



Synergies

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CLASSROOM OF THE FUTURE FOUNDATION

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Board Retreat Ranges Wide and Far Into the Future of Local Education

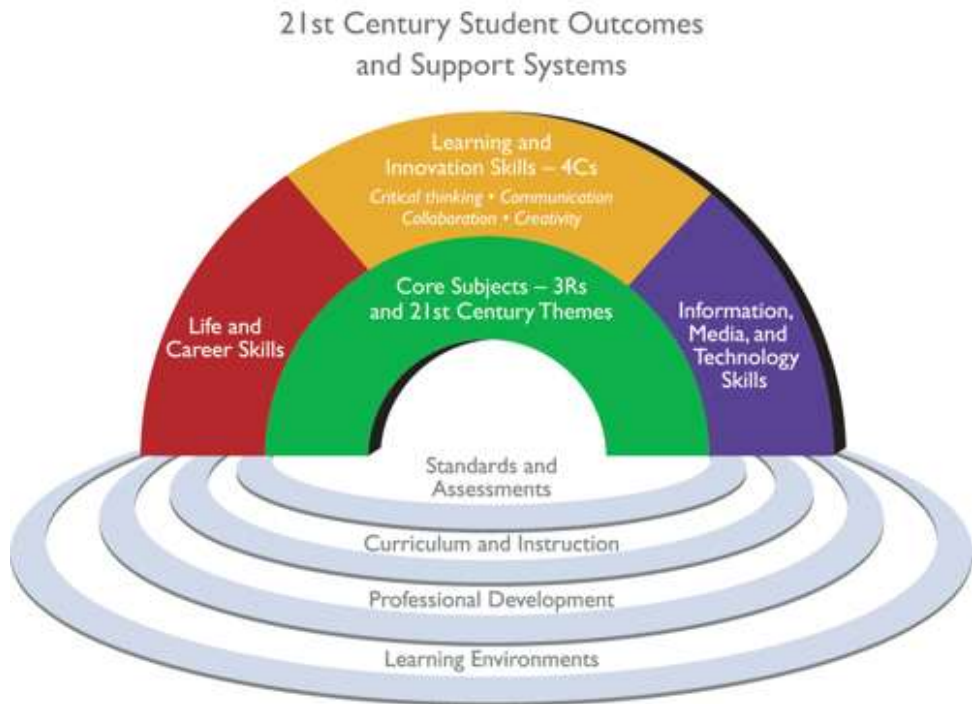
The Classroom of the Future Foundation’s annual retreat last month proved to be wide-ranging, thought provoking, and even inspirational.

21st Century Skills

A videoconference with Tim Magner of Partnerships for 21st Century Skills (www.p21.org) delved into what students need both today and years into the future. Digital learning and collaborative skills, for example, are becoming cornerstones of student needs for academic achievement.

“A teacher affects eternity.”

Henry Adams



In light of this insightful two-hour videoconference, the board will be taking a fresh look at its mission statement and consider whether to broaden its achievement scope to reflect the evolving needs of students in this century.

Sobering Budget News

The board also learned there is the possibility of mid-school year budget cuts if Governor Brown’s Proposition 30 fails at the polls. If schools are faced with doing more with less, how can CFF help?

One CFF approach can be to leverage its partnerships with business and technology leaders, helping them deploy their expertise in ways that directly benefit districts and their students in the face of budget cutbacks.

*“Tell me a fact
and I will learn.
Tell me a truth
and I will
believe. But tell
me a story and it
will live in my
heart forever.”*

Steve Sobol

Another is to find new ways to help districts employ technology to save money, improve efficiencies and enhance student achievement. CFF and others are reviewing comprehensive U.S. Department of Education studies that document effective use of educational technology and recommend criteria for its incorporation into the learning environment.

Social Media

In a similar vein, CFF’s website, Facebook, and related social media outlets are assuming a greater role. A CFF community blog filled with local program content is now being developed. Incentives for Facebook “likes” are being considered and new articles are being posted daily on CFF’s Facebook page.

Recently, Santee educator Laura Spencer made a major contribution to CFF’s Facebook page. She was one of 40 educators selected from around the country by NASA to travel to L.A. and watch the shuttle Endeavor land. Spencer enthusiastically posted, blogged, and tweeted about her once-in-a-lifetime experience.



We invite you to visit <http://Facebook.com/CFSD> today to LIKE us and become part of San Diego's #1 online education technology community. Join more than 140 educators in our growing community that shares local and national K-12 success stories, tips, and statistics about technology in the classroom.

Setting Project Priorities

Although CFF’s 2013 priorities continue to be a work in progress, CFF’s collaboration with the USS Midway Museum’s education program, the Cyber Safety initiative underwritten by SDG&E for the second consecutive year, STEM activities, and project-based learning initiatives will continue to be areas of focus.

CFF Founding Board Member Retires from Be WiSE!

Patricia Winter, one of the Classroom of the Future Foundation’s founding board members, has retired from another pioneering organization, Better Education for Women in Science and Engineering (Be WiSE!).

