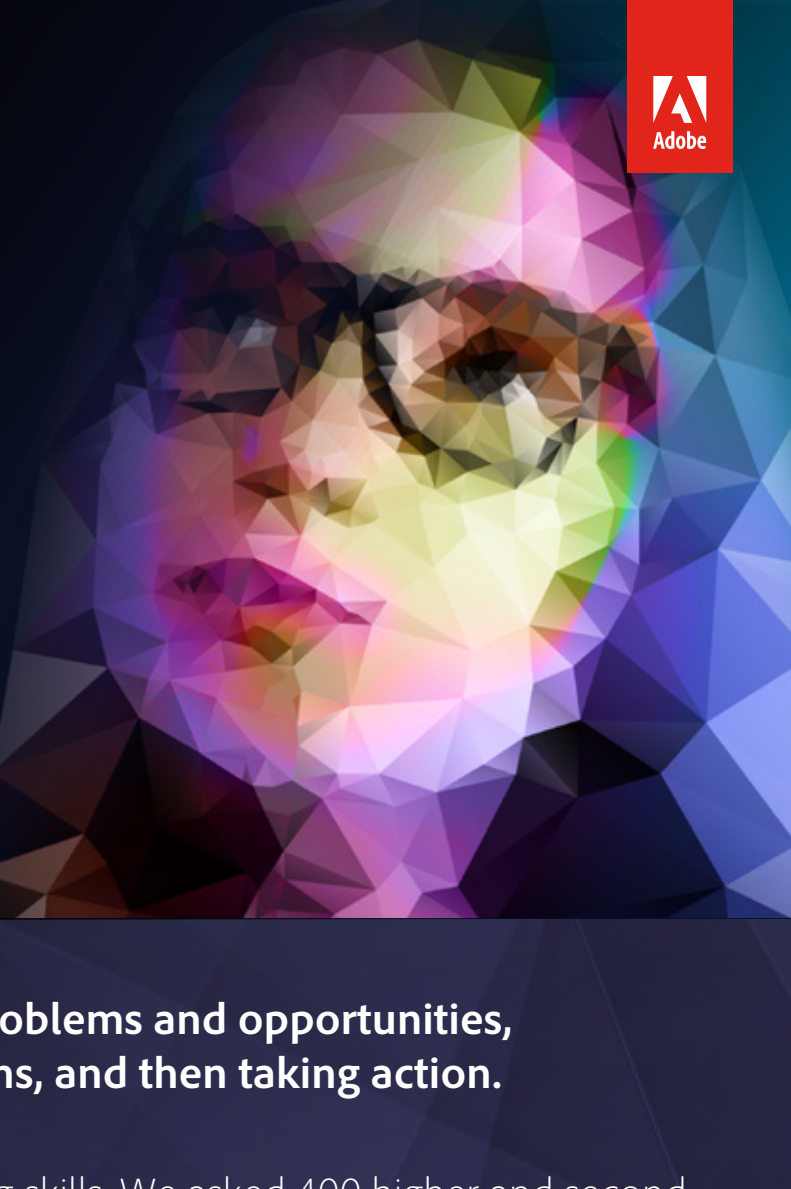


CREATIVE PROBLEM SOLVING

Essential Skills Today's Students Need for Jobs in Tomorrow's Age of Automation

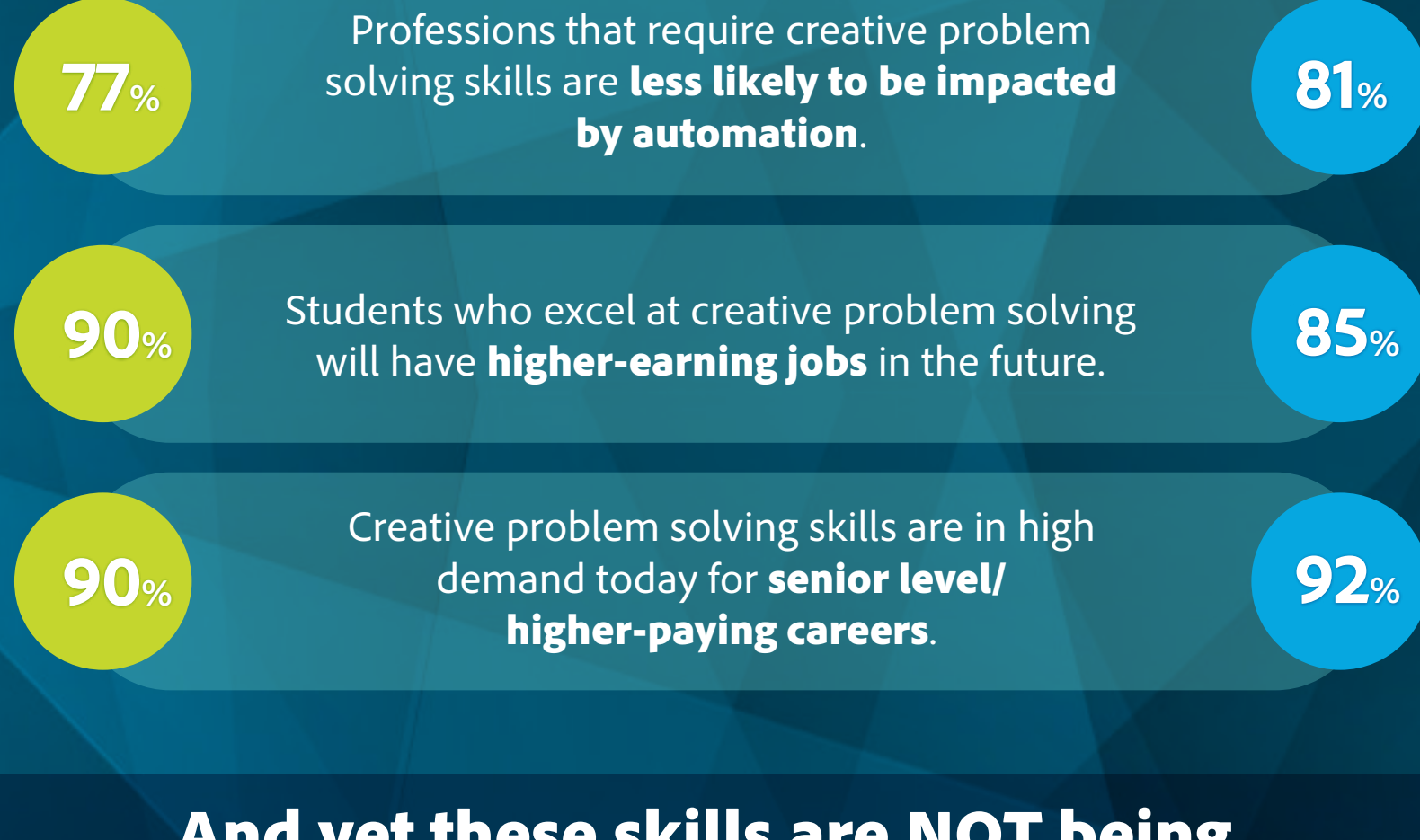


Creative problem solving is the process of redefining problems and opportunities, coming up with new, innovative responses and solutions, and then taking action.

