The School of the Future Design Competition offers an opportunity for students to engage creatively in the design or re-design of environments for learning. The design project can be a single classroom, studio, laboratory, a collaborative learning environment for a range of students and teachers, or an entire school. It can be a new construction or a remodeled, or renovation project. The competition is open to students aged 10-14 or KS2/3 students in America. They are challenged to design their schools to enhance learning, to conserve resources, be environmentally responsible and engage their local community.

This approach is intended to be multi-disciplinary and helps students to follow a planning process from the concept phase to the completion of the project.

Teachers and students will be involved in the project and will be given advice by mentors from the range of design professionals who will be there to support them and develop the project throughout the process.

UK Learning (CEFPI) will have a national competition which will be judged and given awards in London in the Summer Term of 2014. The two schools with the highest commendations for their design will be taken forward to the international final of the School of the Future Design Competition, which will be held in Portland Oregon on the 4-7th October 2014. The competition in America will offer significant international recognition, with the winning schools receiving additional financial awards.

The full details for entry and the timeline for the School of the Future competition are outlined in this leaflet.

The advocate for excellence in learning environments

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Consider the following issues to help the students develop their design projects.

- Students will follow a planning process to meet their design requirements.
- Students will adopt roles on the planning team - architect, landscape architect, facility planner, engineer, teacher, interior designer, community member, etc.
- Teachers will utilise the curriculum (www.cefpi.org/swb) to develop skills in maths, language arts, communication skills, leadership skills, science, architecture and facility planning.
- Students will demonstrate their awareness of sustainable issues.
- Teacher will work closely with mentors and regional coordinators.

“The School of the Future Design competition provides educators with another avenue to incorporate STEM related activities into their school’s curriculum”

It may be helpful to discuss the following topics and questions:

- Develop and implement a planning process: Who would be helpful to talk to as you create your ideal space or school?

- Community environment: How does your project connect learning to the community?
  What is special and unique about your community and celebrated in the project?
  How does the community benefit and how do you?
  How does your project engage the community in the school?

- Learning environment: Why is learning better in the environment you’re creating?
  What will the student be able to do that he or she can’t do now?
  Does the learning environment respond to all learning styles?
- Physical environment: How will your project make it easier for students to learn?
  How do people get here?
  What are the materials, function and design?
  How does your design preserve the environment?

- Demonstrate community involvement (School of the Future Design Competition Curriculum, Unit I - p. 28, 29, 42)
- Create a high-performance learning environment
- Incorporate sustainable features and recycled materials. (School of the Future Design Competition Curriculum, Unit I - p. 44, Unit II - p.126)
- Develop a learning environment that supports all of the different learning styles, supports hands-on, active, project-based learning, fosters connections and collaboration: student-to-student, student-to-teacher, small-medium-large groups, school-to-community.
- Incorporate technology that supports a “learning anytime-anywhere” philosophy.
- Illustrate awareness of smart growth and school siting issues, ie, orientation, resources, landfill use, terrain, wind, water. (School of the Future Design Competition Curriculum, Unit I - p.42, p.44)
- Demonstrate community use of the school.
- Show how the community is integrated into the learning process.
- Design the project to celebrate unique community attributes and create a sense of pride (heritage, character, geography, history).
- Provide easy accessibility for the physically challenged, handicapped and elderly.
COMPETITION

TIMELINE

- October 2013: Launch of UK Learning / CEFPI competition to schools.
- End of November: Return of registration forms for School of the Future.
- Start of December: Registration of school and allocation of Professional mentor if not in place.
- January onwards: In school project activity with support from mentor, UK Learning and Class Of Your Own.
- End of April: Projects submitted.
- May onwards: Start of summer term feedback from UK Learning / Class of your Own.
- June: Assessment of schemes and awards to winning schools at London ceremony.
- July: Notification of schools going forward to international competition in Portland, Oregon, USA.
- October 4-7th: International competition with schools and accompanying staff at CEFPI International Conference

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