COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS & SUCCESS Center

at American Institutes for Research

LIFELONG LEARNING SKILLS FOR COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS:
An Annotated Bibliography
OCTOBER 2014



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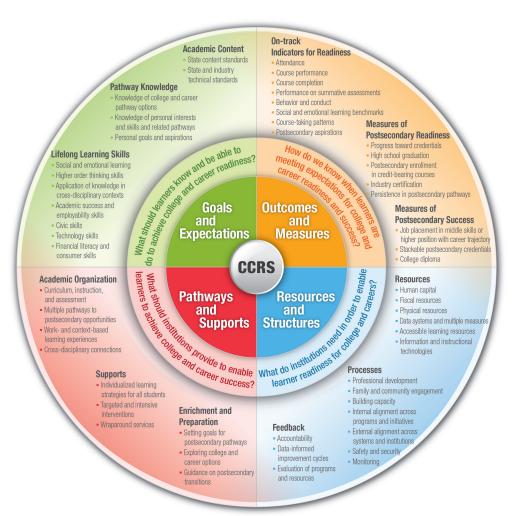
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Introduction

College and career readiness depends on students acquiring a complex set of knowledge and skills. Greater workforce demand for employees with advanced abilities has resulted in a growing emphasis on more rigorous academic standards to ensure that students are prepared for success, including at least some postsecondary education or training. However, although these standards delineate content knowledge and academic skills in English language arts and mathematics, students must master a broader set of competencies to ensure that they are truly on track for college and a career. In this annotated bibliography, we refer to that broad set of competencies as "lifelong learning skills." These are the essential behaviors and abilities that contribute to a learner's intellectual and emotional maturity, professionalism, and good citizenship. We define these competencies in the College and Career Readiness and Success (CCRS) Organizer.

The College and Career Readiness and Success Organizer is a graphic (see Figure 1) that provides a consolidated overview of the many institutional and individual elements that influence a learner's ability to succeed in college and careers.

Figure 1. College and Career Readiness and Success Organizer



Included in the organizer are the lifelong learning skills or competencies often referred to as "21st century skills," non-cognitive factors, employability skills, hard-to-measure skills, or skills for deeper learning. Throughout this annotated bibliography, we will use the term "lifelong learning skills" to refer to the set of competencies discussed across the sources represented; however, in each annotation we will use the terminology favored by the author of each piece.

The collective contribution of several academic disciplines to the study of lifelong learning skills yields the most comprehensive and compelling case for attending to these foundations for learning and working to promote college and career readiness. Looking across disciplines allows us to explore skills long thought to be important both inside and outside of the classroom—as well as throughout a person's lifespan—with the unique insight granted by the distinct lenses through which each discipline has studied them. Research in education, psychology, and labor economics has identified the set of competencies that makes up lifelong learning skills as positively associated with academic achievement and other aptitudes that are important precursors to, and elements of, postsecondary and career success.

Although the field has yet to reach consensus on the terminology used across disciplines to refer to lifelong learning skills, as educators, administrators, and policymakers strive to meet college and career readiness and success goals, it is imperative that these skills are well understood. In order to promote the use of consistent terminology, we have focused on the four lifelong learning skills most frequently identified in research: social and emotional learning (SEL), higher-order thinking skills, application of knowledge in cross-disciplinary contexts, and academic success and employability skills. We have mapped these components of the lifelong learning skills framework onto the widely used, three-part categorization of competency types: cognitive, intrapersonal, and intrapersonal (see, for example, National Research Council, 2012). This organization of lifelong learning skills is the most compatible with the majority of the sources we reviewed.

The sources contained within this annotated bibliography can help inform state efforts to define the competencies that students need to be able to demonstrate, determine how schools and districts can ensure that students master these competencies, and measure school and student progress toward college and career readiness and success goals. This annotated bibliography seeks to provide a point of reference for achieving these objectives. It catalogs resources that explain what lifelong learning skills are, how they impact and relate to college and career readiness and success outcomes, and how they can be taught and measured in the classroom, across the prekindergarten to workforce (PK–20W) spectrum, so that users can make informed decisions about which topics to explore in further detail. It should be noted, however, that although many of these resources demonstrate a direct link to college and career readiness, most focus on academic achievement more broadly and were conducted with learners at various stages of the PK–20W spectrum. More research is needed to ensure that these important competencies are translated into validated indicators of college and career readiness outcomes, such as obtaining a diploma and enrolling in and graduating from postsecondary education or training.

The selected resources provided here, and their accompanying annotations, represent a comprehensive overview of lifelong learning skills research. Based on the types of reports and studies available in the field, the resources are organized into four sections: *Major Reports, Lifelong Learning Skills in Depth, Impact on Career Readiness,* and *Measures.* The first section includes a series of overview reports that provide frameworks for or relationships between components of the

entire lifelong learning skills landscape. The second section presents studies that examine individual or smaller subsets of lifelong learning skills. Finally, in the last two sections, we highlight research that examines two particular points of interest for policymakers and educators: career readiness and the assessment of lifelong learning skills. The organization of the guide provides a detailed and issue-specific review of lifelong learning skills, which allows the reader to approach the document according to his/her particular interests or needs.¹

Methodology and Limitations

The search process for the sources contained within this annotated bibliography began with the existing foundation provided by the works cited in the *Major Reports* section presented here. The majority of these sources had already been identified by the CCRS Center as part of an ongoing effort to maintain a research database of high-quality literature in the field of college and career readiness and success. Additional sources for the *Major Reports* section were added based on the recommendation of other experts in the field.

After completing this process, we expanded on that resource base by searching for additional resources using search terms that corresponded with the terminologies, taxonomies, and frameworks developed in the *Major Reports* section.² The search engines used were Google Scholar, PsycINFO, Academic Search Premier, JSTOR, and ERIC. Sources were chosen for review based on recent publication dates and the number of times they had been cited in other reports.

During our search, we found that the research base for interpersonal skills was particularly limited. This gap in available research corresponds with the findings of several authors of the major reports. Few studies examine interpersonal skills in isolation from intrapersonal skills, and those that do rarely study specific, individual interpersonal aptitudes, such as leadership, communication, and collaboration. Instead, the majority of the research on components of interpersonal skills is included in studies that investigate the connection between SEL and academic success. We have annotated the sources that feature SEL, chosen for this cluster of skills, to emphasize the interpersonal aspects of their findings. In addition, a number of the economics studies included in the *Impact on Career Readiness* section of this document explore the importance of these interpersonal skills for predicting career success. Despite these related areas of study, more research is needed to investigate specific components of interpersonal skills that may impact college and career readiness and success.

Where possible, we have provided a publicly available direct URL link to each source cited. In addition, the appendix contains a chart organizing the sources according to topic, type of report, and potential utility.

Search terms included the following: "21st century skills," hard-to-measure skills, deeper learning, lifelong learning skills, non-cognitive skills, non-cognitive factors, cognitive skills, interpersonal skills, intrapersonal skills, problem solving, complex problem solving, creativity, critical thinking, cognitive strategies, meta-cognition, self-regulation, motivation, mindsets, personality, communication skills, leadership skills, collaborative problem solving, knowledge transfer, measures, assessment, academic achievement, social and emotional skills, SEL, career achievement, career success, career readiness, college readiness, teaching, learning, performance, K–12, elementary school, middle school, college, and postsecondary.

The search process for this resource was designed to be as comprehensive as possible to gather information on how lifelong learning skills contribute to college and career readiness and success; however, the research is rich and diverse and any search process will necessarily include limitations. As such, the included annotations represent an effort to provide a range of available resources, and the exclusion of any given source is not intended to imply its lack of value to the field. Similarly, the inclusion of a source does not represent any evaluation of its methodologies or findings.

Major Reports

This section provides a set of comprehensive, guiding research reviews that lay the conceptual foundation for understanding what lifelong learning skills are and why they matter in education. Each document explains lifelong learning skills with reference to a specific purpose and audience. Although some of these documents primarily address the concerns of researchers (e.g., taxonomy and measurement), others are more explicitly tailored to the concerns of educators, administrators, and policymakers (e.g., pedagogy, assessment, and outcomes). The annotation for each source identifies the focus of the document and highlights its key findings. Each source attempts to answer one or more of the following guiding questions:

- 1. What are lifelong learning skills?
- 2. How can lifelong learning skills be accurately identified and assessed?
- 3. How can lifelong learning skills be fostered and/or taught by practitioners, including administrators and teachers?

National Research Council. (2014). *Education for life and work: Guide for practitioners*.

Committee on Defining Deeper Learning and 21st century skills, J. W. Pellegrino and M. L. Hilton, Editors. Board on Testing and Assessment and Board on Science Education, Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education. Washington, DC: The National Academies Press.

This guide to "21st century skills" is intended for state-, district-, and school-level administrators. It condenses the research presented in the report of the same name (National Research Council, 2012), focusing on teaching practice and the intersection of "21st century skills" with the Common Core State Standards. It describes the relationship between "21st century skills" and deeper learning; explores best practices for integrating these skills within the context of teaching English language arts, mathematics, and science; and provides guidance on how to develop and support a schoolwide culture that is founded upon teaching and learning skills for lifelong learning.

Soland, J., Hamilton, L. S., & Stecher, B. M. (2013). *Measuring 21st century competencies: Guidance for educators*. New York, NY: Asia Society.