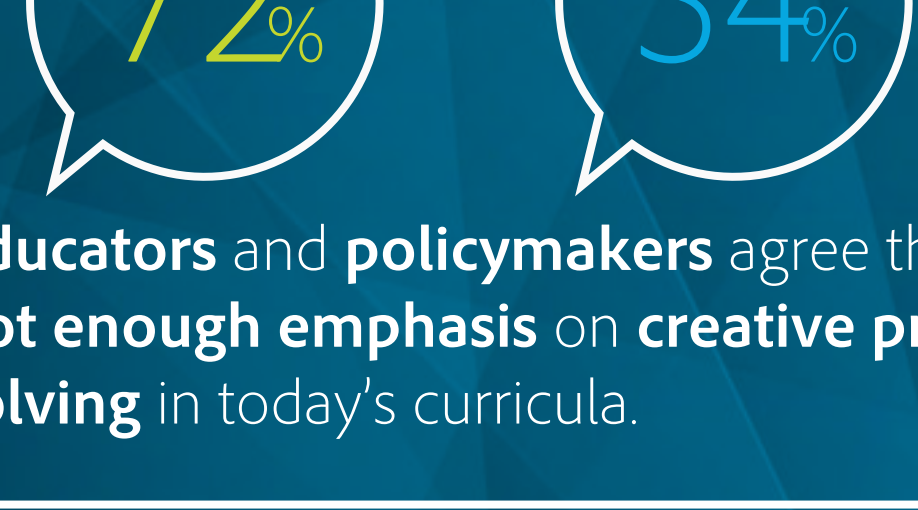
Research shows that tomorrow's jobs will demand creative problem solving skills. We asked 400 higher and secondary educators, and 100 policymakers and influencers around the world to tell us about how students are being prepared to be creative problem solvers. Here is what we found...

