The Future of Education

Education is in flux.

Businesses and educational institutions are feeling the pressure to keep up with accelerating workforce and industry changes. Their employees and students are in a constant state of ingest, learning emerging technologies and new knowledge-based skills. Especially in industries like engineering and manufacturing that are transforming dramatically in the Information Age, the pipeline of skilled, qualified workers isn't full. Companies are rightfully concerned about the future.

Employers are beginning to look deeper and more creatively at the human capital supply chain. Apprenticeships are re-emerging as mechanisms to teach specific technical skills. Internships are enabling companies to assess soft skills and value alignment. And one- to two-year certificate programs focused on niche academics, technical skills, and vocational skills are closing skills gaps.

Opportunity is a universal right and education is the path to opportunity. A frank public discourse is needed around what needs to happen now to secure the next generation's productive and profitable future.

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Professional certifications...are becoming more sought after than traditional degree education.

~ Pew Research Center

HOW WILL THE FUTURE CHANGE THE NATURE OF LEARNING & EDUCATION?

How can businesses partner with education institutions to ensure students have the skills they need to be successful in the future?

How can organizations incorporate education advances into their own training programs?

How can businesses ensure their future employees have the skills they need to be successful?

"THE ILLITERATE OF THE 21ST CENTURY WILL NOT BE THOSE WHO CANNOT READ AND WRITE, BUT THOSE WHO CANNOT LEARN, UNLEARN, AND RELEARN."

— ALVIN TOFFLER

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Take a journey into the future. Imagine and recognize how technology, corporate needs, and learning resources will reshape how education happens and how its value is measured.

Imagine if…

Over the next 10 years, non-traditional learning alternatives reduce the average annual cost to attend a four-year private university from $48,510 in 2020 to $34,245 in 2030. While traditional degrees will remain necessary for career paths like medicine, popularity will rise for flexible, remote, and skills-based models. These programs are supported by cutting-edge VR and AR technology, giving students an immersive learning experience in their own environment. *Will greater access to education and mass customization prepare students better for the jobs of the future?*

Imagine if…

Social learning platforms will provide a virtual, peer-to-peer environment where people explore a subject together. Collaboration replaces the teacher-student dynamic. These platforms, content, and technology allow lifelong learners to be perpetually adding to their knowledge, no matter where they are in the world. *How can organizations and professionals leverage new learning platforms?*

Imagine if…

The proliferation of accessible, digitally-enabled non-traditional education models allows professionals to quickly and affordably deepen their knowledge as they pursue new skills and fields. Online education program enrollment grows to 25 million new enrollees per year, up from about 5 million in 2020. Companies like Coursera, YouTubeEDU and NetflixEd have accessible and affordable libraries of engaging content that covers almost any area of interest. *How many jobs and skills will a person acquire prior to retirement?*

Imagine if…

Companies create corporate universities to ensure employees have the skills to succeed. To reach deeper into the pipeline, corporations begin offering scholarships to promising 7th and 8th-grade students for these universities, becoming active players in the education space. Students learn through employee-focused apprenticeships, training, and educational resources. *How will this impact the value proposition of traditional higher education?*

CURRENT REALITIES SHAPING THE FUTURE

In the U.S. there are approximately 8 networked devices per person, a number expected to climb to 13.6 per person by 2022.

Eye-tracking helps analyze the processing of visual information for learner assessment and progress.

5G, the key to elevating VR and AR, will bring us to more photoreal environment.

34 states contribute less funding to public education on a per-student basis than they did pre-recession.

Personalized learning content is tailored via AI analysis of learning style, interest, and skill.

People in their 20s could work into their 80s, requiring continuing education for 50-60 years.

The Netherlands offers 36 different types of schools, allowing for greater student personalization.

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