

Nativity Preparatory School

Media Centers and Libraries Package



Community Partner: Nativity Preparatory School

Academic Partner: Community Partnership Design Center

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The Roger Williams University Community Partnerships Center

The Roger Williams University (RWU) Community Partnerships Center (CPC) provides project-based assistance to non-profit organizations, government agencies and low- and moderate-income communities in Rhode Island and southeastern Massachusetts. Our mission is to undertake and complete projects that will benefit the local community while providing RWU students with experience in real-world projects that deepen their academic experiences.

CPC projects draw upon the skills and experience of students and faculty from all RWU programs. Community partnerships broaden and deepen the academic experiences of RWU students by allowing them to work on real-world projects, through curriculum-based and service-learning opportunities collaborating with non-profit and community leaders as they seek to achieve their missions. The services provided by the CPC would normally not be available to these organizations due to their cost and/or diverse needs.

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Introduction

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Libraries in the 21st Century

The role of a library is changing and adapting to today's needs. Today books can be found and read on a phone, tablet and computer. So how is it that libraries are changing and adapting? "Libraries are reinventing themselves as content becomes more accessible online and their role becomes less about housing tomes and more about connecting learners and constructing knowledge." Libraries are doing so by becoming learning commons, a space that inspires and "encourages teachers and students to collaborate, communicate, and share." For some, a library is their only access to the internet and for others it is a place that fosters learning and engagement.

In schools, updating the library to the 21st century is a great way to reach younger students. With students being in front of a screen at any given point of the day, engaging with them intellectually using those screens is a great way to teach and learn. Teachers are extremely integral to the modernizing the library. New ways to teach students how to work collaboratively from a young age will help the students grow and adapt to the societal norms of today.

A library that provides collaborative spaces, digital learning spaces, media spaces, as well as the traditional reading/seating areas, book stacks, and shared space, is well on its way into entering the 21st century.

Sources:

Holland, Beth. 21st-Century Libraries: The Learning Commons. Edutopia. N.p., 14 Jan. 2015. Web. 06 June 2016. http://www.edutopia.org/blog/21st-century-libraries-learning-commons-beth-holland

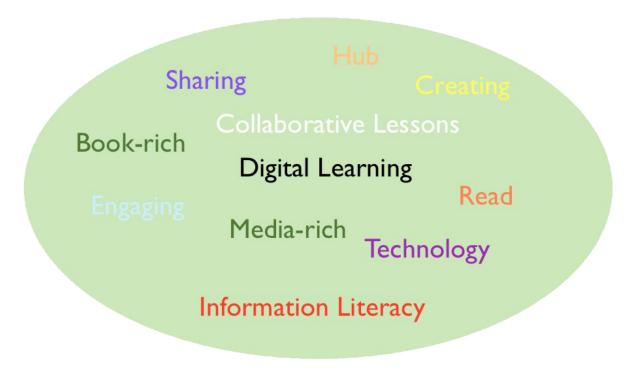
Miller, Elizabeth R. Exploring the Role of the 21st Century Library in an Age of E-books and Online Content. Knight Foundation. N.p., 25 Feb. 2012. Web. 06 June 2016. http://www.knightfoundation.org/blogs/knightblog/2012/2/25/exploring-role-21st-century-library-age-e-books-and-online-content/



A New Way to View a Library

With a database of millions of digital resources that is continually increasing, libraries are taking on a new role. Rather than being a quiet space for individuals to read and study, libraries are reinventing themselves as spaces that harbor collaboration and communication. With the way that teaching methodologies are changing, a space that teachers can use for project-based learning and technology integrated classes is needed. By rethinking the library one can start looking at what the needs of the school, teachers and students are and focus that knowledge into transforming the library into that space.

21st Century School Library

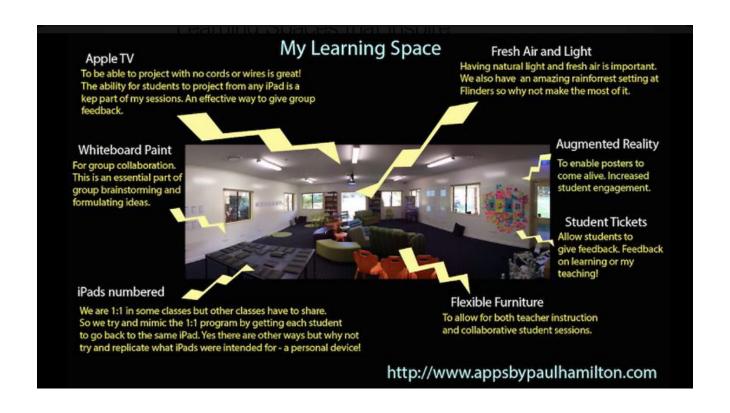




Elements of a 21st Centrury Library

What elements bring a library to the 21st Century? Looking at the current trends in technology and teaching, we have isolated SIX key elements that make a 21st Century Library.