Educators and policymakers agree:

Creative problem solving is critical to future career success in an age of automation

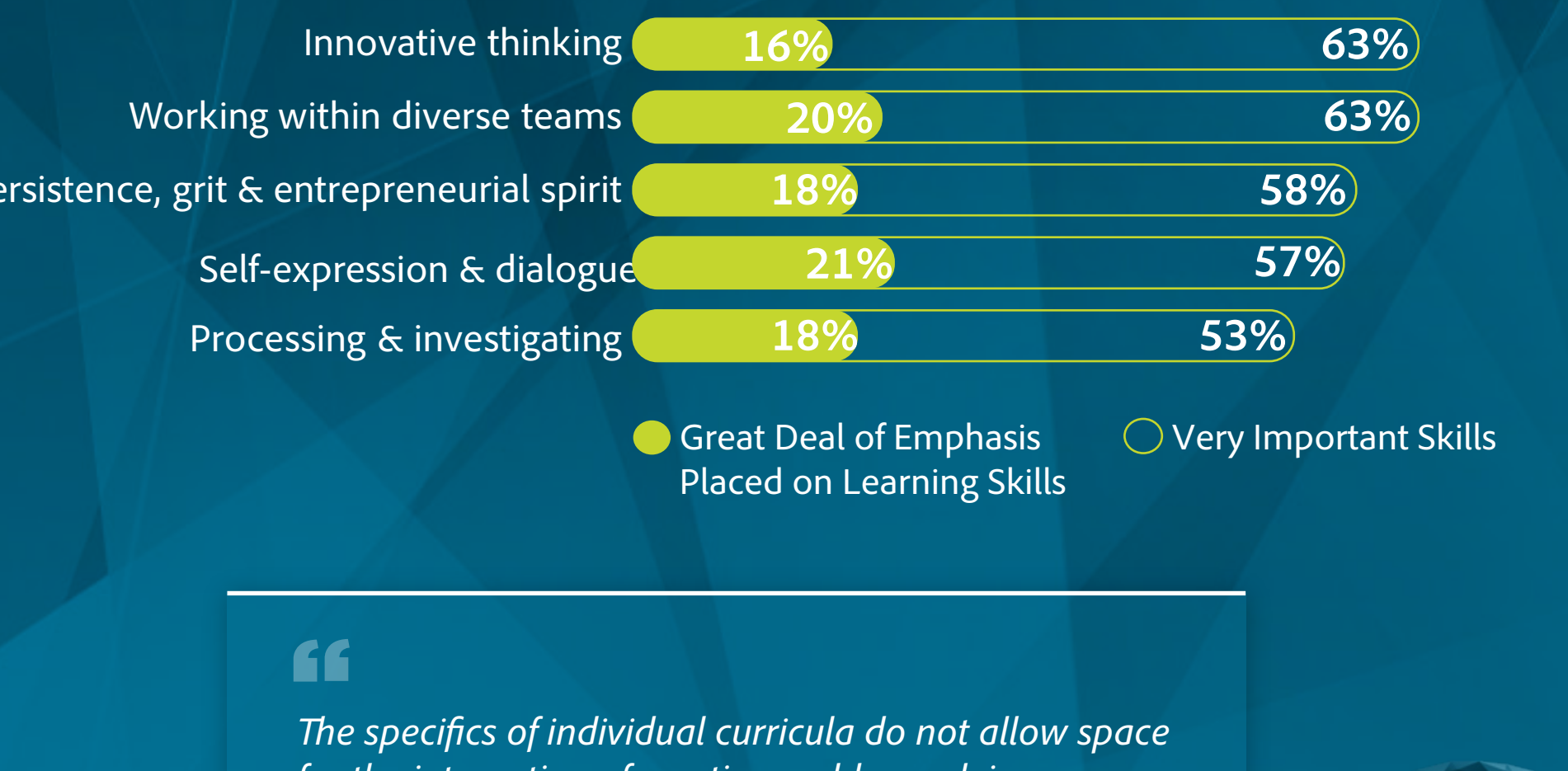


And yet these skills are NOT being nurtured in schools today



Educators and policymakers agree that there is not enough emphasis on creative problem solving in today's curricula.

