Best General Era 3 Websites*

The following websites provide some of the best general resources and information about Era 3 education:

Bob Pearlman - *http://www.bobpearlman.org/index.htm*

This website, put together by a leading educational consultant for 21st century schools, has a wealth of resources – 21st century school exemplar and model links, readings, articles and resources, examples of 21st century strategies, and much more. A must to look at!

The Partnership for 21st Century Skills - *http://www.p21.org*

The Partnership for 21st Century Skills is a national organization that advocates for 21st century readiness for every student. As the United States continues to compete in a global economy that demands innovation, P21 and its members provide tools and resources to help the U.S. education system keep up by fusing the three Rs and four Cs (critical thinking and problem solving, communication, collaboration, and creativity and innovation).

21st Century Schools - *http://www.21stCenturySchools.com*

Although this is a "company" that does consulting and training in curriculum and professional development, there are many resources that are worth looking at and worth downloading. Overall, a very good resource for information about Era 3, 21st century education.

Small Schools Project - *http://www.smallschoolsproject.org/index.asp?siteloc=home*

This website contains information and weblinks that promote small school development, and focuses on such things as creating rigorous, relevant learning experiences and powerful relationships that support student learning. Advisories, classroom personalization, integrated curriculum, project based learning, performance assessments, and other Era 3 educational approaches are prominently featured and examined.

High Tech High (HTH) - *http://www.hightechhigh.org*

Multiple High Tech High resources can be found at:
http://www.hightechhigh.org/resource-center/ or
 http://www.hightechhigh.org/downloads/WinterResidency2010/

High Tech High consists of a group of innovative Era 3 schools in San Diego, California (not all high schools). Their website contains multiple resources, including descriptions of key aspects of the schools, project examples, writings of teachers, and many other features worth examining. This website is also cited below in the model school section of this page.

Edutopia - *http://www.edutopia.org*

Edutopia is a tremendous resource for 21st century learning. The website provides insights into innovative educational programs and strategies in a number of different areas – core concepts, project learning, social and emotional learning, technology integration, and so on. Some components of Edutopia are extraordinary, such as videos that describe models of excellence.

The Coalition of Essential Schools - *http://www.essentialschools.org/*

For over twenty years, the Coalition of Essential Schools (CES) has been at the forefront of creating and sustaining personalized, equitable, and intellectually challenging schools. Essential schools are places of powerful student learning where all students have the chance to reach their fullest potential. A major focus of the coalition is on the development of a powerful, understanding based curriculum at all levels. The website has all kinds of information, including a listing of a network of coalition schools and an extensive list of resources.

Independent Curriculum Group - *http://www.independentcurriculum.org/index.php*

The Independent Curriculum Group "[is] part of a growing movement of leading college preparatory schools that emphasize site-based, teacher-generated curriculum for advanced courses." The website highlights schools and curricula programs that promote rigorous advanced courses that promote

engaged students, purposeful schools, and brain based learning.

Tween Teacher - *http://tweenteacher.com/*

This website, developed by Heather Wolpert-Gawron, is a fount of information, ideas, blog opinion pages, and other tidbits and gems. It has a large number of links to other websites as well. Worth perusing and using for teachers and leaders.

Common Core Standards - *http://commoncore.org/*

Common Core "[believes] that a child who graduates from high school without an understanding of culture, the arts, history, literature, civics and language has in fact been left behind". They promote programs, policies and initiatives that ensure that all students get a challenging, rigorous instruction in all the liberal arts and sciences. Their website contains curriculum maps, reports, suggested resources, and much more

School Change - *http://schoolchange.org/* -

School Change is the website of Tony Wagner, a leading advocate for Era 3, 21st century learning. The website is designed to promote his consulting and speaking engagements, but there are a wealth of resources located under "site map".

ALPS, Active Learning Practice for Schools - *http://learnweb.harvard.edu/ALPS/tour/about.cfm*

An electronic community dedicated to the improvement and advancement of educational instruction and practice. Its primary focus is on teaching for understanding and thinking. The mission is to create an on-line collaborative environment between teachers and administrators from around the world with educational researchers, professors, and curriculum designers at Harvard's Graduate School of Education and Project Zero. It has a number of philosophical and practice dimensions, including unit examples and a unit planning process.

International Baccalaureate - *http://www.ibo.org/*

The International Baccalaureate Program aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect. To this end the organization works with schools, governments and international organizations to develop challenging K-12 programs and rigorous assessment. These programs encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners.

Mike Schmoker - *http://mikeschmoker.com/*

Mike Schmoker has consistently raised some very interesting points about educational practice today, and homes in on some key changes for providing students with an education of excellence. His excellent latest book, *Focus*, published by ASCD, examines a few key "basics" that are worth concentrating on as a focus for educational change. Although many Era 3 educational practices are not included in this book (such as the use of projects and independent research) it does examines the need for reducing the amount of content, honing in on "authentic" literacy, concentrating on close reading, and extensively using writing as a learning tool, among others. His webite includes a number of his articles that can be downloaded, as well as additional resources.

The Forum for Education and Democracy - *http://www.forumforeducation.org/*

The Forum for Education and Democracy is committed to a strong public education system that enables "all young people to develop their strengths, use their minds well, and become connected to their communities. The Forum website has a number of useful resources, including a "What Works" section, "teaching and learning", that provides information on a number of schools, organizations and leaders committed to its principles.