This report is explicitly intended for teachers, school leaders, and administrators. Its primary focus is to introduce the reader to the assessments currently available to measure specific "21st century competencies" and implications for implementation in K–12 education settings. The authors present a framework for selecting assessments, including considerations for school leaders and administrators (such as cost, logistics, technical capacity, and systemwide impact) and for teachers (such as instructional practice and training). The authors provide a review of test formats (e.g., multiple-choice versus performance assessments) and the practical

and technical considerations associated with each of them, along with 10 case studies of "cutting-edge" assessments of 21st century competencies.

National Research Council. (2012). Education for life and work: Developing transferable knowledge and skills in the 21st century. Committee on Defining Deeper Learning and 21st century skills, J. W. Pellegrino and M. L. Hilton, Editors. Board on Testing and Assessment and Board on Science Education, Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education. Washington, DC: The National Academies Press.

This report examines the research on "21st century skills," spanning the fields of psychology, education, and economics, where the majority of this research has been conducted. It begins with a systematic, research-based definition and taxonomy of "21st century skills," exploring their relationship with deeper learning. The authors then review the research for each cluster of skills (i.e., cognitive, intrapersonal, interpersonal) with respect to its impact on academic performance within the subjects of English language arts, mathematics and science, and career performance. They review teaching and intervention methods to develop these skills and abilities, assessments, and approaches to developing school cultures and curricula that support education based on deeper learning and the development of "21st century skills."

Farrington, C. A., Roderick, M., Allensworth, E., Nagaoka, J., Keyes, T. S., Johnson, D. W., & Beechum, N. O. (2012). *Teaching adolescents to become learners. The role of noncognitive factors in shaping school performance: A critical literature review.* Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Consortium on Chicago School Research.

This report introduces a framework for understanding how non-cognitive factors interact to influence academic achievement (see Figure 2 below).

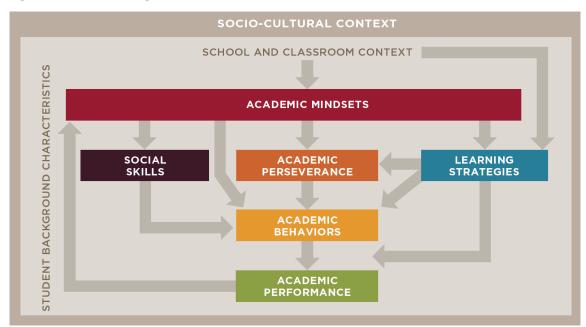


Figure 2. How Five Non-Cognitive Factors Affect Academic Performance

For each factor, the authors provide an overview of the latest research, and—where possible—examples of real-world implementation of strategies designed to promote that factor. The authors highlight mindsets and motivation as particularly promising leverage points for educators interested in improving students' academic achievement and college and career readiness. The authors caution that although it may be tempting to provide explicit instruction and directly assess non-cognitive skills, this may not be an effective strategy for developing them. There are, to date, limited data to suggest that these skills are malleable and little evidence that teaching them explicitly, in isolation, can have an impact. The authors' recommendations call for more research to explore the issues of malleability and teachability, and they provide actionable strategies for the promotion of non-cognitive factors to improve student performance.

Saavedra, A. R., & Opfer, V. D. (2012). *Teaching and learning 21st century skills: Lessons from the learning sciences*. Global Cities Education Network.

This report reviews nine "21st century skills" teaching objectives (see Figure 3 below) designed to address student cognitive, interpersonal, and intrapersonal domains. The authors provide examples of teaching strategies designed to address each objective, and conclude with a brief discussion of student assessment challenges and the need for teacher professional development to support the shift to teaching "21st century skills."

Figure 3. Nine 21st Century Teaching Objectives

How to Teach "21st Century Skills": Nine Lessons From the Learning Sciences

- 1. Make It Relevant
- 2. Teach Through the Disciplines
- 3. Simultaneously Develop Lower- and Higher-Order Thinking Skills
- 4. Encourage Transfer of Learning
- 5. Teach Students to Learn to Learn
- 6. Address Misunderstandings Directly
- 7. Understand That Teamwork Is an Outcome and Promotes Learning
- 8. Exploit Technology to Support Learning
- 9. Foster Students' Creativity

National Research Council. (2011). Assessing 21st century skills: Summary of a workshop. J. A. Koenig, Rapporteur. Committee on the Assessment of 21st Century Skills. Board on Testing and Assessment, Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education. Washington, DC: The National Academies Press.

The focus of this report is the need for, and feasibility of, assessing "21st century skills." The authors examine the research base for the measurement of cognitive, interpersonal, and intrapersonal skills with a view toward using assessments for accountability purposes and improving instruction. A broad consensus emerges from the research: Cognitive skills are largely subject-specific and cannot be taught or tested in a subject-neutral manner—that is, they operate idiosyncratically within the context of an academic subject or discipline. Inter- and intrapersonal skills, on the other hand, are considered by the authors to be broadly applicable. They can be explicitly taught and monitored with formative assessments. The authors then provide a discussion of the implications of their findings for educators, school leaders, policymakers, and researchers.

Lifelong Learning Skills in Depth

This section organizes the research on lifelong learning skills according to the three primary groupings of competencies most commonly found in the research: cognitive competencies, intrapersonal competencies, and interpersonal competencies (see, for example, National Research Council, 2012; Soland, Hamilton, & Stecher, 2013). Cognitive competencies (also commonly referred to as higher-order thinking skills) include creativity, critical thinking, and problem solving; intrapersonal competencies include self-regulation and motivation; and interpersonal competencies include social and emotional competencies. The articles examine individual or subsets of lifelong learning skills and their potential impact on academic achievement and college and career readiness.

COGNITIVE COMPETENCIES: CREATIVITY, CRITICAL THINKING, AND PROBLEM SOLVING

Greiff, S., & Funke, J. (2013). Complex problem solving in educational contexts—Something beyond g: Concept, assessment, measurement invariance, and construct validity. *Journal of Educational Psychology*, 105(2), 364–379.

This study provides background on the nature of complex problem solving (CPS). The authors describe how CPS is distinct from general intelligence (g) and how CPS strategies are used to solve problems across subjects. They describe two main processes involved in CPS: knowledge acquisition and knowledge application. In contexts where prior knowledge is peripheral to solving the problem, a student's ability to use CPS strategies (e.g., heuristics), which are applicable across subjects, can be observed. The authors suggest that more research is needed to determine the best means of promoting CPS in the classroom; however, they cite examples of teaching strategies that abstract the principles of CPS—such as direct instruction in the scientific method—which had the effect of improving CPS and knowledge transfer across subjects.

Kuncel, N. R., & Hezlett, S. A. (2010). Fact and fiction in cognitive ability testing for admissions and hiring decisions. *Current Directions in Psychological Science*, 19(6), 339–345.

This study provides a review of the research on cognitive ability testing used for admissions and hiring decisions. The authors come to four conclusions about the relationship between general cognitive ability and academic and career performance:

- There is a relationship between performance on cognitive ability tests and creativity/leadership.
- 2. Tests are accurate across race and sex.
- 3. Tests are predictive of later academic and career performance, independent from socioeconomic status.
- 4. Other characteristics, such as personality (specifically, conscientiousness, which is related to self-regulation and perseverance), are important factors for predicting performance.

Klauer, K., & Phye, G. (2008). Inductive reasoning: A training approach. *Review of Educational Research*, 78(1), 85–123.

This study reviews three programs designed to train children and adolescents (ages 5–16) in inductive reasoning. Each program consists of 10 standardized lesson plans and test questions to assess progress. The evidence suggests that it is possible to directly train children of a wide age range and cognitive ability to effectively practice inductive reasoning, using each of the three training programs developed (one for ages 5–8, one for ages 11–13, and another for ages 14–16), and that such training can produce a moderate effect on measures of academic performance.

Mayer, R. E., & Wittrock, M. C. (2006). Problem solving. In P. A. Alexander & P. H. Winne (Eds.), Handbook of educational psychology (pp. 287–304). Mahwah, NJ: Erlbaum.

This chapter, within the *Handbook of Educational Psychology,* provides a comprehensive review of problem solving in education. It includes a set of seven best-practice methods (see Figure 4 on next page) for teaching problem-solving skills and establishes three guiding principles, for those in education and research to follow, when considering problem solving as a primary goal of instruction:

- 1. Problem-solving skills are learned best within domain-specific contexts.
- 2. Problem-solving skills are restricted in their range of applicability across subjects.
- 3. Whether dealing in factual and procedural knowledge, or conceptual and strategic knowledge, the context of guided problem-solving tasks is essential for student learning.

Figure 4. Seven Ways to Promote Problem-Solving Transfer

Instructional Method	Example
Load-reducing methods	Automaticity, constraint removal
Structure-based methods	Concrete manipulatives
Schema-based methods	Advance organizers, pre-training, cueing
Generative methods	Elaboration, note-taking, self-explanation, questioning
Guided discovery methods	Guided discovery
Modeling methods	Worked examples, apprenticeship
Teaching thinking skills	General courses, specific strategies

Scott, G., Leritz, L. E., & Mumford, M. D. (2004). The effectiveness of creativity training: A quantitative review. *Creativity Research Journal*, *16*(4), 361–388.

This report provides a meta-analysis of 70 studies of creativity training programs. The authors find that there is compelling evidence for effective creativity training programs that have positive effects on student problem solving and performance on tasks requiring creative thinking. These effects were evident across content areas, settings, and student groups. The most effective programs emphasize cognitive strategies designed to evaluate and define problems. Example strategies include convergent thinking,³ problem identification, and constraint identification.⁴ The least effective programs emphasized "unconstrained exploration," such as expressive activities, elaboration, and use of imagery. The authors also found that programs that used a model-based approach for creativity training and focused on practicing the strategies from that model within specific domains (subjects) were the most successful. They highlight two programs, the Purdue Creative Thinking Program and the Creative Problem-Solving Program, as being exemplary models.

