

The Latest Developments in Gifted Education:

The Innovative Schools in the Digital World

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“The world is what we live; it will not change unless our way of thinking is changed”

Einstein

This presentation covers a number of ideas relevant to 21st century contextual pressures and their possible implications. The intent is to inform research on how to identify prerequisites for excellence and innovation in 21st century education while encouraging educational systems and societies to embrace and nurture gifted, creative, and talented students. Influential, respected international organizations need to be involved to assist with the necessary employment of knowledge in science and technology, and to adapt this knowledge to the digital world so schools can become more innovative. More specifically, the presentation attends to eight key topics: (a) creativity and innovation and a cultural dichotomy they entail; (b) the development of effective learning environments; (c) the establishment of excellence in education through innovative schools; (d) critical and strategic thinking as keys to creativity; (e) problem-based learning; (f) the roles of teachers and families in the achievement of educational excellence; (g) capitalizing on technological advancements in an increasingly digital world; and (h) fitting all of this into the parameters of laws and legislation in various national contexts.