PEOPLE SKILLS

One of the key characteristics of a truly creative and innovative team is variety—the combination of different ages, skills, disciplines, and working- and thinking-styles that members bring to the table.

Successful employees within diverse teams need to be able to identify and communicate points of connection (shared goals, priorities, values) that transcend their differences and allow them to build relationships and work effectively.

THREE FUTURE COMPETENCIES:

- EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE
- COGNITIVE INTELLIGENCE
- SOCIAL INTELLIGENCE

APPLIED KNOWLEDGE

- **Increased Mechanization** – Because insight, creativity, and adaptability are not easily automated skills, workers of the future will need to cultivate these traits to be successful in an increasingly mechanized environment.

- **High Media Multi-Taskers** – Individuals who use two or more types of media simultaneously—perform significantly better at tasks that integrate information from multiple sensory modalities than low media multitaskers.\(^{(2)}\)

- **Improving Sense Making** – Within an organizational group, members need to become more familiar with each other.

RESILIENCE

Thomas Edison failed 10,000 times before he invented the light bulb. The ability to competently overcome setbacks, challenges, and other obstacles is called “resilience.”

Highly resilient individuals maintain positive emotions and, in some cases, can actually thrive in the face of crises. Resilient people also tend to demonstrate more flexibility with change, more stability in demanding situations, and less aversion to risk than their non-resilient counterparts.

VIRTUAL COLLABORATION

The move toward virtual work offers flexibility in combining home and work tasks and saves commuting time and costs.

Leadership looks different: the most effective leaders are those who primarily assume a mediating role rather than directing or monitoring roles during virtual collaborations.\(^{(1)}\)

WORKPLACE SKILLS

Teach computational thinking skills by having students analyze an authentic situation they might encounter in the real world.

To be successful in the next decade, individuals will need to demonstrate foresight in navigating a rapidly shifting landscape of organizational forms and skill requirements.

Educational institutions at the primary, secondary, and post-secondary levels, must realize that their current structures are largely the products of technology infrastructure and social circumstances of the past.

This material is sourced from ACT Foundation’s and Joyce Foundation’s “Future Skills: Update and Literature Review” authored by Devin Fidler, Institute for the Future, 2016

\(^{(1)}\) Sutanto et al, 2011  
\(^{(2)}\) Liu & Wong, 2012  
\(^{(3)}\) Becker, Abrahams, & Hopwood, 2013