Salomon, G., & Perkins, D. N. (1989). Rocky roads to transfer: Rethinking mechanisms of a neglected phenomenon. *Educational Psychologist*, *24*, 113–142.

Transfer of knowledge refers to when learning in one domain or context (e.g., mathematics) is successfully applied for a different purpose in another domain or context (e.g., biology). This study investigates the conditions under which transfer of knowledge occurs. The authors argue that there are two kinds of transfer: low-road and high-road. They argue that low-road transfer of simple skills (e.g., tying knots) occurs with repeated practice and is triggered automatically by a context that requires it. On the other hand, high-road transfer of complex skills or concepts

³ A process through which learners access prior knowledge to choose the best answer choice and eliminate others

⁴ Designed to help learners evaluate and delineate a problem

(e.g., graphically modeling problems in mathematics and science) occurs only with "intentional, mindful abstraction of something from one context" to another. This distinction carries with it implications for pedagogy when attempting to foster transfer of knowledge. Specifically, it suggests that for some simple skills, repeated practice is sufficient for students to generalize mastery from one content area to another, whereas for more complex skills, explicit instruction in the process of mindful abstraction is necessary.

Gick, M. L., & Holyoak, K. J. (1983). Schema induction and analogical transfer. *Cognitive Psychology*, 15(1), 1–38.

This study demonstrates a method for teaching students problem-solving strategies (e.g., divide and conquer) that can be applied across parallel problems. First, students are presented with two problem-solution "stories" and are then asked to summarize the stories, provide a verbal description of the similarities between the two stories, or create a diagram to represent the stories. After this application, students were able to successfully apply the strategy featured in the story to new, analogous problems. The findings suggest that this method may be an effective way to teach problem-solving strategies that can be applied across different problem contexts.

INTRAPERSONAL COMPETENCIES: SELF-REGULATION AND PERSONALITY; MINDSETS AND MOTIVATION

Self-Regulation

Duckworth, A. L., Grant, H., Loew, B., Oettingen, G., & Gollwitzer, P. M. (2011). Self- regulation strategies improve self-discipline in adolescents: Benefits of mental contrasting and implementation intentions. *Educational Psychology*, 31(1), 17–26.

This study details the results of a brief self-regulation training intervention with 66 high school students preparing for a high-stakes exam. The strategies taught were mental contrasting and implementation intentions, which are evidence-based strategies that foster active thinking and planning about future goals. Students who participated in the intervention demonstrated a significantly greater commitment to test preparation, as evidenced by the number of practice problems attempted. The authors' findings suggest that directly teaching a combination of these two strategies to students may be an effective way to improve student commitment to long-term academic goals, such as achieving high test scores through test preparation.

Dignath, C., Buettner, G., & Langfeldt, H. (2008). How can primary school students learn self-regulated learning strategies most effectively?: A meta-analysis on self-regulation training programmes. *Educational Research Review*, 3(2), 101–129.

This is a meta-analysis and discussion of self-regulation training programs in primary school. The authors review 48 studies on the effectiveness of self-regulation training programs for improving academic achievement, cognitive and metacognitive strategy implementation, and

motivation. Results indicated that self-regulation training programs achieve, on average, a moderate to large effect size for these outcomes. The largest effect sizes for academic achievement were found for mathematics performance. The authors provide a list of effective training program characteristics.

Duckworth, A. L., Peterson, C., Matthews, M. D., & Kelly, D. R. (2007). Grit: Perseverance and passion for long-term goals. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 92, 1087–1101.

This article introduces the construct of "grit," which is defined as perseverance in the pursuit of long-term goals. The authors review four studies, which collectively demonstrate how grit is positively correlated with the educational attainment of adult workers, retention and achievement of West Point military cadets, grade point average (GPA) of lvy League undergraduates, and performance in the National Spelling Bee. The authors argue that grit may be a better indicator of achievement than personality traits or IQ, suggesting the relative importance of this "non-cognitive trait" to achievement.

Duckworth, A. L., & Seligman, M. E. P. (2005). Self-discipline outdoes IQ in predicting academic performance of adolescents. *Psychological Science*, *16*, 939–44.

This study demonstrates that measures of self-discipline may be better indicators of academic performance than tests of cognitive ability. Two separate tests of approximately 300 eighth-grade students revealed that combined measures of self-discipline explained twice as much variance as tests of cognitive ability alone in predicting later achievement.

Personality

Almlund, M., Duckworth, A. L., Heckman, J., & Kautz, T. (2011). Personality psychology and economics. In E. A. Hanushek, S. Machin, & L. Wossmann (Eds.), *Handbook of the economics of education* (pp. 1–181). Amsterdam, Netherlands: Elsevier.

This review of research provides a comprehensive overview of the relationship between personality and performance. The authors conclude that of the "Big Five" personality traits (see Figure 5 on next page), conscientiousness is the best predictor of educational attainment and achievement. The authors demonstrate that measures of conscientiousness can be used to predict college grades as well as scores on the SAT; in addition, personality measures are predictive of performance on achievement and intelligence tests. The authors present data that suggest personality is more malleable than cognitive ability alone, arguing that personality holds promise as a potential lever for improving student achievement outcomes.

Figure 5. The Five-Factor Model of Personality, or "Big Five" Personality Traits

Trait	Characteristics
Extraversion	Sociable, gregarious, assertive, talkative, active
Neuroticism	Anxious, depressed, angry, embarrassed, emotional, worried, insecure
Agreeableness	Courteous, flexible, trusting, good-natured, cooperative, forgiving, soft-hearted, tolerant
Conscientiousness	Careful, thorough, responsible, organized, planful, hardworking, achievement-oriented, persevering
Openness	Imaginative, cultured, curious, original, broad-minded, intelligent, artistically sensitive

Barrick, M. R., & Mount, M. K. (1991). The big five personality dimensions and job performance: A meta-analysis. *Personnel Psychology*, 44(1), 1–26.

Poropat, A. E. (2009). A meta-analysis of the five-factor model of personality and academic performance. *Psychological Bulletin*, 135(2), 322–338.

A meta-analysis of 80 research papers including more than 70,000 total participants, this report provides substantial evidence for the predictive relationship between personality (specifically conscientiousness) and academic performance. The positive relationship between conscientiousness and academic achievement held true even when controlling for intelligence.

Roberts, B. W., & Del Vecchio, W. F. (2000). The rank-order consistency of personality traits from childhood to old age: A quantitative review of longitudinal studies. *Psychological Bulletin*, 126, 3–25.

This review utilized a meta-analytic method to determine the average stability of personality traits over time. The authors reviewed 152 longitudinal studies and found that personality begins to crystallize around age 30, reaching maximum stability between the ages of 50 to 70. The authors demonstrate that personality is at its most malleable during the school years and that environmental changes during that time account, at least in part, for changes in personality.

Mindsets

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. (2014). *Academic tenacity: Mindsets and skills that promote long-term learning.* Seattle, WA: Author.

This report provides a broad overview of the research into non-cognitive factors, with a special focus on motivation. The authors present research to demonstrate that interventions and policies that promote factors, such as student beliefs, motivation, self-regulation, and school culture, can have a large, positive impact on academic outcomes—including grades and test

performance—and that results can be sustained over time. The report lists and summarizes various exemplary interventions, applicable across subjects, which are aimed at improving academic performance by supporting positive student mindsets, social belonging, self-concept, and self-regulation strategies. The effects of the interventions included cutting the racial achievement gap in half and increasing student grades by two thirds. The authors conclude with guidance on curriculum and staff development that can support practices that foster these student attributes and outcomes.

Walton, G. M., & Cohen, G. L. (2011). A brief social-belonging intervention improves academic and health outcomes among minority students. *Science*, 331, 1447–1451.

This study demonstrates that a brief (one-hour) intervention with college freshmen, which aims to lessen their fears about social belonging in academics,⁵ was correlated with improved GPA over three consecutive years immediately following the intervention. The authors hypothesized that African-American students experience greater fear about social belonging in academics, which may impair their overall academic performance. The academic performance gap between African-American students who participated in the intervention and Caucasian students was reduced by nearly 80 percent in comparison with the same gap for African-American students who did not participate in the intervention.

Cohen, G. L., Garcia, J., Purdie-Vaughns, V., Apfel, N., & Brzustoski, P. (2009). Recursive processes in self-affirmation: Intervening to close the minority achievement gap. Science, 324, 400–403.

This report details the two-year follow-up to the Cohen, Garcia, Apfel, and Master (2006) study, in which a 15-minute writing exercise, designed to reduce stereotype threat among minority students, was correlated with an improvement in academic performance. The authors found that the results were sustained two years later, leading to higher GPAs for African-American participants, particularly for those who were lower achieving at the start of the study. Participants also showed a reduced rate of remediation and grade repetition and sustained improvements in self-perception.

Walton, G. M., & Cohen, G. L. (2007). A question of belonging: Race, social fit, and achievement. Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, 92, 82–96.

In this study, researchers created conditions under which learners would not feel a sense of social belonging in academics. The results demonstrated that although Caucasian students were largely unaffected by study messaging, African-American students were affected negatively. The authors also found that a brief intervention to improve beliefs about social belonging in academics eliminated these effects, and African-American students demonstrated improved academic performance.

Blackwell, L. S., Trzesniewski, K. H., & Dweck, C. S. (2007). Implicit theories of intelligence predict achievement across an adolescent transition: A longitudinal study and an intervention. *Child Development*, 78(1), 246–263.

