



TRANSCRIPT

Copyright © 2014 Orange County Department of Education. All Rights Reserved.

Title: College and Career Readiness and Success: How Orange County Can Lead the Nation

[music]

(Narrator)

The world has changed. A 3-year-old with an iPad now has more computing power at her finger tips than the planet's most learned scholars had just a generation ago. For educational institutions preparing students to thrive in the 21st century, 5 trends are of particular relevance. The technological revolution, reshaping and accelerating all aspects of society. The closely related information revolution. The exponential increase in diversity across the United States, especially in California. The globalization of economic systems. And the educational ascendancy of other nations illustrated by the fact that American students no longer lead the world in educational attainment. As educators, we are preparing our students to live in a world that is more complex and more connected than ever. The question facing educators today is, what skills will a student need in order to succeed in the 21st century? The Orange County Department of Education strategic plan recognizes 5 21st century competencies, the 5 Cs. Critical thinking and problem solving, creativity and innovation, communication, collaboration and character.

(Glen Warren)

The 5 Cs are more important than ever. Universities, higher ed is not--they are not particularly interested in the knowledge necessarily you bring to the table that you're able to regurgitate. What they're really looking for is you having--the student has the skill set to be able to pursue that information. We don't even know what the careers of tomorrow are gonna look like and to be able to equip that student with the information literacy skills to pursue it that the 5 Cs reflect and do it in a way that makes a difference in this world, that's gonna be the student that's gonna succeed not only in college, but they're gonna succeed in the workforce 'cause they're gonna be a lifelong learner.

(James Doti)

It's not simply a matter of "Oh, let's make sure that they are skilled in mathematics, basic mathematics or writing ability or critical thinking skills." It has to go beyond that. I would love to see students come to Chapman from their high schools with a real compelling desire to do well and not only do well, but really enjoy what they're doing because people are much more successful at whatever they do, either as students or in their career path, if they love what they're doing.

(Narrator)

Recognizing the need for change and education to keep pace with changes and technology, culture and the demands of a global economy, the state of California has adopted a series of new initiatives that are reshaping California education. The Common Core State Standards, a Local Control Funding Formula, Local Control Accountability Plans, Smarter Balanced Assessments, Next Generation Science Standards and English Language Development Standards. With these changes and opportunities in mind, the Orange County Department of

Education has committed it self to this vision. Orange County students will lead the nation in college and career readiness and success.

(Lucy Dunn)

I think that the vision statement is perfect because Orange County has been, historically, a leader in innovation. So for the Orange County Department of Ed to create a vision that strikes us up to the national level is perfect, and that's exactly where we should be.

(Michael Drake)

Well, today we have a much more knowledge-based economy than we did 25 or 50 years ago even if we look at things like manufacturing. Manufacturing is done with computer-assisted and desktop manufacturing implements that make it that you have to be better trained to be able to apply these things than might have been the case in years past. The basic skills and training that one gets in the K through 12 system and then how that is enhanced as one goes through higher education allows you--allows all of us really to compete better in that worldwide market.

(Belinda Martinez)

Being able to introduce the skills necessary to, if you will, stackable credentials as you proceed through the school system or through higher education, we can work together on that. We have been, if you will, at the ground floor of every school. We've been in the higher education centers. We've been working with teachers and principals. I think that's a model that can be carried to other schools in Orange County that can further the goal of being able to prepare students for the 21st century.

(Samantha Landis)

We need to incorporate more applicable classes, such as engineering classes and things, because it really allows students to see which career path they would like to follow and ultimately it helps them to find what they're passionate about. And when students enjoy the classes that they're in, then they're more likely to stick with school and college and enjoy their career in the future.

(Mildred Garcia)

It is extremely important that Orange County places its priority career and college readiness because as you look at Orange County, the increasing demographic, changing demographics and the importance of our individuals to be able to live in a global world, we must prepare our students to be prepared to live 21st century and beyond.

(Gerald Soloman)

What's the pathway for the community? How do we retain and maintain the vibrancy of what Orange County really is all about? And part of what we're looking at doing is, and this is where really the alignment exists between OCDE and us and others is, how do you create those education pathways so that by the time a student is ready to make a choice to be able to engage in the kind of skills that our workforce needs, they're both energized about it and they have the capacity to do it?

(Al Mijares)

I think these are very exciting times in education, and I feel very energized as an educator, as a leader, as one who is working with so many outstanding men and women in this county who care about education. The strategic plan allows us, Orange County Department of Education, to be held accountable to all those that we are serving from our superintendents to members of the public, parents, most importantly, our students. We came up with eight strategic priorities

predicated upon what is happening in education today, and where do we see our self going? Where do we want to be in 3years, in 4 years, in 5 years? So we created this strategic plan, and it's all done with the notion of helping our schools in this country to be strong, to be fortified and to provide the best instructional services that our students can receive. I think we can all come together and pull in the same direction. And the amazing thing is that not only do our students learn and they acquire necessary information to accomplish their goals and they become successful, business people, entrepreneurs, creative thinkers, scientists, they go into the helping professions. You know, we have the capacity to make our difference in the world. So I just want us to not dream small, but dream enormous, you know, dream big, dramatic, if you will. If we are concerned about college and career readiness, why not be the best? I'm not saying it's gonna be easy. It's gonna require a lot of labor, a lot of effort. We have to persevere, but you know what? All of that stuff pays off, and I think we can get to the point where when people are sitting around just having ordinary conversation and it gets to the matter of education, bing, the light bulb goes on and they think Orange County.

[music]

(Al Mijares)

Every member of the Orange County community has a role to play.

(Glen Warren)

As educators, we can take this opportunity to raise expectations and put new tools, techniques and expertise to work to create learning environments in which students flourish.

(Samantha Landis)

Our families can provide us with the support and encouragement necessary to reach our highest potential.

(Gerald Soloman)

Community organizations have a great role to be able to play in learning both with schools and with students to make a real difference in Orange County.

(Lucy Dunn)

Businesses can create career awareness and career opportunities for all our students.

(Belinda Martinez)

Colleges and universities have a responsibility to partner with our schools to make sure that our students, all of our students, transition from high school to higher education and have the skills necessary for the 21st century.

(Al Mijares)

Together we can ensure that Orange County leads the nation in college and career readiness and success.

[music]

###