- Collaborative Spaces
- Digital Learning Spaces
- Media Spaces
- Improved Reading/Seating Areas
- Improved Book Sacks/Shelving
- Shared Space





Collaborative Spaces



Sioux Center Middle and High School - Sioux Center, IA

Using various types of seating to accommodate different sized groups is great for students and teachers to collaborate. Having these seats next to a wall where either a whiteboard or clear plastic/glass can be hung is also great for group discussions or lessons. These types of seating arrangements are great as an alternative to the typical classroom.

(http://www.demcointeriors.com/project/sioux-center-middle-and-high-school-ia/)



Collaborative Spaces



Active Learning Classroom Model 3 - Steelcase Education Inc.

Movable furniture can be used as a flexible way to accommodate different sized groups is great for students and teachers to collaborate. Having mobile furniture is great because a wall is not needed. These types of seating arrangements are great as an alternative to the typical classroom and are also good for group discussions.

(https://www.steelcase.com/discover/information/education/active-learning-center-grant/#classroom-options)



Collaborative Spaces



Foreign Language Multi-Media Center, University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth, Dartmouth, MA

Movable furniture can be used as a flexible way to accommodate different sized groups is great for students and teachers to collaborate. Having mobile furniture allows to the user to rearrange the space as needed to accommodate groups of various sizes. These types of seating arrangements are great as an alternative to the typical classroom and are also good for group discussions.

(Photo provided by: Sandra Rivera-Director of the Foreign Language Multi-Media Center)



Digital Learning/Media Spaces



Roger Williams University-Bristol, RI

Libraries are being transformed by technology. They also provide technology services to those that may not have access to it in the community. An area where students can use computers is great for individual projects and work, as well as collaboritive work.

(Photo provided by: Pedro Ortiz-Project Manager at CPC)



Digital Learning/Media Spaces



The University of Texas-Austin, TX

The thinkspace is a new alternative for classrooms, presentations, and meetings. It provides both booth style seating and tall stool seating so that everyone can look at the large monitor without obstruction.

(http://www.lib.utexas.edu/development/thinkspace)





Digital Learning/ Media Spaces



Foreign Language Multi-Media Center at the University of Massachusetts in Dartmouth, MA

A space that can be utilized as both a collaborative area and a Digital classroom is a great addition to any school library. This space can be seen as another alternative for classrooms, presentations, and meetings, where the students and teachers can all use technology to convey ideas, as well as present them in real time.

(Photo provided by: Sandra Rivera-Director of the Foreign Language Multi-Media Center)



Reading/Seating Areas



Roger Williams Univeristy Library - Bristol, RI

Seating inbetween book shelves provides a sheltered place to read surrounded by books. This type of seating arrangement also allows for quiet group meetings outside of the classroom.

(Photo provided by: Pedro Ortiz-Project Manager at CPC)



Reading/Seating Areas



Burrell High School Library Media Center-Lower Burrell, PA

Using different seating types allows for diffent intereactions among students and heir peers. It can be used as a hangout space as well as a quiet place to read.

(https://www.flickr.com/photos/98480431@N08/page10)



Reading/Seating Areas



Westlake High School Library -Thornwood, New York

Individual seats creates a more personalized feeling. Using movable seating is great for flexible arrangements of the seats.

(http://www.longoschools.com/tag/wood-library-media-center-furniture/)



Shared Spaces



The University of Texas-Austin, TX

A shared space in a library is a good intermediary between collaboritive space and indivual work space. By providing different types of seatings, it allows the users of the space to decide how to occupy the space.

(http://www.lib.utexas.edu/development/thinkspace)



Shared Spaces



The Duston School Library-Northamptonshire, England

This divider can be arranged in several different ways as viewed in the link below. The dividers are playful in their color variety and ability to be moved on wheels. The punched wholes ensure safety of visibility into and out from the enclosure.

(http://demcointeriors.co.uk/duston-school-library)



Book Stacks/Shelving



Mt. Lebanon High School Library- Pittsburgh, PA

Updating the book stacks can bring new life to the library as well as the books that are kept within them.

(http://bcilibraries.com/mt-lebanon-high-school-undergoes-109-65-million-renovation-expansion/)



Book Stacks/Shelving



Sioux Center Middle and High School - Sioux Center, IA

Using color and patterns can breathe new life to an old space. By using different types of book stacks it allows for some books to be on display and can be rotated out on a weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly bases.

(http://www.demcointeriors.com/project/sioux-center-middle-and-high-school-ia/)





Additional Links

For more ideas about Space Planning and Design for library spaces look at the link below. This website also has access to webinars, blogs, articles and more all about library designs and space planning.

• http://ideas.demco.com/trends-topics/spaces/space-design/

The below link will connect to Wayfair school section, where furniture can be purchased for discounted prices.

• http://www.wayfairsupply.com/Schools-C535214.html

A projector with HDMI connection capability to a laptop or computer might be useful for presentations, or videos, especially when paired with a low glare whiteboard such as the products in the links below.

- http://www.bestbuy.com/site/projectors-screens/tv-projectors/pcmcat158900050018.c?id=pcmcat158 900050018
- https://www.schooloutfitters.com/catalog/product_family_info/cPath/CAT384_CAT1579/pfam_id/ PFAM2284?envmkt=Img1



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