 $^{^{\}rm 5}$ This means identifying and associating oneself with academically motivated peers.

This article details both a longitudinal study and an intervention, both designed to address students' beliefs about the malleability of intelligence. In the longitudinal study, the authors found a positive correlation between the belief that intelligence is malleable and student performance in mathematics. This was evident from improved mathematics grades over two years for students who believed that intelligence can improve with effort, as opposed to those who conceptualized intelligence as a fixed trait. In the intervention study, the authors found that a brief intervention to teach students about the incremental theory of intelligence (i.e., that intelligence/cognitive ability can improve with effort) improved student motivation and reversed an existing, downward trend in mathematics grades, relative to students who received an alternative intervention focused on improving memory and study skills.

Cohen, G. L., Garcia, J., Apfel, N., & Master, A. (2006). Reducing the racial achievement gap: A social-psychological intervention. *Science*, 313, 1307–1310.

This study examines an intervention designed to lead middle school students through a brief, 15-minute writing exercise about personal values. The study shows this intervention is correlated with a reduction in stereotype threat and improved academic performance among minority students. These effects led to reductions in racial achievement gaps in GPA, in schools where this was tested, by as much as 40 percent.

Good, C., Aronson, J., & Inzlicht, M. (2003). Improving adolescents' standardized test performance: An intervention to reduce the effects of stereotype threat. *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology*, *24*, 645–662.

In this randomized controlled trial, the authors implemented an intervention in which female students, minority students, and/or low-income students learned about the growth mindset of intelligence. Both students who received the intervention and those who did not worked with academic mentors, but only intervention participants learned about the growth mindset of intelligence. The authors found that students who received the intervention demonstrated improved standardized test scores in reading and mathematics compared with those students who did not receive the intervention.

Motivation

Cury, F., Elliot, A. J., Da Fonseca, D., & Moller, A. C. (2006). The social-cognitive model of achievement motivation and the 2×2 achievement goal framework. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 90, 666–679.

This study introduces the 2x2 achievement goal framework and demonstrates how that model serves as a predictor of academic performance. The 2x2 model includes two theories or beliefs about ability that students may have⁶ and two kinds of achievement goals: performance⁷ and

 $^{^{6}\,\,}$ The belief that ability is innate and static, or that ability is developed and improves with effort

⁷ Receiving high scores

mastery.⁸ The authors demonstrate that when students perceive themselves as competent, they are more likely to adopt beliefs that ability can improve (as opposed to being static) and to elect mastery goals as opposed to performance goals. This mindset, in turn, is correlated with higher motivation and better academic performance. The authors suggest that this research highlights the importance of framing beliefs about ability that encourage a growth mindset.

Osterman, K. F. (2000). Students' need for belonging in the school community. *Review of Educational Research*, 70(3), 323–367.

This article provides a review of the research on the relationship between students' sense of belonging in the school community and student motivation. The author argues that neglecting this component of student support and development has a large negative impact on student behavior—including motivation—which is correlated with lower academic performance (i.e., GPA), more disciplinary issues, and higher dropout rates. The author argues that students should be provided with structured opportunities to interact with peers, instruction that encourages collaboration, and teacher support and attention to students who struggle with social belonging. These strategies are especially critical for secondary students transitioning from elementary and/or middle school, where the drop in social support from teachers and staff is most pronounced.

Wigfield, A., & Eccles, J. S. (2000). Expectancy-value theory of achievement motivation. *Contemporary Educational Psychology*, *25*, 68–81.

This paper describes the expectancy-value theory of motivation in detail. The authors explore changes in children's and adolescents' beliefs about ability, their expectations for success, how they value academics, and the relationship of those factors to academic performance and their choice of activities. The authors highlight several key takeaways as follows:

- 1. Student beliefs about their ability and expectations of success are better predictors of subsequent grades than previous academic performance.
- 2. The degree to which students value a subject is the best predictor of their perseverance within that subject.
- Positive beliefs about ability, expectations of success, and valuations of activities decline across the school years, especially during the middle school transition.

Elliot, A. J., McGregor, H. A., & Gable, S. (1999). Achievement goals, study strategies, and exam performance: A meditational analysis. *Journal of Educational Psychology*, 91(3), 549–563.

This study evaluates the relationship between achievement goals, learning strategies, and exam performance. The authors identify three primary achievement goals: mastery, performance-approach, and performance-avoidance. Findings include the following:

⁸ Achieving a deep understanding of content

⁹ High performance relative to peers

¹⁰ Avoiding perceptions of lower performance relative to peers

- 1. Mastery goals are positively correlated with "deep processing" of content.
- 2. Performance-approach goals are positively correlated with surface processing (memorization) of content.
- 3. Performance-avoidance goals are negatively correlated with "deep processing" of content and highly correlated with surface processing.
- 4. Performance-approach and mastery goals are associated with higher levels of persistence and effort, which are in turn correlated with better exam performance.
- 5. Performance-avoidance goals are associated with increased disorganization, which is in turn correlated with poor exam performance.

The authors provide a discussion of the practical educational implications of these relationships in their conclusion.

Dweck, C. S. (1986). Motivational processes affecting learning. *American Psychologist*, 41(10), 1040–1048.

This review synthesizes findings from several decades of research on the relationship between motivation and academic achievement. Dweck explains how the type of goals students adopt with respect to schoolwork (task performance versus content mastery) affects their patterns of achievement. Content mastery goals are associated with:

- 1. Increased effort in response to failure.
- 2. Higher levels of proficiency.
- 3. Higher levels of retention.
- 4. Increased challenge-seeking behavior.
- 5. Increased transfer of knowledge.

This effect is found to be present whether or not a child's ability is high and, in fact, may be most pronounced for children who initially test highly on measures of IQ and who are female. Dweck concludes with a discussion of implications for practitioners. She argues for a reduced emphasis on competitive and individual, task-limited ratings of student performance (i.e., grades on homework and tests), and a greater emphasis on progress-related ratings of student performance. She further suggests a reduced emphasis on continuous, positive feedback for small tasks (i.e., in-class assignments and homework), which is particularly prevalent with low-achieving children, to whom it is most injurious.

Eccles, J., Midgley, C., & Adler, T. F. (1984). Grade-related changes in the school environment: Effects on achievement motivation. In J. G. Nicholls (Ed.), *The development of achievement motivation* (pp. 283–331). Greenwich, CT: JAI Press.

 $^{^{11}}$ Deep processing involves critically thinking about new information and integrating it with prior knowledge.

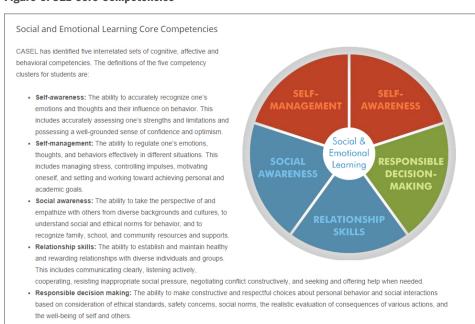
This book chapter describes changes in students' achievement motivation, over time, as a result of developmental changes and changes in the school environment. The authors argue that achievement motivation declines over time across ages and grades (especially during school transition years) and that there are two major school-level variables that influence that decline: (1) practices that shift students' focus to ability assessment and social comparison instead of task involvement, and (2) practices that shift pedagogical practice from student-centered to teacher-centered control of the learning environment.

INTERPERSONAL COMPETENCIES: SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL SKILLS

Civic Enterprises., Bridgeland, J., Bruce, M., & Hariharan, A. (2013). *The missing piece: A national teacher survey on how SEL can empower children and transform schools.* Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning. Chicago, IL: Civic Enterprises.

This report provides a broad overview of the role of social and emotional learning (SEL) in education. The authors draw on research on theory and best practice, as well as teacher and student survey reports, to provide an overview of SEL research and the practitioner landscape. Their definition of SEL highlights the interpersonal dimensions of teamwork, cooperative learning, and social skills, as well as self-awareness and self-management (see Figure 6). The authors provide evidence of the benefits of SEL—including higher student engagement, intrapersonal problem-solving skills, and decreased truancy, drug abuse, bullying, and violence—and best-practice models to promote SEL. They conclude by arguing for the formal integration of SEL goals and skills into school curricula, teacher training, accountability measures, state standards, funding mechanisms, and the broader education research agenda.

Figure 6. SEL Core Competencies



Duncan, G., & Magnuson, K. (2011). The nature and impact of early achievement skills, attention skills, and behavior problems. In G. J. Duncan & R. J. Murnane (Eds.), *Whither opportunity: Rising inequality, schools, and children's life chances* (pp. 47–70). New York, NY: Russell Sage Foundation.

This book chapter provides an overview of the relationships between achievement, attention, behavior problems, and mental health in education. The authors find that children from low socioeconomic backgrounds have significantly lower school-entry academic skills and social and emotional skills than their peers from more affluent backgrounds. The lower academic skills persist across elementary school, while the social and emotional skills gap nearly doubles during that period. The authors find that persistent deficits in childhood are strong predictors of lower achievement later on, but that single point-in-time indicators are relatively weak predictors. For behavior problems, early onset is an indicator for persistent problems, whereas adolescent onset rarely persists beyond the adolescent period. Overall, school-entry achievement predictors are strongest when measured after age 10 and over time for persistence.

Durlak, J. A., Dymnicki, A. B., Taylor, R. D., Weissberg, R. P., & Schellinger, K. B. (2011). The impact of enhancing students' SEL: A meta-analysis of school-based universal interventions. *Child Development*, 82(1), 405–432.