In fact, the skills identified as most important to creative problem solving are currently playing a minimal role in today's curricula.

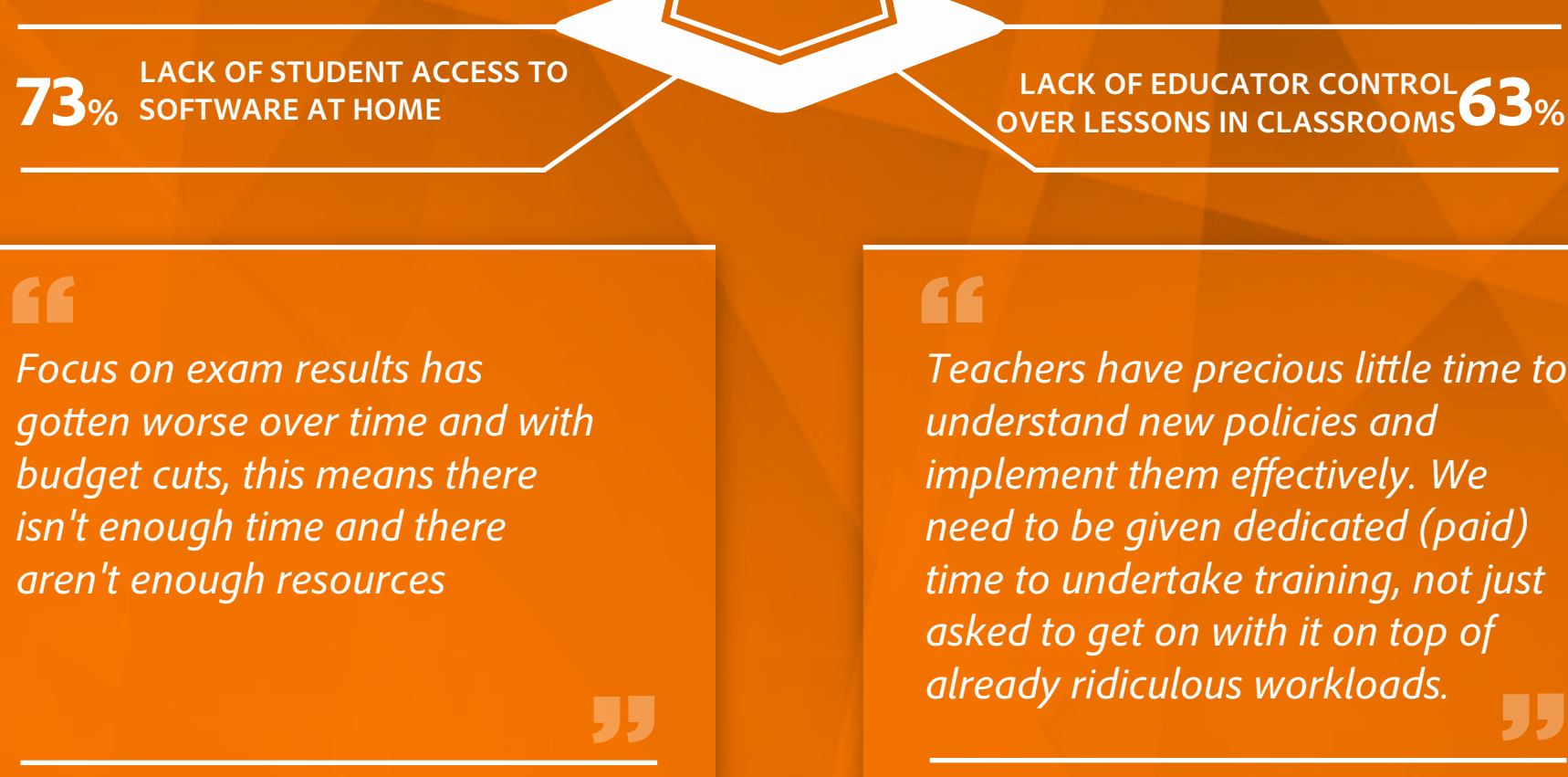


The specifics of individual curricula do not allow space for the integration of creative problem solving.

