

Westhill Central Schools
21st Century Continuum

Key 21st Century Skills	Novice	Emerging	Proficient	Exemplary
<p>Creativity / Innovation. <i>Develops ideas, creates solutions, and identifies connections to generate new possibilities or products that have value and are appropriate to the task.</i></p>	Identifies an idea/approach within a given structure to address a problem or complete a task that mimics an existing idea/approach.	Uses knowledge of existing structures to develop an idea, question, format or product to solve an existing need or problem.	Generates or extends an idea, question, format or product using content and structural knowledge to solve an existing need or problem.	Creates a novel or unique idea, question, format or product using extensive content and structural knowledge that makes new associations to solve an existing or anticipated need or problem.
<p>Communication <i>Shares ideas and information using various formats to engage others.</i></p>	Uses a given format to present information and ideas so main points are relevant to the purpose and audience.	Uses a given format to present information and ideas using appropriate vocabulary so main points are relevant to the purpose and evident to an audience.	Uses an appropriate format to effectively engage others through the presentation of information and ideas and use of appropriate vocabulary.	Strategically uses appropriate format(s) to effectively engage others and monitor the impact of the presentation of information, ideas and use of appropriate vocabulary.
<p>Social Responsibility <i>Contributes to the improvement of the greater community by acting with respect and compassion.</i></p>	Demonstrates awareness of a given problem/ crisis and, with teacher direction, takes appropriate action for the greater community.	Demonstrates awareness of a given problem/ crisis, makes decisions and plans to take appropriate action to influence change for the greater community.	Identifies a need based on a problem/crisis, creates awareness among others, and makes decisions to influence change for the greater community.	Initiates and sustains ongoing commitment to a cause through communication, developing solutions, and influencing others' actions for the greater community.
<p>Collaboration <i>Shares responsibility and considers alternate points of view to build consensus and work toward a common goal.</i></p>	Shares information and ideas with others to complete a task.	Shares information and ideas with others and appropriately listens and responds to diverse viewpoints to complete a task.	Engages with others to build consensus through shared responsibility, listening and responding to diverse viewpoints, creating collective knowledge, and working toward a common goal.	Engages with others (in and outside of the group) to build consensus through shared responsibility, listening and responding to diverse viewpoints, expanding collective knowledge, and working toward a common goal.

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<p>Information literacy <i>Uses an inquiry process to locate and use credible information to complete a task.</i></p>	Uses a basic inquiry process to locate and collect information to complete a task.	Uses an inquiry process to explore a given question to locate, collect, and synthesize from a variety of sources with citations to complete a task.	Uses an inquiry process to develop questions, identify, evaluate, and synthesize a variety of sources — determining the relevance, authority, and accuracy of every source — with citations to complete a task.	Uses an inquiry process to generate and refine specific questions, evaluate a variety of sources based on relevance, authority, and accuracy, weigh conflicting evidence, and synthesize findings with appropriate citations to complete a task.
<p>Self-Direction <i>Develops a plan and monitors progress toward established goals within designated timelines.</i></p>	Given a task, organizes and executes a plan in a timely manner with significant teacher scaffolding.	Given a task, organizes and executes a plan in a timely manner with occasional support and redirection from the teacher.	Given a task or a desired accomplishment, independently develops and executes a plan and seeks feedback to monitor progress toward established goals within designated timelines.	Given a task or desired accomplishment, independently selects a focus and initiates a plan by seeking multiple sources of feedback to monitor progress toward established goals within designated timelines.
<p>Critical Thinking <i>Analyzes and evaluates information, ideas, and representations to develop a point of view, draw inferences, and/or make predictions.</i></p>	Identifies information, ideas, or representations to make reasonable inferences or predictions.	Analyzes information, ideas, or representations to develop a point a view, draw inferences, or make predictions with use of reasoning and evidence.	Analyzes and evaluates both concrete and conceptual information, ideas, and representations to develop a point of view, make predictions, or draw inferences with appropriate use of reasoning and evidence to generalize knowledge.	Analyzes and evaluates both concrete and conceptual information, ideas and representations to develop a point of view, make predictions, draw inferences with extensive use of reasoning and evidence to generalize and apply knowledge to other situations.
<p>Problem solving <i>Develops and implements a procedure to determine appropriate solutions and next steps.</i></p>	Identifies the (roots of) the problem and apply a procedure to arrive at the solution	Within a given set of parameters, identifies the (roots of) problem, selects and applies a procedure to determine a viable solution.	Independently identifies a problem and its roots, creates and applies a procedure to determine reasonable solutions keeping in mind potential ramifications or possible alternatives.	Independently identifies a problem and its root causes, creates and applies a procedure which leads to viable and appropriate solutions exploring potential ramifications and possible alternatives.