



A Message from the Desk of

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21st Century Learners



First, all students are reminded that school begins for all students in grades K-12 on Monday, August 23. The first day for Pre-K students is Wednesday, September 1. You can find additional information on the Clay County Schools website referred to at the end of this article.

West Virginia Schools are now required to provide “21st Century Learning” for students. First, this means that students must be **proficient in Information and Communications Skills**. They must use new technology to access, manage, integrate, create and communicate with others. Students must be able to speak and write well to articulate their ideas. They must be able to work together with others productively.

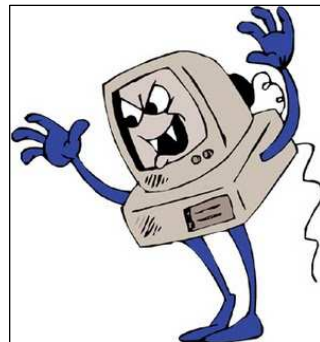
Secondly, students must have good **Thinking and Problem Solving Skills**. Students must be able to think independently, intelligently, and creatively in solving complex problems for themselves. They must learn to use sound reasoning to ask the right questions, and make good decisions that lead to success in the workplace and the community.

Thirdly, our students must have good **Personal**

and Workplace Productivity Skills. This means they must be able to work independently, yet get along well with others too. They must be self-motivated, dependable, display a positive attitude, and exhibit ethical behavior.

Students who resist learning these 21st century skills are at risk of failure in school -- and in life.

To effectively teach these skills, West Virginia, and Clay County educators must acknowledge a new “digital” world and educate themselves about it. Teachers must now immerse themselves in the



digital landscape where the 21st century learner lives.

Educators who are afraid of, and reject new technologies in the classrooms are doomed to mediocrity, or even worse, outright failure. These teachers are performing the virtual equivalent of “riding a covered wagon on the open highway”. The students have long since gotten out of the wagon are moving on, leaving the teacher behind.

Thank you for your time and support. go to:
www.claycountyschools.org

