have any problems with this process, please call or email Russ Stewart.

Community Leaders– Please go to <http://www.sccboe.org> and complete the "Parent Community" Survey for District Accreditation. Please complete this by December 18th. I appreciate your help.



St. Clair County School District's Vision... "Preparing Tomorrow's Leaders Today."

We have to prepare our students for the 21st century. It is important for educators to make parallel changes in order to fulfill it's mission in society, namely the preparation of students for the world beyond the classroom. Therefore, the school system must understand and embrace the 21st century skills within the context of rigorous academic standard.