Policy maker



There are many barriers to teaching creative problem solving in schools today



Focus on exam results has gotten worse over time and with budget cuts, this means there isn't enough time and there aren't enough resources

Educator, Secondary

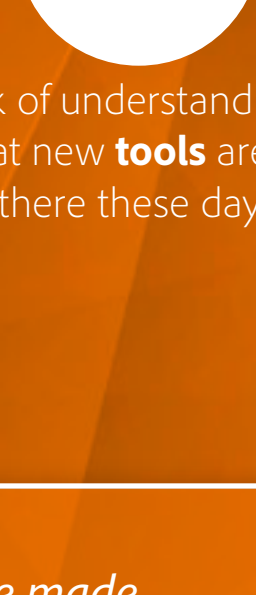
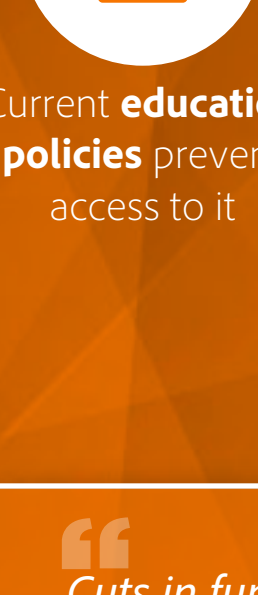
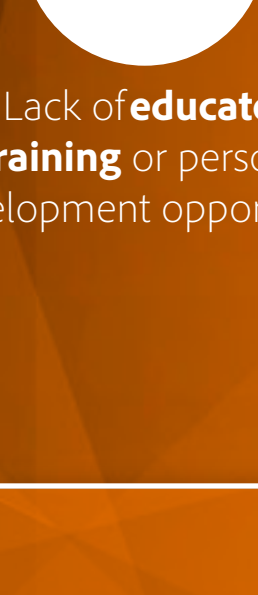
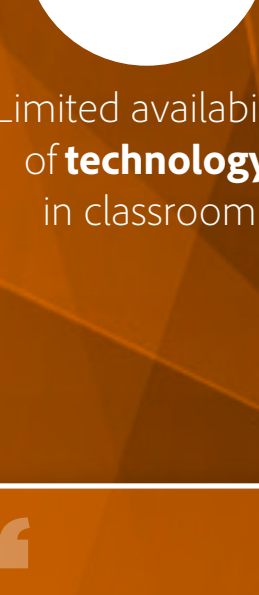
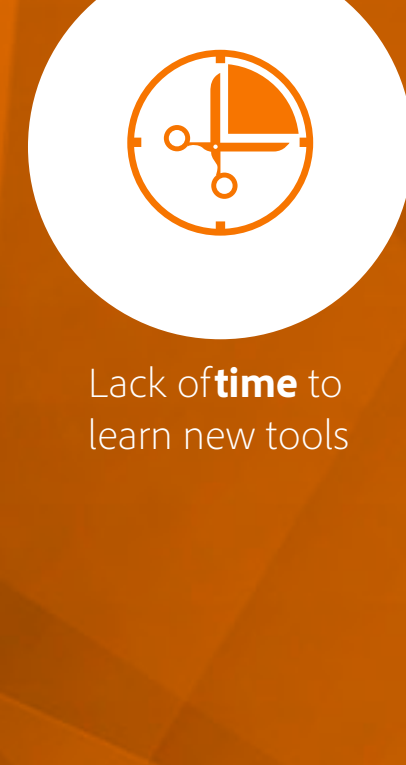


Teachers have precious little time to understand new policies and implement them effectively. We need to be given dedicated (paid) time to undertake training, not just asked to get on with it on top of already ridiculous workloads.

Educator, Secondary



More than half of educators don't have access to the tools and training they need to nurture these skills. School budget restraints and a lack of time, technology and training keep teachers from getting the knowledge they need.



