Creative problem solving is critical to future demands of the workforce, but educators and policymakers agree that current national education policies actually hurt creative problem solving. Research shows that tomorrow’s jobs will demand creative problem solving skills. We asked 400 higher and secondary educators and policymakers around the world to tell us about how students are being prepared to enter tomorrow’s workforce. And they told us that current national education policies actually hurt creative problem solving.

Job skills are the highest priority for students.

Jobs in Tomorrow’s Age of Automation

Persistence, grit & entrepreneurial spirit

Educators and policymakers believe it will take a variety of solutions to better nurture creative problem solving. In many federal states, education policy has not yet woken up to the new requirements. Policies that promote education and training keep teachers from getting the knowledge they need. And, there are many ways—small and large—to bridge the skills gap. Here are some of the most significant solutions:

1. CURRICULUM REFORM
   - Requiring more digital literacy courses
   - Allocating more budget to schools for technology
   - Revisiting standardized testing requirements
   - Ensuring local implementation of federal changes
   - Modifying school schedules
   - Integrating creative problem-solving concepts into today’s curricula

2. EDUCATION
   - Providing additional professional development for educators
   - Making technology more accessible
   - Providing more opportunities for students
   - Providing more independent work
   - Helping educators learn new tools

3. TECHNOLOGY
   - Making software and hardware more accessible
   - Developing better curricula
   - Fostering a culture of innovation
   - Providing more access to software
   - Fostering a culture of entrepreneurship

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There are many barriers to teaching creative problem solving in secondary today.

HARDWARE AT HOME

LACK OF EDUCATOR CONTROL

LACK OF STUDENT ACCESS TO SOFTWARE

OVER LESSONS IN CLASSROOMS

LACK OF TIME TO CREATE

LACK OF ACCESS TO SOFTWARE

CREATIVE PROBLEM SOLVING SKILLS

Creative problem solving is not enough emphasis on

SOLVING SKILLS

Technology alone is not the answer, but it's always a key tool.

Educators and policymakers believe it will take a variety of solutions to better nurture creative problem solving.

There are many barriers to teaching creative problem solving in secondary today.

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To learn more about:

- How Adobe is supporting educators, inspiring students and making tools more accessible
- How to integrate creative problem solving into today’s curricula
- How to work within diverse teams
- How to learn new tools
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