This meta-analysis of 213 school-based universal SEL programs includes 270,034 kindergarten-through-high school students. The authors found that SEL program participants demonstrated significantly better social and emotional skills, attitudes, behavior, and academic performance compared with students who did not have access to SEL programming. This finding was evident from improved GPA and standardized test scores (an average 11 percent increase), fewer disciplinary incidents, reduced levels of psychopathology, and more positive prosocial behaviors between students and their peers, parents, and teachers. These effects were still evident at a one-year follow-up. The authors cite the use of the SAFE (sequenced, active, focused, and explicit) framework being a significant driver of programs' positive results.

Durlak, J. A., Weissberg, R. P., & Pachan, M. (2010). A meta-analysis of after-school programs that seek to promote personal and social skills in children and adolescents. *American Journal of Community Psychology*, 45, 294–309.

This review of afterschool programs uses a meta-analysis to evaluate the impact of afterschool programs on social and emotional skills as well as academic achievement. The authors introduce SAFE programs (see Figure 7 on next page) as a model for effective afterschool programs. They found that when programs adopted this model, students demonstrated improved emotional well-being, more positive social behaviors, fewer problem behaviors, and significant improvement in achievement test scores and grades relative to students who did not receive the program or who received a non-SAFE program model.

Figure 7. SAFE Program Model

Feature	Definition
Sequenced	The program uses a connected and coordinated set of activities to achieve their objectives relative to skill development.
Active	The program uses active forms of learning to help youth learn new skills.
Focused	The program has at least one component devoted to developing personal or social skills.
Explicit	The program targets specific personal or social skills.

Duncan, G., Dowsett, C., Classens, A., Magnuson, K., Huston, A., Klebanov, P., Pagani, L., et al. (2007). School readiness and later achievement. *Developmental Psychology*, 43(6), 1428–1446.

This article presents the results of six longitudinal studies designed to demonstrate the relationship between three key foundations for school readiness—academic skills, attention skills, and social and emotional skills—and academic achievement in reading and mathematics in third and fifth grades. The authors found that the three strongest predictors were schoolentry mathematics, reading, and attention skills (in that order) and that measures of social and emotional skills were not significantly predictive factors, even for children with high levels of problem behaviors. These results were consistent across gender and socioeconomic status.

Vitaro, F., Brendengen, M., Larose, S., & Tremblay, R. E. (2005). Kindergarten disruptive behaviors, protective factors, and educational achievement by early adulthood. *Journal of Educational Psychology*, 97, 617–629.

This study includes a sample of 4,330 children in its analysis of the relationship between hyperactivity-inattention and aggressiveness-opposition and noncompletion of high school by early adulthood. The authors found that hyperactivity-inattention was a stronger predictor for noncompletion than was aggressiveness-opposition, and that this relationship was moderated by prosocial behaviors and parenting style. The authors suggest that certain student behaviors (inattention-hyperactivity) need more critical attention and intervention early on to avert later deficits in performance.

Greenberg, M. T., Weissberg, R. P., O'Brien, M. U., Zins, J. E., Fredericks, L., Resnik, H., & Elias, M. J. (2003). Enhancing school-based prevention and youth development through coordinated social, emotional, and academic learning. *American Psychologist*, 58(6–7), 466.

This article provides a broad overview of prevention and youth development programs, using the SEAL (social, emotional, and academic learning) model. The author reviews evidence from the field supporting the use of these programs to improve student outcomes for interpersonal

skills, mental health, and academic performance and behavior. The authors found the most effective programs are those that begin early and are reinforced through aligned programming in later grades. Effective programs also are fully integrated into the whole school, for all students. This programming requires professional development for teachers, administrators, and staff as well as the active participation of parents and students. Successful implementation depends on using research-based practices and must be coupled with data collection to monitor and maintain effectiveness.

Impact on Career Readiness

The following citations include those studies that seek to define the role and impact that lifelong learning skills have on career readiness and the labor market. The majority of this research has been conducted by economists, in conjunction with leaders in psychology, education, and other social science fields.

Almlund, M., Duckworth, A., Heckman, J., & Kautz, T. (2011). Personality psychology and economics. In E. A. Hanushek, S. Machin, & L. Wossmann (Eds.), *Handbook of the economics of education* (pp. 1–181). Amsterdam, Netherlands: Elsevier.

This research review provides a comprehensive overview of the relationship between personality and performance. The authors conclude that of the "Big Five" personality traits, conscientiousness is the best predictor of career success. Conscientiousness is a strong predictor of overall job performance and wages across a wide variety of occupations. They argue that because personality is relatively stable over the life course, it can be used as a reliable predictive measure. In addition, because it also is more malleable than cognitive ability, it holds promise as a lever on which to act to improve the achievement outcomes (i.e., GPA, standardized test scores, cognitive skills tests, and postsecondary attainment) with which it is associated.

Brunello, G., & Schlotter, M. (2010). *Non-cognitive skills and personality traits: Labour market relevance and their development in education and training systems* (IZA Discussion Paper No. 5743). Analytical Report for the European Commission prepared by the European Expert Network on Economics of Education.

In this article, the authors find that inter- and intrapersonal skills play a central role in determining educational and career achievement outcomes, such as dropout rates, postsecondary enrollment, employment, and earnings. They argue that the results of cognitive tests—which also predict educational and career achievement—are likely influenced in part by inter- and intrapersonal skills that improve performance on those same tests. The authors argue that because inter- and intrapersonal skills may be more malleable than cognitive skills, they may prove more useful for intervention efforts.

Cunha, F., Heckman, J. J., & Schennach, S. M. (2010). Estimating the technology of cognitive and noncognitive skill formation (IZA Discussion Paper No. 4702). *Econometrica*, 78(3), 883–931.

In this paper, the authors demonstrate that inter- and intrapersonal skills promote the development of cognitive skills, but not vice versa. They find that early investment in cognitive skills yields the highest returns on investment—in terms of improved academic performance—but that those returns diminish over time. However, investments in inter- and intrapersonal

skills can be effective and retain their impact on both academic performance and social success, even at later ages. This finding suggests that cognitive skills promotion should be a focus in the early years, but that a focus on inter- and intrapersonal skills may be more effective later (e.g., for remediation efforts) in adolescence.

Borghans, L., ter Weel, B., & Weinberg, B. A. (2005). *People people: Social capital and the labor-market outcomes of underrepresented groups* (IZA Discussion Paper No. 1494).

This large-scale analysis of non-cognitive skills and career achievement data from the United States, Britain, and Germany demonstrates the value of interpersonal skills in the modern workplace. The authors find that higher levels of interpersonal skill are associated with attainment and sorting into (or seeking out) jobs in which people earn higher wages. The authors illustrate how computerization and organizational changes in the modern workplace demand higher interpersonal skills. Furthermore, the authors find that occupations that require higher levels of interpersonal skills favor women relative to men, and favor minorities least.

Borghans, L., ter Weel, B., & Weinberg, B. (2007). *Interpersonal styles and labor market outcomes* (NBER Working Paper No. 12846). Cambridge, MA: National Bureau of Economic Research.

This paper provides a framework for understanding how different interpersonal styles influence how individuals select career pathways and subsequent career achievement. The authors make a distinction between two major components of interpersonal style: caring and directness. They find that, overall, directness (clear communication) has a higher value than caring (cooperation) and that behavioral measures of youth sociability are predictive of the jobs they will hold as adults.

Carneiro, P., Crawford, C., & Goodman, A. (2007). The impact of early cognitive and non-cognitive skills on later outcomes. London, UK: Centre for the Economics of Education, London School of Economics.

In this article, the researchers use data from a large longitudinal study, finding that non-cognitive skills, even at early ages, are strong predictors for academic and career achievement, specifically, dropout, postsecondary attainment, employment, and wages. The authors suggest that inter- and intrapersonal skills may be more malleable than cognitive skills, and therefore may be a more effective and efficient focus for education and social policy efforts to improve college and career readiness and success.

Heckman, J., Stixrud, J., & Urzua, S. (2006). The effects of cognitive and noncognitive abilities on labor market outcomes and social behavior. *Journal of Labor Economics* 24(3), 411–482.

In this paper, the authors determine that non-cognitive skills have an important impact on educational and career achievement outcomes. The authors find that learners who receive a GED have similar cognitive skills to their peers who receive a high school diploma, but show differences in wages that may be attributable to variations in non-cognitive skills. They find that this same difference in non-cognitive skills may explain why some adolescents engage in high-risk behaviors and may contribute to their decisions of whether or not to pursue postsecondary education. The authors suggest that the lasting benefits of early childhood interventions are largely attributable to improvements in non-cognitive ability and show that the effects of those interventions are greater for females than they are for males.

Measures

This section highlights reports on measures for the assessment of lifelong learning skills. Due to the developing nature of the construct and its many components, there are relatively few validated and comprehensive assessments of lifelong learning skills. Most assessments represent an attempt to capture only a subset of lifelong learning skills, and have not yet been specifically validated as predictors of college and career readiness or success.

MISSION SKILLS ASSESSMENT (MSA)

Independent Schools Data Exchange (INDEX). (2014). MSA—A tool to alter the way schools think about education: 2014 NAIS conference [PowerPoint slides]. Retrieved from http://indexgroups.org/msa/docs/2014%20MSA%20NAIS%20Presentation.pdf

This presentation contains an overview of non-cognitive skills, the development of the MSA, and initial findings of validity and reliability of the test. The test is Web-based and seeks to assess sixth to eighth graders on six non-cognitive factors: creativity, resilience, curiosity, teamwork, ethics, and time management. It includes student self-assessment and biographical responses, teacher ratings, and situational judgment tests. The assessment is currently being piloted among 13,000 students at 70 schools and has been previously tested among more than 4,000 students across 38 schools. The authors show that the MSA is reliable and adds predictive value for academic performance (i.e., GPA and scores on standardized tests) when paired with a cognitive skills test.