Current education policies have introduced the worst of reform and change because of the continuous emphasis on exams, test scores and more exams

Policy maker

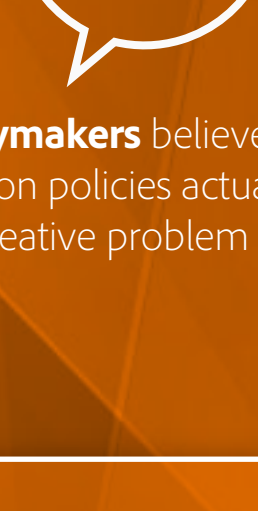
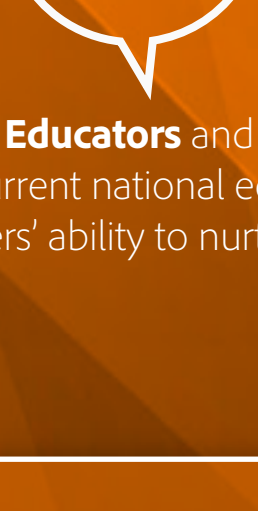


Cuts in funding have made nurturing creativity in students worse. There is also a larger amount of material the students need to learn for the exams than ever before, so the tutors spend time on teaching set facts.

Educator, Post-secondary



Today's education policies aren't helping either



Educators and policymakers believe that current education policies actually hurt teachers' ability to nurture creative problem solving.

There is a gap in understanding the realities of integrating creative problem solving into the classroom. Policymakers see these skills as less difficult to integrate into today's curricula than educators do.



Policies are about the results and not the processes, which doesn't enable schools to include more diverse ideas.

Educator, Secondary

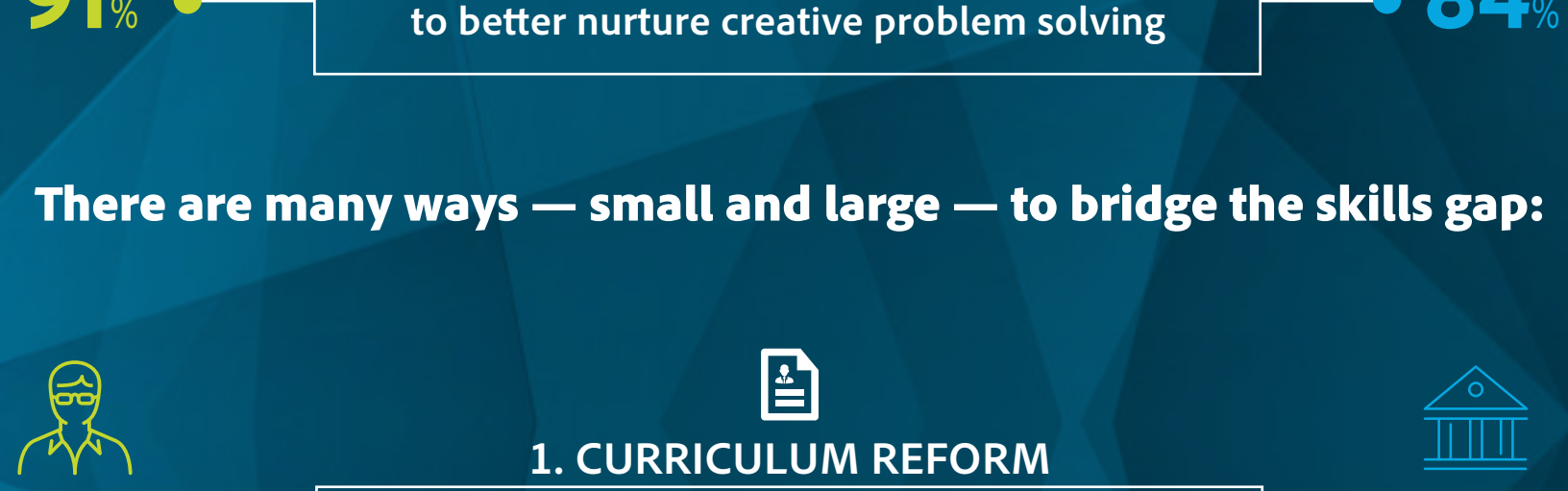


Current policies do not give teachers the creative focus to change their teaching to make it more focused on creative elements.

