Teaching, Learning & Leading in a Connected World

Isa Kaftal Zimmerman May 8, 2017 Edward M. Kennedy Institute Boston, MA.

Essential Question of Today

- What can we do to support all students in becoming informed, engaged citizens in our connected world?
- Teach them to understand the meaning, practice & significance of civil behavior

Not an instinct, needs to & CAN be taught & practiced

- Starting in early childhood
- Continuing through life as the person & world change

The Ultimate Goal

- Schools have an important role in teaching civil behavior, civics and responsibility ...for a democratic society to function
- What I will try to do is to demonstrate why it is a function of the schools and some ways to do it

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Holocaust Memorial

-Foxborough Regional Charter School Stamp Project

Yale '58 Convocation

- David Greenway, Foreign correspondent & journalist, moderator
- Nina Tumarkin, Wellesley College & Harvard...about Putin
- Stephen Walt, Harvard...problems facing US foreign affairs
- Tom Simons, former Ambassador to Pakistan, Kennedy School...Islamic world

Tell them

• Learn Russian & other foreign languages

• Facts matter

Public policy matters

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Also Askwith Forum

- Bill Drayton, Founder, Oshoka Program
- Rosabeth Moss Kantor, Harvard Business School
 - 4/27/17

...Civics is not only a curriculum. It is a (self)discipline.

Origin of civics 1.0

"Civics is the study of the theoretical and political and practical aspects of citizenship, its rights and duties; the duties of citizens to each other as members of a political body and to the government."

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Civics

Formal Duties

- Voting (Town Hall meetings)
- Paying Taxes
- Serving Jury duty

Origin of Civics 2.0

• In the history of <u>Rome</u>, the <u>Latin</u> term civitas ...was the social body of <u>...citizens</u>, united by law ...giving them responsibilities ...on the one hand and rights of citizenship on the other. *Wikipedia*

Global Civics 1.0

• Recently, the concept of <u>global</u> <u>civics</u> has also been suggested as a way of applying civics in the highly interdependent and globalized world of the 21st century.

<u>Global Civics</u> 2.0

 Many people feel that increasing knowledge & awareness of individual citizens' rights can enhance global political & economic understanding. Nations such as the United States have been criticized for minimizing public civics education opportunities in the past several years.

One challenge of global civics

- One person's response is another culture's affront
- One person's expectation might be another's simple observation

The Power of Today_1.0

- Libraries & programs can be accessed from a hand held device
- People in all parts of the world can connect instantaneously despite time/culture/language difference
- People can be creative without a studio

The Power of Today_2.0

- Advice & PD are available constantly: <u>This Is How to Use iPad to Give Effective Digital Feedback to</u> <u>Students</u>
- April 17, 2017 In this short interactive guide, Daniel Toms (One Best Thing team) walks you through the different ways you can use iPads in your class to provide students with effective digital feedbackto improve their learning...

• Posted: 17 April 2017 12:59 PM PDT

The Danger of Today

- Anyone can state his/her opinion without research or references
- Anyone can accuse another person(s) without evidence
- Colleges can/do look at a student's social media experience as part of the application process

The latest—for the moment

• How millions of kids are being shaped by know-it-all voice assistants ---*Michael Rosenwald, The Washington Post, 3/2/17*

-Kids adore their new robot siblings (Alexa, Siri...)

-Beware the impact of overuse of devices

And the latest challenge

 Micro aggression: Psychologist Derald Wing Sue defines microaggressions as "brief, everyday exchanges that send denigrating messages to certain individuals because of their group membership" (Wikipedia)

....The future is now...

- We need to prepare students for their future, not our past. ... David Thornburg
- It turns out that Daniel Pink said the same thing on February 20, 2009 (A Whole New Mind)

How do we as educators prepare Gen Z for jobs that may not even exist yet?

• "The generation in school now is the first... raised entirely in the Age of Technology. They are digital natives, many of them using..."

[technology]nearly from birth. eschool news 4/3/17/

The Power of Choice 1.0

- Allow for Student Choice
- Buy-in to the lesson (what they learn and how they provide evidence of their learning)
- Use materials that are also visually appealing, with engaging photos, maps, or illustrations.

