

Press from:

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Subject: New Providence School District releases the Portrait of a Graduate

The New Providence School District has developed and convened six Think Tank 2.0 committees to address the educational needs of Generation Z amid the 4th Industrial Revolution. Committees are composed of teachers, support staff members, department heads, and administrators. Research and recommendations from the committees focusing on Social-Emotional Learning, Curriculum, Data Driven Decision Making, Instructional Strategies, Classroom Environment and Technology Tools were presented throughout the fall at the New Providence Board of Education meetings.

In December, the Think Tank Committee presentations culminated in the showcase of a Portrait of a New Providence High School Graduate. The Portrait of a Graduate provides a common vision for the academic and social skills, knowledge and attributes that students should attain before their graduation from the New Providence School District. The five key components of a Portrait of a Graduate are Academic Preparation, Growth Mindset, Social Skills, Global Citizenship and A Plan for the Future. Specific concepts such as Digital Citizenship, Lifelong Learner, Goal Setting, Leadership, Emotional Intelligence, and Civic Responsibility support these broad components.

The process to create a Portrait of a Graduate is similar to the concept by which curriculum is designed and written, meaning establishing the end goals first and then planning in reverse and filling in the details. It provides all of the committees with an anchor, or a consistent focus, as they continue their work over the next five years.

Although the Portrait of a Graduate clearly connects to curriculum and instruction, and the direct work of the teaching staff, it is also closely connected to the work of all of the committees. The Data-Driven Decision Making Committee is doing work that will not only help teachers better support their students to meet benchmarks but also provide data that's helpful for students to learn how to set goals and assess progress towards their goals. The Technology Tools Committee will be exploring investments in new technologies but also how to best train teachers to effectively use these technologies in ways that will develop the skills represented in the Portrait of a Graduate. The Classroom Environment Committee is looking into creating spaces that give students opportunities to collaborate as well as work on their social skills.

To create a visual representation of a Portrait of a Graduate, it was imperative to go straight to the source. New Providence High School Graphic Design I students, taught by Mr. Antonio Lam, utilized various illustration lessons to develop concepts representing a Portrait of a Graduate. The work of three students were selected as finalists for the design.

Concept A is titled “Graduate on Road to Success” and was created by NPHS junior Mary Ping. The concept was developed by applying the One Point Perspective lesson from the Graphic Design I course. The concept communicates New Providence students achieving academic success as they make their way through the various grade levels in the district.

Concept B is titled “Compass”, and was created by NPHS junior Daniel McKnight. A compass concept was utilized to communicate the academic excellence and direction which is received through the New Providence School District. It drives home the point of New Providence providing guidance and support for the students.

Concept C is titled “Graduate w/Digital Device” and was created by NPHS senior Kimberly Alfonso. The student developed a digital device themed concept. The graduate is taking a “selfie” as they capture their moment of success upon graduating and fulfilling a rich academic education at New Providence School District.

The finalist designs will be utilized throughout the district over the next five years as the Think Tank Committees continue their work and implement their recommendations. The full Think Tank Committee presentation along with a Portrait of a Graduate can be found on the district website [here](#).

Portrait of a Graduate Concept A



Portrait of a Graduate Concept B

ACADEMIC PREPARATION

- Content and Skills Mastery
- Transfer of Knowledge
- Complex Problem Solving
- Independence
- Digital Citizenship
 - Literacy
 - Responsibility
 - Security

A PLAN FOR THE FUTURE

- Setting and Achieving Goals
- College, Career, and Life Readiness

GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

- Positively Contributes to Society
- Culturally, Socially, and Environmentally Respectful
- Ethical Behavior and Civic Responsibility

