

Maine School of Science and Mathematics

A Residential Community of Academic Excellence

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MSSM Student Welfare Committee 'Book Report'

Four-Dimensional Education: The Competencies Learners Need to Succeed

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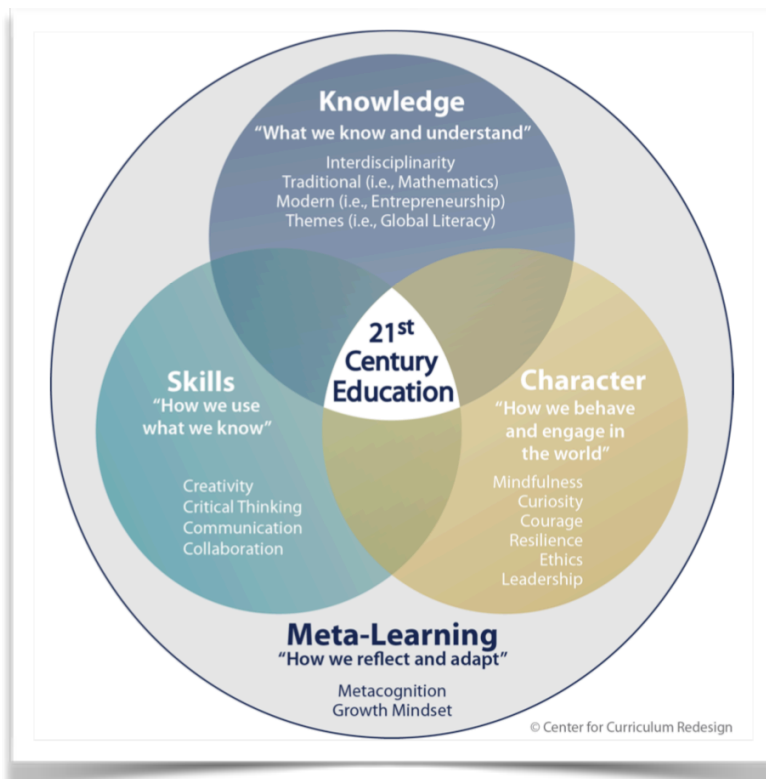
Report by David Pearson

About the Book ([amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))

What should students learn to best prepare for the twenty-first century? In this book, the Center for Curriculum Redesign (CCR) describes a framework built to address this question, so that curriculum is redesigned for versatility and adaptability, to thrive in our volatile present and uncertain future. The framework focuses on knowledge (what to know and understand), skills (how to use that knowledge), character (how to behave and engage in the world), and meta-learning (how to reflect on and adapt by continuing to learn and grow). This book is essential for teachers, department heads, heads of schools, administrators, policymakers, standard setters, curriculum and assessment developers, and other thought leaders and influencers, who seek to develop a thorough understanding of the needs and challenges we all face, and to help devise innovative solutions.

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Attached with this report is:



1. A short summation video (2.41 minutes) produced by Center for Curriculum Design (CCR) that highlights key themes within the book.

2. My own book reading notes covering each chapter in the form of a pdf slide summary.

The entire book can be captured in the form of one graphic (left). The book argues that 21st century education should be a combination of knowledge, character, and skills that all evolve through meta-cognition.

A weakness of the book is its western centric bias, that takes little account of Asian, African, and Middle Eastern educational traditions and developments.

For MSSM, the book points towards taking teaching to the 'next' level beyond straightforward classroom based content mastery, no matter how advanced, toward associations and partnerships where learning can be applied to solving real world problems. In other words, real-time relevancy.