

AGENDA

21st Century Competencies Working Group Meeting

November 12-13, 2015 | Shanghai, China

Meeting Goal

The goal is to convene representatives of city education systems to share experiences and explore challenges around how primary and secondary education systems support the development of 21st century competencies for all students.

Outcomes

The outcomes of the working group will be:

1. Participants will be able to learn from other jurisdictions and international experts about how education systems support the development of 21st century competencies.
2. Asia Society and its research partners will document promising policies/practices, lessons learned, and remaining challenges in a publically available report that participating cities can reference and distribute.

Focus Question

- How can the development of 21st century competencies become an *integrated* part of the education system?

Process

We will share strategies, challenges, and approaches at two levels through the working group:

1. What does integration look like at the **system** level?
 - How do you articulate the need for 21st century competencies and for new approaches to developing these competencies? How do you demonstrate the importance of 21st century competencies so that efforts grow and/or are sustained?
 - How do different parts of the education system contribute to supporting the development of 21st century competencies, and how is that coordinated? How do learning opportunities out of school connect to and/or complement the in-school supports for the development of 21st century competencies?
 - What are the biggest challenges to systematically integrating 21st century competencies at the system level?
2. What does integration look like at the **school** level?
 - What supports are needed for schools and how are they provided?
 - How do systems engage teachers and other practitioners in this work? What capacities and resources are needed and how are they built?
 - What are the biggest challenges to systematically integrating 21st century competencies at the school level?

At the end of the meeting, we will discuss the questions:

- What are the immediate next steps for your own work in your city?

- What do you want to continue to learn from others in and beyond this group?

Preparation

Each city team should come prepared to discuss:

- (1) **A success** – What have you implemented and why does it seem to be effective at supporting the integration of 21st century competencies? (ie, What might other city teams learn from you?)

AND

- (2) **A challenge** – What do you still struggle with in integrating 21st century competencies? (ie, What do you want to learn from others?)

Each city team has been asked to present on their successes and challenges at either the system level (Thursday) or school level (Friday), as noted in the agenda on the following pages.

Wednesday November 11

City teams arrive in Shanghai, if not part of the Global Cities Education Network Symposium.

- 9:00 – 5:00 Research Meeting – *Kai-ming Cheng, Hong Kong University*
- Invitation-only meeting of researchers prior to working group meeting

There are no scheduled activities on Wednesday, November 11 unless you have been invited to the GCEN Symposium or Research Meeting.

Thursday November 12

- 7:00 – 8:00 Breakfast at hotel
- 8:00 – 8:30 Travel to Shanghai Normal University
- 8:30 – 8:45 **Welcome and Opening Remarks** – *Tony Jackson, Asia Society*
- Introduce Asia Society
 - Set the stage for the working group meeting
- 8:45 – 9:00 **Introductions** – *Tony Jackson, Asia Society*
- City Teams: Describe your role within the education system, particularly as it relates to 21st century competencies
 - Advisors: Describe the perspective/experience you bring to the discussion of 21st century competencies

9:00 – 9:45

Background and Context

1. **US Context** - *Christina Russell, Policy Studies Associates* (20 mins)
 - High-level overview of approach/rationale to 21st century competencies in the US context
 - Broad introduction to the work underway across cities, highlighting the common themes where possible.
2. **Asia Context** - *Kai-ming Cheng, Hong Kong University* (20 mins)
 - High-level overview of approach/rationale to 21st century competencies in the Asian context
 - Broad introduction to the work underway across countries, highlighting the common themes where possible.

9:45 – 10:00

Break

10:00 – 10:15

Presentation: System-Level Integration of 21st Century Competencies – *Koji Miyamoto, Centre for Educational Research and Innovation (CERI), OECD*

- How does OECD see non-cognitive skills as an important foundation to learning, social progress, and economic growth?
- What is the rationale for 21st century competencies? How does this get communicated and discussed by policymakers?
- How does this connect to other areas that educators and other stakeholders are interested in, including academic success and college and career readiness?

10:15 – 10:30

Q&A

10:30 – 11:15

City Presentations: System-Level Successes and Challenges – *Tony Jackson, Asia Society* (City teams present for 15 mins each)

1. Singapore
2. New York
3. Seattle

11:15 – 12:00

Facilitated Discussion – *Koji Miyamoto, Centre for Educational Research and Innovation (CERI), OECD* (Break into 3 city pairs for 30 mins, then large group discussion for 10 mins)

- How are 21st century competencies framed in your city?
- Where are there barriers to advocating for integration of 21st century competencies into your education system?

12:00 – 12:20

Introduction to Shanghai School Visit

- Background and context on 21st century competencies in Shanghai
- Introduction to school visit

- 12:30 **Box Lunch and Depart**
- 1:00 – 3:30 **School Visit**
Focus questions:
- How is the goal and purpose of 21st century competencies communicated to teachers? To students?
 - How are 21st century competencies integrated into and/or complementary of academic learning?
 - What supports/resources/guidance are available to support development of 21st century competencies? From within the school? From the education system? From other partners?
 - What seems to be especially effective? What could be strengthened?
- 3:30 – 4:00 Return to hotel
- Dinner on your own – suggestions will be provided

Friday November 13

- 7:00 – 8:30 Breakfast at hotel
- 8:30 – 9:00 Travel to Shanghai Normal University
- 9:00 – 9:30 **Debrief School Visit** – *Vivien Stewart, Asia Society*
- What did we observe about how the development of 21st century competencies is integrated into the school?
 - What was impressive? What was surprising?
- 9:30 – 9:45 **School-Level Integration of 21st Century Competencies** –
David Conley, EdImagine and University of Oregon
- How can 21st century competencies be integrated at the school level?
 - How do these competencies connect to other important areas of learning (including but not limited to core academics)?
 - How do systems develop the capacity of educators to help students develop these skills?
 - How do systems support educators to help students develop these skills?
- 9:45 – 10:00 **Q&A**
- 10:00 – 10:15 **Break**
- 10:15 – 11:00 **City Presentations: School-Level Successes and Challenges** –
Tony Jackson, Asia Society (City teams present for 15 mins each)

1. Denver
2. Seoul
3. Hiroshima

11:00 – 12:00	<p>Facilitated Discussion – <i>David Conley, EdImagine and University of Oregon</i> (Break into 3 city pairs for 30 mins, then large group discussion for 30 mins)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How are 21st century competencies supported in schools in your city? • Where are there barriers to supporting integration of 21st century competencies into your schools?
12:00 – 1:00	<p>Lunch</p>
1:00 – 2:00	<p>Peer Networking – <i>Tony Jackson, Asia Society</i> (Break into small groups then switch halfway through)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Themes and focus questions will be provided for small groups
2:00 – 3:00	<p>Team Time (City teams meet in separate groups)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What will you focus on next to advance integration of 21st century competencies at either the system level or school level? • Who else will you need to involve internally—partners, others within district, etc.? • What resources are needed? • What challenges do you anticipate? • Who within the working group might you want to call on for advice?
3:00 – 4:00	<p>Wrap Up and Close – <i>Alexis Menten, Asia Society</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advisors: Big themes that have emerged about 21st century competencies • City Teams: Takeaways of lessons learned and next steps • Asia Society: Next steps for working group and report
After 4:00	<p>Participants depart, if flights are available</p> <p>Dinner on your own</p>

Saturday November 14

All remaining working group members and Asia Society staff depart Shanghai