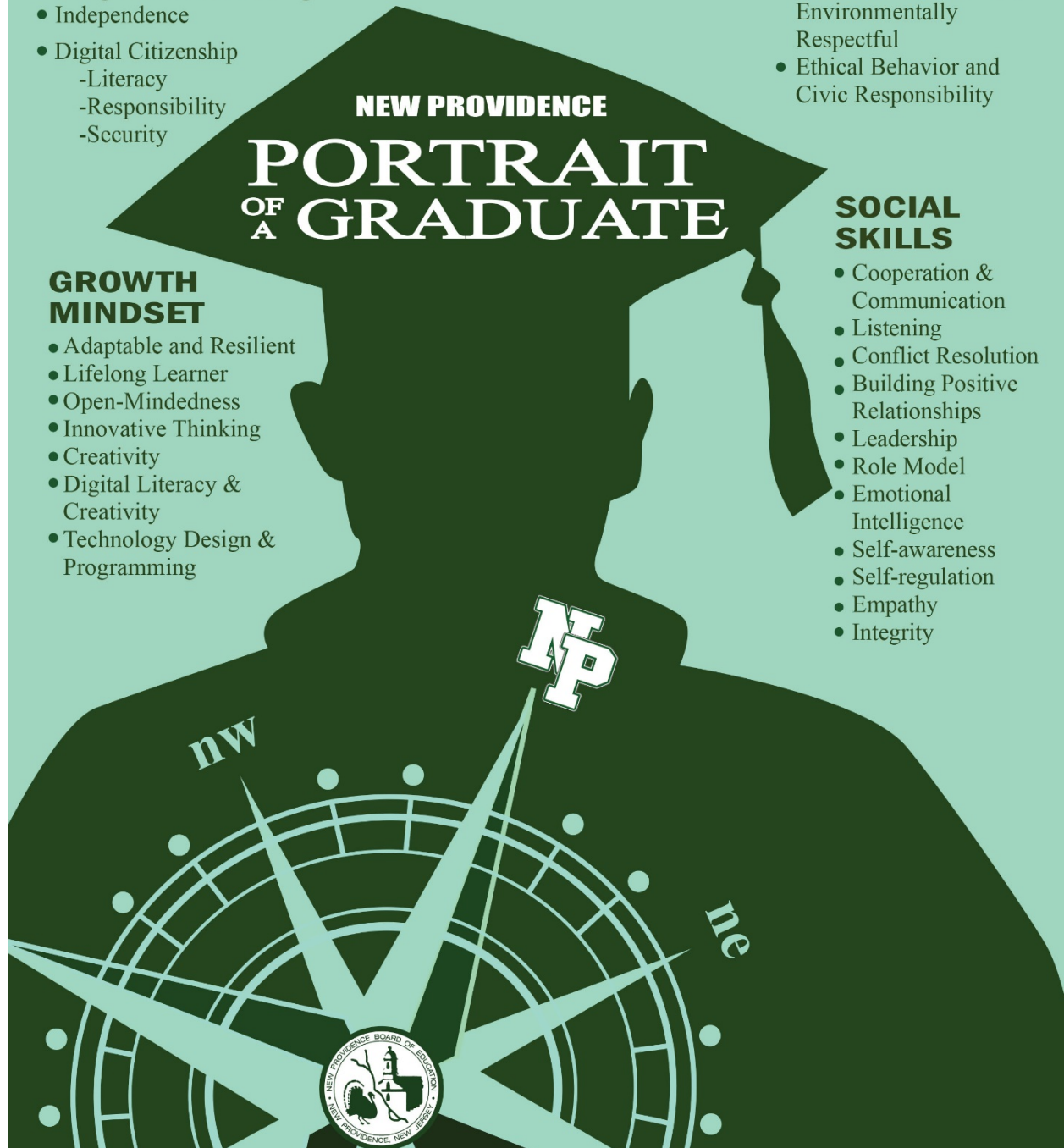
NEW PROVIDENCE PORTRAIT OF A GRADUATE

GROWTH MINDSET

- Adaptable and Resilient
- Lifelong Learner
- Open-Mindedness
- Innovative Thinking
- Creativity
- Digital Literacy & Creativity
- Technology Design & Programming

SOCIAL SKILLS

- Cooperation & Communication
- Listening
- Conflict Resolution
- Building Positive Relationships
- Leadership
- Role Model
- Emotional Intelligence
- Self-awareness
- Self-regulation
- Empathy
- Integrity



Portrait of a Graduate Concept C



PORTRAIT OF A GRADUATE



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