Soland, J., Hamilton, L. S., & Stecher, B. M. (2013). *Measuring 21st century competencies: Guidance for educators.* Global Cities Education Network.

In this report on assessments of lifelong learning skills, the authors highlight the MSA as an exemplary assessment for its measurement of multiple skills using several sources (i.e., a student survey, multiple-choice questions, and teacher observation). The authors recommend using the MSA as a schoolwide assessment that can promote the teaching of lifelong learning skills while also being low cost and easy to understand.

TAUCK FAMILY FOUNDATION FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT TOOL

Child Trends. (2014). Measuring elementary school students' social and emotional skills: Providing educators with tools to measure and monitor social and emotional skills that lead to academic success. Bethesda, MD: Author.

This report details the development of a new tool designed to measure social and emotional skills in elementary school students (Grades K–5). The authors provide an overview of how social and emotional skills influence student academic (e.g., course grades) and social achievement. They propose a five-factor model consisting of the social and emotional skills that are most influential for student academic and social achievement outcomes, including

self-control, persistence, mastery orientation, academic self-efficacy, and social competence. The authors provide a definition for each skill and review the literature linking it to academic achievement. Next, they provide a detailed description of the development of their assessment, which draws directly from survey questions used in well-established measures of each skill within the five-factor model. They also include a review of each of those individual measures, along with a chart describing them and citations for further review. The pilot study of their assessment, in conjunction with Bridgeport (Connecticut) Public Schools and Yale University, demonstrated that the measure is valid and reliable. The surveys are presented in the appendixes along with the survey's evaluation results. A suggested implementation program is described for those interested in using the new surveys in their school(s) or district(s).

SMARTER BALANCED AND PARTNERSHIP FOR ASSESSMENT OF READINESS FOR COLLEGE AND CAREERS (PARCC) ASSESSMENT CONSORTIA

Herman, J. L., & Linn, R. L. (2013). On the road to assessing deeper learning: The status of Smarter Balanced and PARCC assessment consortia (CRESST Report 823). Los Angeles, CA: University of California, National Center for Research on Evaluation, Standards, and Student Testing (CRESST).

This report provides a comprehensive background on and analysis of the tests being developed by the Smarter Balanced and PARCC assessment consortia. The authors find that the tests demonstrate the potential to effectively measure mastery of academic content, while also measuring cognitive strategies for complex thinking, communication, and problem solving. The authors caution that political, financial, and technical limitations may degrade the reliability and validity of the tests. Budget limitations in some states may lead some to only partially participate (the cost is estimated to be \$20 per student), and although the use of technology to conduct the assessments is desirable, ensuring that all schools have the requisite hardware may be difficult. These challenges could threaten the successful implementation and usability of data gathered from these tests.

PROGRAM FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ASSESSMENT (PISA)

OECD. (2013), PISA 2012 assessment and analytical framework: Mathematics, reading, science, problem solving and financial literacy. OECD Publishing.

This report contains an overview of the guiding framework for the PISA 2012 exam. Particularly relevant to the assessment of lifelong learning skills is chapter four, which reviews the measurement framework for problem solving and breaks down the components of each question within that section. PISA 2012 questions vary by problem context, ¹² the nature of the problem, ¹³ and the cognitive components of problem solving that are measured. ¹⁴ Each question reveals student performance on every component in the process of problem solving and provides students with multiple opportunities to demonstrate their problem-solving ability. This type of construction and assessment of each question allows for more intricate and domain-general measurement of problem-solving skills.

OECD. (2013), PISA 2015 draft collaborative problem solving framework. OECD Publishing.

This document contains a draft version of the measurement framework in development for the 2015 PISA exam, describing the assessment components integrated into each question. The collaborative problem-solving framework is particularly relevant to "21st century skills" development, as it simultaneously demands interpersonal and cognitive skills from students as they solve each problem. The test presents students with complex problems that can only be solved through collaboration with a virtual peer. The entire collaborative process, as well as the cognitive process and the correctness of the student's answer, are taken into account to determine the final score.

Greif, S., Holt, D. V., & Funke, J. (2013). Perspectives on problem solving in educational assessment: Analytical, interactive, and collaborative problem solving. *Journal of Problem Solving*, 5(2), 71–91.

The authors of this study are the developers of the problem-solving portion of PISA. They use the problem-solving sections from the 2003, 2013, and 2015 PISA to compare and contrast three kinds of problem solving: analytical, interactive, and collaborative. Analytical problem solving is that in which all of the necessary information is presented in the problem, interactive problem solving requires additional information to be abstracted or input to solve the problem, and collaborative problem solving requires interaction with another person to solve the problem. The authors discuss the advantages and limitations associated with the assessment of each kind of problem solving as well as new directions for future research. Analytic problem solving limits the student by not allowing for exploration and testing of the problem context. Interactive problem solving attempts to correct for this through computer simulation, but is inherently limited compared with real-world interaction. The collaborative problem-solving component of the forthcoming 2015 PISA addresses the limitations of interactive problem solving by

 $^{^{12}}$ Questions related to personal, technological, or social problems or scenarios

¹³ Static, or requiring no additional information, and interactive, or requiring abstraction of facts

¹⁴ Exploring and understanding, representing and formulating, planning and executing, and monitoring and reflecting

introducing live or simulated collaborators with whom the test-taker must work to solve the problem. Additional research is necessary, however, to determine how best to simulate the real-world scenario of collaborative problem solving, while still maintaining standardization of the test.

ASSESSMENTS FOR SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL LEARNING

Haggerty, K., Elgin, J., & Woolley, A. (2011). Social-emotional learning assessment measures for middle school youth. Social Development Research Group. University of Washington. Commissioned by the Raikes Foundation.

This guide to SEL assessments is designed to help educators choose SEL assessments that match their needs. The authors reviewed 73 assessments of SEL and found 10 that met their criteria for effectiveness and efficiency, using CASEL's (Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning) framework for SEL as a guide. The assessments are reviewed individually for technical properties, such as validity; format, such as survey or multiple-choice; age range; and usability concerns, such as cost and training requirements. Many of these assessments are available for use with younger as well as older children and adolescents. The assessments are designed to measure both inter- and intrapersonal skills, with some also evaluating general mental health. The authors also provide this information in a condensed chart along with a glossary of terms and sample versions of the tests.

COLLEGE- AND CAREER-READY SCHOOL DIAGNOSTIC

Conley, D. T., McGaughy, C., Kirtner, J., Van Der Valk, A., & Martinez-Wenzl, M. T. (2010, April). College readiness practices at 38 high schools and the development of the CollegeCareerReady School Diagnostic tool. Paper presented at the 2010 annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Denver, CO.

This report details the investigation of college and career readiness practices in high schools and the subsequent development of the CollegeCareerReady School Diagnostic. The assessment includes a Web-based application that assesses, tracks, and provides feedback based on college and career readiness practice surveys administered to teachers, administrators, counselors, and students. The surveys are designed to reveal the degree to which schools are following the college and career readiness framework, developed by Conley. The framework focuses on four dimensions: cognitive strategies, content knowledge, transition knowledge and skills, and learning skills and techniques. Initial results indicated that schools used findings from the survey to inform decisions about future steps to improve practice promoting college- and career-ready skills. Additional research is needed to determine what student outcomes were affected by use of the survey.

Lombardi, A. R., Conley, D. T., Seburn, M. A., & Downs, A. M. (2013). College and career readiness assessment: Validation of the Key Cognitive Strategies framework. *Assessment for Effective Intervention*, 38(3), 163–171.

This study investigates the validity of the CollegeCareerReady School Diagnostic, with respect to the Key Cognitive Strategies¹⁵ (KCS) portion of the diagnostic for students. This portion of the diagnostic involves a self-report measure that probes student use of the KCS. The authors found that the measure was valid and suggest pairing it with the College-Readiness Performance Assessment System (C-PAS) to determine the extent to which schools are successful in teaching skills for deeper learning.

COLLEGE-READINESS PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

Conley, D. (2009, April). Formative assessment for college readiness: Measuring skill and growth in five key cognitive strategies associated with postsecondary success. Paper presented at the 2009 annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, San Diego, CA.

This report describes the initial validation of an assessment designed to capture acquisition of college readiness cognitive thinking skills in mathematics and English language arts (ELA). The system comprises a set of tasks in mathematics and ELA, which the teacher assigns to students, once in the fall and once in the spring. The tasks are then graded according to the students' use of five cognitive strategies within the KCS framework (problem formulation, research, interpretation, communication, precision/accuracy). The author argues that this assessment effectively measured the acquisition of these cognitive skills.

Baldwin, M., Seburn, M., & Conley, D. T. (2011, April). External validity of the College-readiness Performance Assessment System (C-PAS). Paper presented at the 2011 annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, New Orleans, LA.

This study found that the C-PAS was positively correlated, to a modest-to-moderate degree, with test scores in ELA and mathematics on the New York Regents exam—a measure of college eligibility administered in Grades 9-12. The authors argue that these findings indicate C-PAS can be used as a predictor for achievement and college readiness, which in turn can inform data-driven instructional practices to improve student performance.