Patricia played a key role in establishing that pioneering group in 1999 and was instrumental in introducing the region’s leading scientific, technological, and laboratory organizations to Be WiSE! and CFF. Her professional connections and highly regarded reputation were important assets both for CFF and Be WiSE!

A special thank you to Patricia, for your selfless devotion to enhancing educational opportunities for students from all walks of life.



Educators Invited to Technology Seminars at Cal State San Marcos

The 29th annual San Diego Computer-Using Educators symposium will be held on Saturday, November 3, at Cal State San Marcos.

The daylong event will include 60+ seminars, workshops, and presentations on the use of technology in the classroom. There also will be supplier demonstrations, door prizes and lunch. Last year, attendance exceeded 1,000 participants.

For more information and to register, visit www.sdcue.org. Early bird pricing ends October 10.

In addition, SDCUE and CFF are working on a yearlong partnership to celebrate CFF's upcoming 10th anniversary.

CFF/USS Midway Collaboration Nears Electronic Field Trip Launch

In eight years the USS Midway Museum built a 40,000-students-per-year education program. Demand is so great, the museum has created a second set of classrooms under the flight deck.

In January, San Diego County students will be able to "visit" Midway from their classrooms.

That's when Midway launches its first electronic field trip initiative via the Internet. The Social Studies curriculum is entitled "The Evacuation of Saigon: 900,000 Cold War Refugees That Marked a Nation's End." It is suitable for grades 9-12 and meets more than two dozen curriculum standards.

The initiative includes lesson plans, primary-source documents, 7-10 minute videos, maps, glossary, and supplemental materials that teachers can download. The \$85 registration fee also includes a 50-minute interactive session between a Midway instructor onboard Midway and the classroom (or auditorium) filled with students.

It was pilot tested with San Diego and Orange County schools earlier this year.

The project is the result of a two-year collaboration between the USS Midway Museum, CFF, and the San Diego County Office of Education. The debut will be augmented by additional curricula in the next two years.

Reservations for the program will begin in January when information will be posted at www.midway.org/youth-school.

"Fifty years from now it will not matter what kind of car you drove, what kind of house you lived in, how much you had in your bank account, or what your clothes looked like.

But the world may be a little better because you were important in the life of a child."

Anonymous



Celebrating **10** years
**Innovation in
Education Awards**
May 22, 2013

*“No one can
become really
educated without
having pursued
some study in
which he took no
interest.”*

T. S. Eliot

Save the Date!

**Join us on May 22, 2013 at USD for
a very special celebration of
innovation and achievement!**

Technology News Across America

According to eschoolnews.com, here's a roundup of new educational technology in classrooms across America. Each headline is hotlinked for more information.

[New ed-tech service aims to boost parent engagement](#)

A simple text message could clue in parents to the perfect conversation starters with their kids: The Parent Connection, a new feature of Channel One News InterActiv, sends parents messages about what their children learned in school that day in an effort to strengthen the home-school connection...

[New math software targets 'perceptual learning'](#)

As schools struggle to balance conceptual learning and recall of simple facts, a new series of online math education products proposes a different focus: pattern recognition...

[How Twitter can be used as a powerful educational tool](#)

Think Twitter is just a waste of time? Think again. Its organizational structure makes it an effective tool for connecting with students and others online...

[More e-school News: Parents Want More Technology](#)

Results from a [new poll](#) suggest that parents and teachers support more use of technology to improve students' education and real-world skills. The poll comes from the Leading Education by Advancing Digital (LEAD) Commission, a non-governmental organization exploring the opportunity to use technology to improve education in the United States.

The survey reflects responses from 812 K-12 public school teachers and 883 parents of K-12 public school children in August 2012. This included an over-sampling of low-income parents.

Both parents and teachers said they believe U.S. public schools have some

	<p>catching up to do when it comes to technology use. Many believe the nation is behind the curve when it comes to other parts of the economy and other countries.</p> <p>In fact, a majority of both parents and teachers said more investments in technology are worthwhile at the local, state, and federal levels. Sixty-three percent of teachers said that additional investments are “definitely worth it,” and 32 percent said they are “probably worth it.” Similarly, 65 percent of parents said these additional investments are “definitely worth it,” and 26 percent said they are “probably worth it.”</p> <p>Respondents said technology can be helpful in addressing many education reform goals, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Providing more individualized and flexible learning.• Offering more hands-on learning opportunities.• Helping students become more engaged in their own learning.• Making closer connections between the classroom and the real world.• Exposing students to experts outside the classroom and different perspectives on issues. <p>Parents and teachers alike said that broadband technology is important to student learning and achievement, and they acknowledged that students who do not have access to broadband service are at a disadvantage.</p> <p>Seventy-four percent of teachers and 82 percent of parents said it is very important for schools to make good use of technology. Fifty-four percent of teachers and 64 percent of parents said that technology will be increasingly important in preparing young people for the future.</p>
	<p>Synergies is a newsletter of the Classroom of the Future Foundation. For more information, contact Bruce Braciszewski at (858) 292-3685 or visit www.classroomofthefuture.org. © 2012</p>