

21st Century Learning

Current 21st Century Learning Initiatives

Digital Curriculum

Newport News Public Schools offers its pre-kindergarten through grade 12 curricula online, making access to and on-going revisions easy. Recent revisions have included the addition of 21st Century skills that can be found in the context of core subjects and within interdisciplinary themes. NNPS' digital curriculum promotes innovative learning strategies that integrate the use of supportive technologies, inquiry- and problem-based approaches, and higher order thinking skills while enabling students to learn relevant, real-world contexts.

Career Pathways

Career Pathways assists students in setting goals, offers work-based learning experiences and provides a seamless transition from high school to post secondary opportunities.

Pathways are comprised of interrelated courses, as well as curricular, extra-curricular, and service learning experiences. NNPS has selected eight individual career pathways based upon local market needs in the Hampton Roads area and students interests.

Student exposure to Career Pathways begins at the elementary level where focus is on career awareness. At the middle school level, students begin career exploration, and in high school Career Pathways center on creating opportunities, specifically through self-directed internships, service learning, job shadowing, and hands-on training

Model Classrooms

Classrooms in Newport News use project-based learning to acquire 21st Century skills in the context of real world scenarios. Integration of video and interactive media supports instruction while linking students to the outside world. Ongoing technology is being integrated into the classroom, teachers are receiving professional development to encourage 21st Century learning and the curriculum is continually enriched.

eLearning Newport News

eLearning is a teaching and learning approach that uses the internet and other technologies. Students and staff can experience eLearning in courses they take in school or at home. Students and staff experience eLearning through, virtual field trips, mathematics and literacy labs, online courses, tutorials, knowledge sharing and professional development.

21st Century Summer Institute for Teachers

In an effort to build teacher capacity, training sessions are offered through a 21st Century Summer Institute where teachers receive professional development on online collaboration and publishing; thinking, reasoning and analysis tools; information literacy and online learning tools; and teaching with technology. Teachers who complete the coursework and meet certain requirements then serve as building based advocates for 21st Century learning to share information with other teachers.

Technology Academies

In an effort to integrate project-based learning, Digital World Technology academies were developed as an extension of the elementary school day. These hands-on, interactive learning opportunities allow students to explore real-world challenges, develop cross-subject skills and work in small collaborative groups.

International 21st Century Learning and Leading Conference

Held annually, the conference engages participants in a global think tank around topics of educating in and for the 21st Century and preparing a multi-generational workforce for the future. At the conference, participants have a unique opportunity to interact with educators from around the globe using different forms of communication technology and build partnerships to further the conversation on 21st Century learning.