MICRODYN APPROACH

Greiff, S., & Funke, J. (2009). Measuring complex problem solving: The MicroDYN approach. In F. Scheuermann & J. Bjornsson (Eds.), The transition to computer-based assessment: New approaches to skills assessment and implications for large-scale testing. Luxembourg: Office for Official Publications of the European Communities.

This report describes the development and empirical testing of MicroDYN—a test for complex problem solving. The authors explain how the test is able to assess the skill of complex problem solving on a general, rather than content-specific, level. The test is computer based and allows for analysis of the students' problem-solving process, in addition to their answer.

¹⁵ These strategies include problem formulation, research, interpretation, communication, and precision/accuracy.

Students are asked to complete short, five-minute exercises in which they must draw causal inferences from complex systems. For each question, the student is given an exploration phase (time to manipulate the model), a modeling phase (time to develop the inferred relationships), and a control phase (time to provide an answer). The authors argue that the MicroDYN approach will allow for more accurate testing of problem solving, at a content-general level, by using multiple, brief test items and intentionally assessing well-established components of problem solving derived from the cognitive psychology literature.

GRIT SCALE

Duckworth, A. L., & Quinn, P. D. (2009). Development and validation of the short grit scale (Grit-S). *Journal of Personality Assessment*, 91, 166–174.

This article introduces the concept of "grit" and its measurement utility for predicting various achievement outcomes, including academic success. The Grit Scale uses a brief, eight-question self-report assessment to measure student effort and interest. The Grit Scale has been empirically tested with adolescents in school, adults at work, West Point military cadets, and spelling bee competitors. Grit is a predictor of multiple achievement outcomes, including GPA, educational attainment and career dedication, retention of military cadets, and performance in competition.

RESILIENCE AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT MODULE OF THE HEALTHY KIDS SURVEY

Hanson, T. L., & Kim, J. O. (2007). Measuring resilience and youth development: The psychometric properties of the Healthy Kids Survey (Issues & Answers Report, REL 2007–No. 034). Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Evaluation and Regional Assistance, Regional Educational Laboratory West.

This report contains a detailed overview and analysis of the Resilience and Youth Development Module of the Healthy Kids Survey, which is administered to roughly 600,000 students annually in California. The authors point out the various non-cognitive skills constructs that the self-report measure evaluates, including self-efficacy, empathy, problem solving, self-awareness, school support, and home support—all broadly related to resilience. After reviewing the reliability and validity of the measure, they find that although it may be useful for district-level snapshots of student resilience, it should not be used to compare individual student differences or as a longitudinal measure. They suggest modifications and improvements for the measure, such as removing or adding questions, and provide external resources and other related assessments for review.

 $^{^{16}}$ Grit is defined as perseverance in the pursuit of long-term goals.

ACADEMIC MOTIVATION SCALE (AMS)

Grouzet, F. M., Otis, N., & Pelletier, L. G. (2006). Longitudinal cross-gender factorial invariance of the Academic Motivation Scale. *Structural Equation Modeling*, 13(1), 73–98.

This study provides an analysis of the reliability and validity (see definitions below) of the AMS. The AMS uses a self-report method to probe for student motivation and regulation skills. The study included a three-year longitudinal model involving more than 600 participants. The authors find that the scale is consistent over time. The authors also cite previous research on the scale, which has provided strong evidence for its predictive power for final course grades and dropout risk.

Validity refers to the degree to which a measure can be said to be accurately measuring that thing which it purports to measure, instead of being influenced by or capturing something else.

Reliability refers to the extent to which the results from a test can be reproduced in a consistent manner, over time, when measuring the same thing (e.g., within the same person or groups of people, and across similar people or similar groups).

Fortier, M. S., Vallerand, R. J., & Guay, F. (1995). Academic motivation and school performance: Toward a structural model. *Contemporary Educational Psychology*, 20(3), 257–274.

This study confirms the predictive power of the AMS. The authors find that student scores account for 28 percent of the variance in final course grades.

MOTIVATED STRATEGIES FOR LEARNING QUESTIONNAIRE (MSLQ)

Pintrich, P. R., & De Groot, E. (1990). Motivational and self-regulated learning components of classroom academic performance. *Journal of Educational Psychology*, 82, 33–40.

This is the first empirical study of the MSLQ, tested among 173 seventh-grade students. The MSLQ is a student self-report measure which includes 56 items probing student motivation, cognitive strategy use, metacognitive strategy use, and management of effort. The authors found that this measure is an accurate predictor of academic performance, as measured by scores on in-class assignments, exams and quizzes, essays, and semester grades.

Pintrich, P. R., Smith, D. A., Garcia, T., & McKeachie, W. J. (1993). Reliability and predictive validity of the Motivated Strategies for Learning Questionnaire (MSLQ). *Educational and Psychological Measurement*, 53(3), 801–813.

This report provides an analysis of the reliability and predictive validity of the MSLQ, as tested with college students. The authors find that reliability is strong and that the measure is predictive of academic performance as reflected by final course grades across content areas.

SELF-REGULATED LEARNING INTERVIEW SCHEDULE

Zimmerman, B. J., & Martinez-Pons, M. (1986). Development of a structured interview for assessing student use of self-regulated learning strategies. *American Educational Research Journal*, 23, 614–628.

This study describes the development and initial testing of the Self-Regulated Learning Interview Schedule with 80 10th-grade students. The assessment is conducted by interview and asks students about their use of 14 self-regulated learning strategies. The authors found that the measure was predictive of performance on a standardized test of academic achievement. It was found to be a better predictor of said test score than socioeconomic status or gender.

Zimmerman, B. J., & Martinez-Pons, M. (1988). Construct validation of a strategy model of student self-regulated learning. *Journal of Educational Psychology*, 80(3), 284–290.

This article contains an analysis of the validity of the Self-Regulated Learning Interview Schedule. Findings indicate that the assessment measures student use of self-regulated learning strategies and that results are not influenced by other student characteristics, such as student verbal expressiveness or student achievement on standardized tests. The assessment does correlate highly with teacher ratings of students' self-regulated learning strategy use, suggesting that the assessment is a valid measure.

Appendix. Summary of Sources Used in This Report

Source	е				CR cus		Stud Type			skills ocu		u	Itilit	у
Title	Author	Year	Page Number in Guide	College	Career	Overview	Meta-Analysis	Investigation	Cognitive	Intrapersonal	Interpersonal	Policy	Measurement	Practice/Intervention
Personality psychology and economics	Almlund, M., Duckworth, A., Heckman, J., & Kautz, T.	2011	11	•	•	•				•		•	•	
External validity of the College-Readiness Performance Assessment System (C-PAS)	Baldwin, M., Seburn, M., & Conley, D.T.	2011	26	•				•	•	•	•		•	
Academic tenacity: Mindsets and skills that promote long-term learning	Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	2014	12	•		•				•	•	•		•
Implicit theories of intelligence predict achievement across an adolescent transition: A longitudinal study and an intervention	Blackwell, L. S., Trzesniewski, K. H., & Dweck, C. S.	2007	13	•				•		•				•
Interpersonal styles and labor market outcomes	Borghans, L., ter Weel, B., & Weinberg, B.	2008	21		•			•			•	•	•	
People people: Social capital and the labor-market outcomes of underrepresented groups	Borghans, L., ter Weel, B., & Weinberg, B. A.	2005	21		•			•			•	•	•	
Non-cognitive skills and personality traits: Labour market relevance and their development in education and training systems	Brunello, G., & Schlotter, M.	2010	20	•	•			•		•	•	•	•	
The impact of early cognitive and non-cognitive skills on later outcomes	Carneiro, P., Crawford, C., & Goodman, A.	2007	21	•	•			•	•	•	•	•	•	

Source					CR cus		Stud Type			skill: ocu		ι	Jtilit	у
Title	Author	Year	Page Number in Guide	College	Career	Overview	Meta-Analysis	Investigation	Cognitive	Intrapersonal	Interpersonal	Policy	Measurement	Practice/Intervention
Measuring elementary school students' social and emotional skills: Providing educators with the tools to measure and monitor social and emotional skills that lead to academic success	Child Trends	2014	22	•				•		•	•	•	•	
The missing piece: A national teacher survey on how SEL can empower children and transform schools	Civic Enterprises, Bridgeland, J., Bruce, M., & Hariharan, A.	2013	17	•		•		•		•	•	•		
Recursive processes in self-affirmation: Intervening to close the minority achievement gap	Cohen, G. L., Garcia, J., Purdie- Vaughns, V., Apfel, N., & Brzustoski, P.	2009	13	•				•		•				•
Reducing the racial achievement gap: A social-psychological intervention	Cohen, G. L., Garcia, J., Apfel, N., & Master, A.	2006	14	•				•		•				•
College readiness practices at 38 high schools and the development of the CollegeCareerReady School Diagnostic tool	Conley, D. T., McGaughy, C., Kirtner, J., Van Der Valk, A., & Martinez-Wenzl, M. T.	2010	25	•	•			•	•	•	•		•	
Formative assessment for college readiness on five key cognitive strategies associated with postsecondary success	Conley, D.	2009	26	•				•	•	•	•		•	
Estimating the technology of cognitive and noncognitive skill formation	Cunha, F., Heckman, J. J., & Schennach, S. M.	2010	20	•	•			•	•	•	•	•	•	
The social-cognitive model of achievement motivation and the 2×2 achievement goal framework	Cury, F., Elliot, A. J., Da Fonseca, D., & Moller, A. C.	2006	14	•				•		•				•

