Ephrata Area School District

Life-Ready Graduate Project

Our mission is to provide all students with a secure learning environment and exemplary academic programs to inspire all students to reach their full potential.
Track Record of Success

16th in Pennsylvania

Best High Schools
US News

Best Communities for Music Education

Google for Education

Distinguished School
National Title I Association

Pennsylvania Department of Education
2014-2015 School Performance Profile
16th in Pennsylvania

PA Public Schools Success Starts Here
Realization:
High stakes tests on a narrow set of criteria are not the best set of predictors for success in life.
The world students will experience is changing at a rapid rate.
Gone are the days of “factory style” education.
### Figure 1: Employers rate the importance of candidate skills/qualities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skill/Quality</th>
<th>Weighted average rating*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ability to work in a team structure</td>
<td>4.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ability to make decisions and solve problems</td>
<td>4.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ability to plan, organize, and prioritize work</td>
<td>4.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ability to verbally communicate with persons inside and outside the organization</td>
<td>4.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ability to obtain and process information</td>
<td>4.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ability to analyze quantitative data</td>
<td>4.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical knowledge related to the job</td>
<td>4.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proficiency with computer software programs</td>
<td>3.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ability to create and/or edit written reports</td>
<td>3.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ability to sell or influence others</td>
<td>3.54</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*5-point scale, where 1=Not at all important; 2=Not very important; 3=Somewhat important; 4=Very important; and 5=Extremely important
“How to Escape Education’s Death Valley”
by Sir Ken Robinson
Establishing the Need

Important Employee Skills

- Logical thinking/problem solving;
- Verbal communication;
- Basic math skills;
- Reading comprehension and
- Computer skills.
Standards, while important, are not sufficient.
“Knowing - Doing Gap”

- ROLE OF A PROFESSIONAL
- MEDICAL EXAMPLES
- WORKING WITHIN AN OUTDATED SYSTEM
What is a Life-Ready Graduate?

Embodiment of the **KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND DISPOSITIONS** to find success after graduation
Life-Ready Graduate Project Timeline

- **APRIL 2016** – Initial research, identification of themes
- **MAY 9, 2016** – Information shared with School Board at Work Session
- **AUGUST 23, 2016** – Overview shared with K-12 Faculty
- **DECEMBER 5, 2016** – EHS Faculty Work Session
- **JANUARY 2017** – Graduate Survey
- **MARCH 3, 2017** – Completion of Model
- **MARCH 6, 2017** – Update School Board
STUDENT A
MATH
SCIENCE
ENGLISH
SOCIAL STUDIES

STUDENT B
CONTENT MASTERY
CRITICAL THINKING
COMMUNICATION
COLLABORATION
CREATIVITY
APPLICANT A
MATH
SCIENCE
ENGLISH
SOCIAL STUDIES

APPLICANT B
CONTENT MASTERY
CRITICAL THINKING
COMMUNICATION
COLLABORATION
CREATIVITY
EMPLOYEE A

MATH
SCIENCE
ENGLISH
SOCIAL STUDIES

EMPLOYEE B

CONTENT MASTERY
CRITICAL THINKING
COMMUNICATION
COLLABORATION
CREATIVITY
TEAM MEMBER A
MATH
SCIENCE
ENGLISH
SOCIAL STUDIES

TEAM MEMBER B
CONTENT MASTERY
CRITICAL THINKING
COMMUNICATION
COLLABORATION
CREATIVITY
KNOWLEDGE
The theoretical or practical understanding of someone or something

CONTENT MASTERY
CIVICS & COMMUNITY
DIGITAL LITERACY
FINANCIAL LITERACY
DIVERSITY AWARENESS
WELLNESS & HEALTHY LIVING
SKILLS

The capacities and strategies that enable learners to apply knowledge to novel situations, engage in higher order thinking, problem solve, collaborate, communicate effectively, and plan for the future.

COLLABORATION & TEAMWORK

COMMUNICATION

CREATIVITY & INNOVATION

CRITICAL THINKING & PROBLEM SOLVING

LEADERSHIP & SERVICE

GOAL SETTING

TECHNOLOGY PROFICIENCY

TIME MANAGEMENT
DISPOSITIONS
The behaviors and ways of being that contribute to a learner fulfilling his or her full potential (character traits)

INTEGRITY & HONESTY
ADAPTABILITY & FLEXIBILITY
CONTINUAL LEARNING & GROWTH MINDSET
RESILIENCE & GRIT
SELF-AWARENESS & INDEPENDENCE
Work Already Underway...

- CONTENT MASTERY PROGRESS
- 4CS IMPLEMENTATION
- GROWTH MINDSET
The Next Steps...

- Present concept and obtain feedback from local stakeholders
- Refine components of the Life-Ready Graduate Profile
- Create interactive digital version of model
- Present to School Board
- Develop and publish action plan
- Implement plan
SURVEY

Learn More: Innovative Learning Projects
Discussion & Feedback