

Bringing Schools into the 21st Century

EXPLORATIONS OF EDUCATIONAL PURPOSE

Volume 13

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Joe Kincheloe (1950–2008)

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In today's dominant modes of pedagogy, questions about issues of race, class, gender, sexuality, colonialism, religion, and other social dynamics are rarely asked. Questions about the social spaces where pedagogy takes place – in schools, media, and corporate think tanks – are not raised. And they need to be.

The *Explorations of Educational Purpose* book series can help establish a renewed interest in such questions and their centrality in the larger study of education and the preparation of teachers and other educational professionals. The editors of this series feel that education matters and that the world is in need of a rethinking of education and educational purpose.

Coming from a critical pedagogical orientation, *Explorations of Educational Purpose* aims to have the study of education transcend the trivialization that often degrades it. Rather than be content with the frivolous, scholarly lax forms of teacher education and weak teaching prevailing in the world today, we should work towards education that truly takes the unattained potential of human beings as its starting point. The series will present studies of all dimensions of education and offer alternatives. The ultimate aim of the series is to create new possibilities for people around the world who suffer under the current design of socio-political and educational institutions.

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 Springer

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To my 100-year old grandparents, Bohua and Jiyun, who instilled in me the values and principles of life. It is they to whom this book is dedicated by Guofang Wan.

To all the students, preservice teachers, and educators I have and will have the privilege to work with. You challenge me to be a lifelong learner, striving constantly to learn more and do more to ensure all students are prepared for their futures. (Dianne Gut)

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Contents

1 Introduction	1
Guofang Wan and Dianne M. Gut	
2 Whatever Happened?	7
Mark Treadwell	
3 Twenty-First Century Students Need 21st Century Skills	41
Ken Kay and Valerie Greenhill	
4 Educational Reform: What Have Federal and State Policy Makers Done?	67
Rosalyn Anstine Templeton, Karen Huffman, and Celia E. Johnson	
5 A Needs Assessment: Reforming the U.S. School Curriculum	91
Guofang Wan	
6 Preparing Teachers for the 21st Century: A Renaissance	113
Celia E. Johnson and Rosalyn Anstine Templeton	
7 Integrating 21st Century Skills into the Curriculum	137
Dianne M. Gut	
8 Reading, Writing, and Deconstructing: Media Literacy as Part of the School Curriculum	159
Jessica Collins, Denis Doyon, Christie McAuley, and Andrea Isabel Quijada	
9 The Mobile School: Digital Communities Created by Mobile Learners	187
Teresa J. Franklin	
10 Online Learning: A 21st Century Approach to Education	205
John Watson and L. Kay Johnson	

11 Redesigning Teacher Education from the Ground Up – A Collaborative Model	225
Renée A. Middleton and Bonnie L. Prince	
Name Index	247
Subject Index	255

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