Eschool news

The Power of Choice 2.0

- Getting students excited about their own learning gives them the drive & power to answer their own questions, to investigate solutions to problems, & to adapt & thrive in our everchanging world.
 - Wayland High School...the Lloyd Trump Plan
 - Meadowbrook Junior HS in Newton...Title III Dissemination School

But always

• Students need to feel safe at home and where they learn both physically & intellectually

- Nellie Mae Foundation

One can learn from mistakes

Power of Choice: Lesson Learned

- In the spring an English and Social Studies teacher turns to drama:
 - -Writing vignettes
 - -Role play & Simulation

Is digital literacy plural? 1.0

 Commonly recognized examples of new literacies include such practices as instant messaging, blogging, maintaining a website, participating in online social networking spaces, creating and sharing music videos, podcasting and videocasting, photoshopping images and photo sharing, emailing,

Web Literacy 1.0

 "In 1998, a 15-year-old high school student used the personal website of a professor at Northwestern University, Arthur Butz, as justification for writing a history paper called 'The Historic Myth of Concentration Camps.'"

Web Literacy 2.0

 That student, ... aka Zack, had been encouraged to use the internet for research, but he had not been taught to decode the meaning of the characters in a web address. When he read the web address, http://pubweb.northwestern.edu/~abutz/di/intro.

html, he assumed that the domain name

"northwestern.edu" automatically meant it was a credible source.

Web Literacy 3.0

 "Without web literacy, Zack believed Butz's explanation. Zack read about how the Nazis were fighting typhus, a disease carried by head lice. He went on to read that the pesticide Zyklon was used to kill the head lice—not the prisoners in the gas chambers. Without basic knowledge of web punctuation or the skills necessary to validate internet content, Zack was at a disadvantage to sthink critically about what he was reading. "

Civic Responsibility Today

- Today civic responsibility is also manifesting in:
 - Protests
 - Signs
 - Marches
 - Tweets
 - Boycotts

How to teach/engage 1.0

- Case studies
- Role play/simulations
 - Writing
 - Speaking
 - Collaborating
 - Researching
 - Presenting

Where are these skills to be taught?

- Reading & Language Arts
- Instructional Technology
 - English, LA
 - Social Studies
 - Science
 - Mathematics
- Foreign Language...etc.

Being able to...helps 1.0

- Conflict resolution
 - Communicate how you feel
 - Listen actively...no interruptions
 - Review options
 - End w. a win-win resolution
- Establishing a positive culture in the classroom & schoolspeak with each student every class every day

Being able to...helps 2.0

- Build Strong Relationships
- Teach Essential Social Skills
- Clarify rules
- Set Appropriate Consequences
- Praise Students for Good Choices

A topic of recent 're-attention'

- "Today's active learning styles require fluid, multi-purpose spaces that can be instantly adapted for large groups, small teams or individual learning activities."
- Lab spaces is an old term
- Maker spaces is a new term

That also means learning spaces

- From Edutopia the aesthetics of learning spaces impact brain function and influence how students feel when they're in school -- as well as how they feel about their school.
- Neuroscience continues to inform us about how the brain functions and what this means for effective teaching and, more importantly, effective learning.

What would you do? 1.0 How would you teach students to deal with this challenge?

- Two young men are blocking the sidewalk as they argue loudly and threateningly (pre-tech) or
- They are flooding the airwaves with inappropriate & intimidating posts

What would you do? 2.0

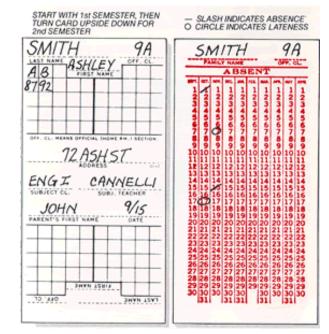
 You are running for office of an organization you care deeply about. Someone who clearly does not like you and wishes to discredit you, sends out an email claiming his/her opinion as fact.

What would you do? 3.0

- A student in your class examines your *Delaney book** without your permission and changes the scores of another student in the class on his card.
 **visual seating plan (Wikipedia)*
- Consider hacking a teacher's account to be the equivalent

The book & the card





What would you do? 4.0

If you either observed or heard about bullying of someone in your class or in the corridor or online?

Penultimate word

- Schools must teach civil behavior, civics and responsibility. No other institution can do this to the entire school-age community.
- What I have tried to do is to demonstrate why and some ways to do that.

"These are the times that try men's souls."

• Thomas Paine decided to write something to try to renew the patriotic spirit of American soldiers and discourage them from deserting or going home when their enlistment period was up during the Revolutionary War.

» December 19, 1776