Source	•				CR cus		Stud Type			skill: ocu		ι	Jtilit	у
Title	Author	Year	Page Number in Guide	College	Career	Overview	Meta-Analysis	Investigation	Cognitive	Intrapersonal	Interpersonal	Policy	Measurement	Practice/Intervention
How can primary school students learn self-regulated learning strategies most effectively?: A meta-analysis on self-regulation training programmes	Dignath, C., Buettner, G., & Langfeldt, H.	2008	10	•			•		•	•				•
Self-regulation strategies improve self-discipline and implementation intentions	Duckworth, A. L., Grant, H., Loew, B., Oettingen, G., & Gollwitzer, P. M.	2011	10	•				•		•				•
Development and validation of the short grit scale (Grit-S)	Duckworth, A. L., & Quinn, P. D.	2009	27	•	•			•		•			•	
Grit: Perseverance and passion for long-term goals	Duckworth, A. L., Peterson, C., Matthews, M. D., & Kelly, D. R.	2007	11											
Self-discipline outdoes IQ in predicting academic performance of adolescents	Duckworth, A. L., & Seligman, M. E. P.	2005	11	•				•	•	•			•	•
The nature and impact of early achievement skills, attention skills, and behavior problems	Duncan, G., & Magnuson, K.	2011	18	•	•	•			•	•	•	•	•	
School readiness and later achievement	Duncan, G., Dowsett, C., Classens, A., Magnuson, K., Huston, A., Klebanov, P., Pagani, L., et al.	2007	19	•				•	•	•	•	•	•	•
The impact of enhancing students' social and emotional learning: A meta-analysis of school-based universal interventions	Durlak, J. A., Dymnicki, A. B., Taylor, R. D., Weissberg, R. P., & Schellinger, K. B.	2011	18	•			•				•	•		•

Source					CR cus		Stud Type			kill: ocu		ι	Jtilit	У
Title	Author	Year	Page Number in Guide	College	Career	Overview	Meta-Analysis	Investigation	Cognitive	Intrapersonal	Interpersonal	Policy	Measurement	Practice/Intervention
A meta-analysis of after-school programs that seek to promote personal and social skills in children and adolescents	Durlak, J. A., Weissberg, R. P., & Pachan, M.	2010	18	•			•				•	•		•
Motivational processes affecting learning	Dweck, C. S.	1986	16	•		•				•		•		•
Grade-related changes in the school environment: Effects on achievement motivation	Eccles, J., Midgley, C., & Adler, T. F.	1984	16	•		•				•		•		•
Achievement goals, study strategies, and exam performance: A meditational analysis	Elliot, A. J., McGregor, H. A., & Gable, S.	1999	15	•				•		•		•		•
Teaching adolescents to become learners. The role of noncognitive factors in shaping school performance: A critical literature review	Farrington, C. A., Roderick, M., Allensworth, E., Nagaoka, J., Keyes, T. S., Johnson, D. W., & Beechum, N. O.	2012	5	•		•			•	•	•	•	•	•
Academic motivation and school performance: Toward a structural model	Fortier, M. S., Vallerand, R. J., & Guay, F.	1995	28	•				•		•			•	
Improving adolescents' standardized test performance: An intervention to reduce the effects of stereotype threat	Good, C., Aronson, J., & Inzlicht, M.	2003	14	•				•		•				•
Enhancing school-based prevention and youth development through coordinated social, emotional and academic learning	Greenberg, M. T., Weissberg, R. P., O'Brien, M. U., Zins, J. E., Fredericks, L., Resnick, H., & Elias, M. J.	2013	19	•		•				•	•	•		•

Source					CR cus		tud Type			kill: ocu		ι	Jtilit	У
Title	Author	Year	Page Number in Guide	College	Career	Overview	Meta-Analysis	Investigation	Cognitive	Intrapersonal	Interpersonal	Policy	Measurement	Practice/Intervention
Complex problem solving in educational contexts— Something beyond g: Concept, assessment, measurement invariance, and construct validity	Greiff, S., & Funke, J.	2013	7	•		•		•	•				•	
Perspectives on problem solving in educational assessment: Analytical, interactive, and collaborative problem solving	Greif, S., Holt, D.V., & Funke, J.	2013	24	•		•		•	•				•	
Measuring complex problem solving: The MicroDYN approach	Greiff, S., & Funke, J.	2009	26	•				•					•	
Longitudinal cross-gender factorial invariance of the Academic Motivation Scale	Grouzet, F. M., Otis, N., & Pelletier, L. G.	2006	28	•				•		•			•	
Measuring resilience and youth development: The psychometric properties of the Healthy Kids Survey	Hanson, T. L., & Kim, J. O.	2007	27	•				•		•	•		•	
Social-emotional learning assessment measures for middle school youth	Haggerty, K., Elgin, J., & Wooley, A.	2011	25	•		•		•		•	•	•	•	
The effects of cognitive and noncognitive abilities on labor market outcomes and social behavior	Heckman, J., Stixrud, J., & Urzua, S.	2006	21	•	•			•	•	•	•	•	•	•
On the road to assessing deeper learning: The status of Smarter Balanced and PARCC assessment consortia	Herman, J. L., & Linn, R. L.	2013	23	•		•		•	•	•	•	•	•	
MSA—A tool to alter the way schools think about education: 2014 NAIS conference	Independent Schools Data Exchange (INDEX)	2014	22	•				•	•	•	•		•	

Source				C(CR cus		Stud Type			skill: ocu		ι	Jtilit	У
Title	Author	Year	Page Number in Guide	College	Career	Overview	Meta-Analysis	Investigation	Cognitive	Intrapersonal	Interpersonal	Policy	Measurement	Practice/Intervention
Inductive reasoning: A training approach	Klauer, K., & Phye, G.	2008	8	•				•	•					•
Fact and fiction in cognitive ability testing for admissions and hiring decisions	Kuncel, N. R., & Hezlett, S. A.	2010	8	•	•	•		•	•			•	•	
College and career readiness assessment: Validation of the Key Cognitive Strategies framework	Lombardi, A. R., Conley, D. T., Seburn, M. A., & Downs, A. M.	2013	26	•	•			•					•	
Problem solving	Mayer, R. E., & Wittrock, M. C.	2006	8	•		•			•					•
Education for life and work: Guide for practitioners	National Research Council	2014	4	•		•			•	•	•	•		•
Education for life and work: Developing transferable knowledge and skills in the 21st century	National Research Council	2012	5	•	•	•			•	•	•	•	•	•
Assessing 21st century skills: Summary of a workshop	National Research Council	2011	6	•		•			•	•	•	•	•	•
PISA 2012 assessment and analytical framework: Mathematics, reading, science, problem solving and financial literacy	OECD	2013	24	•		•			•				•	
PISA 2015 draft collaborative problem solving framework	OECD	2013	24	•		•			•				•	
Students' need for belonging in the school community	Osterman, K. F.	2000	15	•		•				•	•	•		•

Source				C(tud Type			kills ocu		ι	Jtilit	У
Title	Author	Year	Page Number in Guide	College	Career	Overview	Meta-Analysis	Investigation	Cognitive	Intrapersonal	Interpersonal	Policy	Measurement	Practice/Intervention
Reliability and predictive validity of the Motivated Strategies for Learning Questionnaire (MSLQ)	Pintrich, P. R., Smith, D. A., Gracia, T., & McKeachie, W. J.	1993	29	•				•		•			•	
Motivational and self-regulated learning components of classroom academic performance	Pintrich, P. R., & De Groot, E.	1990	28	•				•		•			•	
A meta-analysis of the five-factor model of personality and academic performance	Poropat, A. E.	2009	12	•			•			•		•	•	
The rank-order consistency of personality traits from childhood to old age: A quantitative review of longitudinal studies	Roberts, B. W., & Del Vecchio, W. F.	2000	12	•	•		•			•		•	•	
Teaching and learning 21st century skills: Lessons from the learning sciences	Saavedra, A. R., & Opfer, V. D.	2012	6	•	•	•			•	•	•	•		•
Rocky roads to transfer: Rethinking mechanisms of a neglected phenomenon	Salomon, G., & Perkins, D. N.	1989	9	•		•			•					•
The effectiveness of creativity training: A quantitative review	Scott, G., Leritz, L. E., & Mumford, M. D.	2004	9	•	•		•		•			•		•
Measuring 21st century competencies: Guidance for educators	Soland, J., Hamilton, L. S., & Stecher, B. M.	2013	4	•	•	•			•	•	•	•	•	•
Kindergarten disruptive behaviors, protective factors, and educational achievement by early adulthood	Vitaro, F., Brendengen, M., Larose, S., & Tremblay, R. E.	2005	19	•				•		•		•		
A brief social-belonging intervention improves academic and health outcomes among minority students	Walton, G. M., & Cohen, G. L.	2011	13	•				•		•	•	•		•

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Title	Author	Year	Page Number in Guide	College	Career	Overview	Meta-Analysis	Investigation	Cognitive	Intrapersonal	Interpersonal	Policy	Measurement	Practice/Intervention
A question of belonging: Race, social fit, and achievement	Walton, G. M., & Cohen, G. L.	2007	13	•				•		•	•	•		•
Expectancy-value theory of achievement motivation	Wigfield, A., & Eccles, J. S.	2000	15	•		•				•		•	•	•
Construct validation of a strategy model of student self-regulated learning	Zimmerman, B. J., & Martinez-Pons, M.	1988	29	•				•		•			•	
Development of a structured interview for assessing student use of self-regulated learning strategies	Zimmerman, B. J., & Martinez-Pons, M.	1986	29	•				•		•			•	

CCR=college and career readiness

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