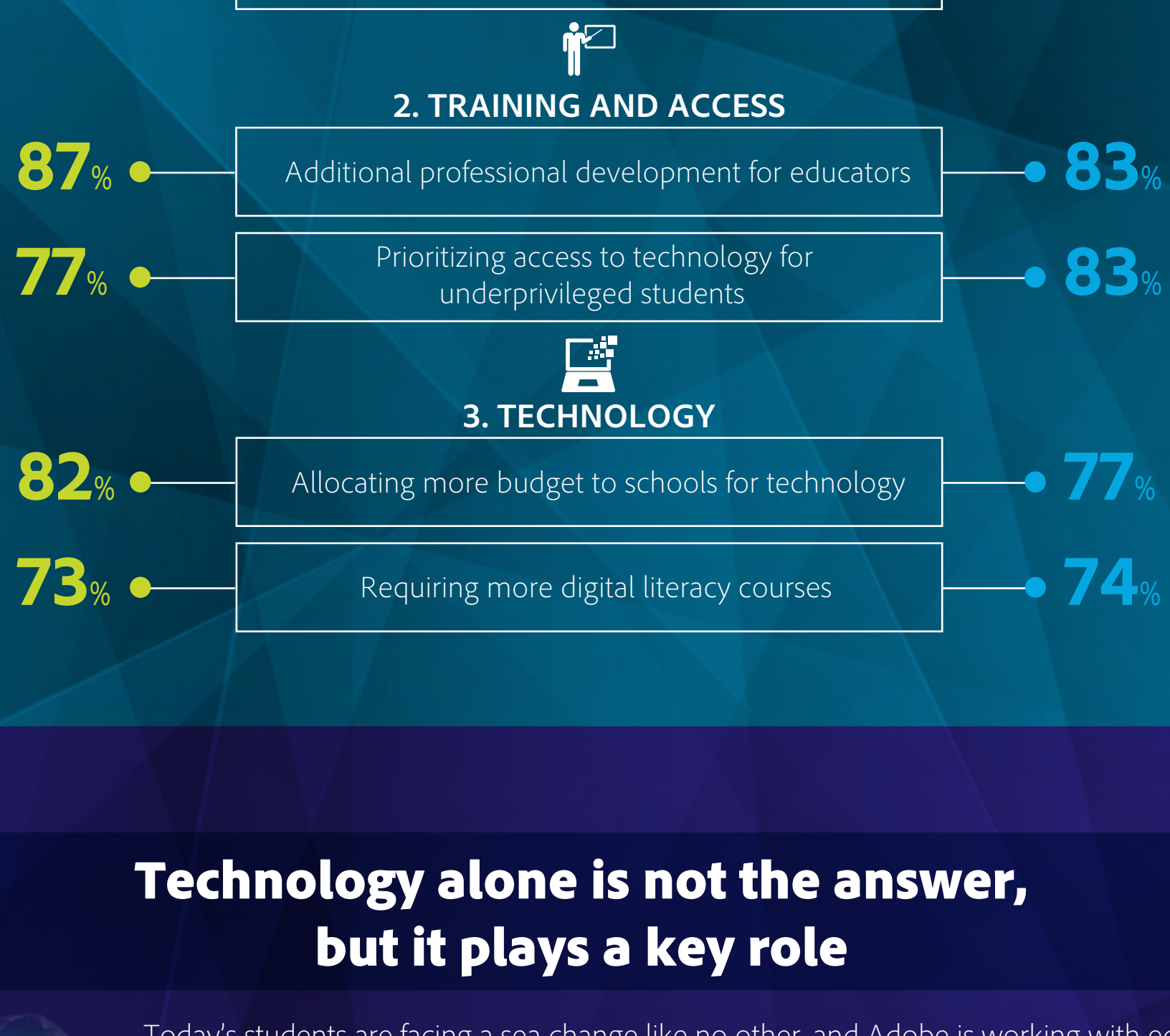
Educator, Secondary



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



There are many ways — small and large — to bridge the skills gap:



Technology alone is not the answer, but it plays a key role

Today's students are facing a sea change like no other, and Adobe is working with educators and students to help them develop these essential skills for entering tomorrow's workforce.

To learn more about:

- Why creative problem solving skills are so important to jobs of the future
- How Adobe is supporting educators, inspiring students and making tools more accessible
- And to hear directly from educators successfully using technology to teach creative problem solving skills in their classrooms

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