

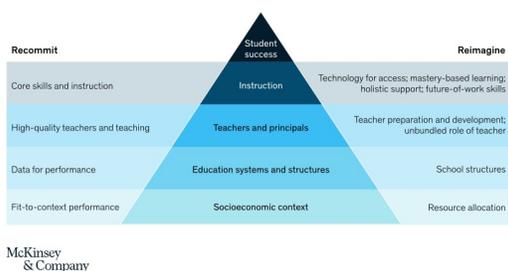


The Next Normal

Are you as tired of reading about the "new normal" as I am? How about the "unprecedented" nature of these times? As a bunch of memes on the interwebs beg, "**We're ready for some precedented times.**" Let's not overlook the fact that it's September 11th--another day in history that upended our world through tragedy. A great deal of thought went into the tone and message of this, our first newsletter missive of the 2020-2021 school year. Should we be hopeful and upbeat? Realistic and determined? It depends on the day, so we're going to aim for the "**NEXT Normal.**" *Insights* will now be delivered weekly on Fridays. It will follow the structure of the springtime *Digestibles* series, but will offer resources that fit all of the different ways that our independent schools are serving our communities. We hope you find them useful. Onward!

Alecia at AIMS

Reimagining education after the COVID-19 crisis involves recommitting to what we know works and reshaping for a better future.



Recommitting to What Works

We've all been "reimagining" school over the summer, striving to keep in mind the three different models that most of us might implement at a moment's notice from the CDC or the governor or the health department or the elected official or the...Some of us recognized the earth-shaking opportunity to truly uproot systems that have simply NEEDED to change for a long time and put new structures in place. Some of us didn't have the institutional or personal energy required for that degree of change this summer, but the moment has not passed. We're still IN THIS. If you have not thought deeply about what needs to change in your classroom, please consider reading McKinsey and Company's report "**Reimagining A More Equitable and Resilient K-12 Education System.**" Even if you're not an administrator, there are crucial insights for how your individual classroom can be structured.



Check out the full report below.

[Learn More](#)

Finding the Beauty in The Everyday

We've narrowed our focus for professional development to three core themes for fall: **mental health**, equity and justice and tools for teaching in the next normal. Above all, mental health is the axis of each. Today we share an article and a podcast from a resource that has been incredibly useful through this moment in time, [The Greater Good Science Center](#) out of UC Berkeley. **Happy Again** reminds us "how awe and wonder can be found anywhere--if you just pay attention." Read and/or listen to the podcast below.

[Learn More](#)



This Week's Opportunities

[Edcamp: Maker Learning \(Hands on Learning!\)](#)

Tomorrow, September 12 from 12-2pm
FREE

Affinity Spaces for Educators Who Identify as Black Men, Black Women, LGBTQIA, Muslim and Muslim American, White, Asian and Asian American and Latinx

Last weeks of September
Registration Coming Monday!

[Early Reading: Teaching Phonics, Fluency, and Comprehension \(Grade K-3\)](#)

September 23 from 2:30-4:00
\$40

[Writing Instruction: Teaching Strategies in an Online, Hybrid or Face-to-Face Environment](#)

September 24 from 2:30-4:00
\$40



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