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THE GLOBAL ACHIEVEMENT GAP

WHY EVEN OUR BEST SCHOOLS DON'T TEACH
THE NEW SURVIVAL SKILLS OUR CHILDREN NEED —
AND WHAT WE CAN DO ABOUT IT



TONY WAGNER

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Our Children Need—and What We Can Do About It

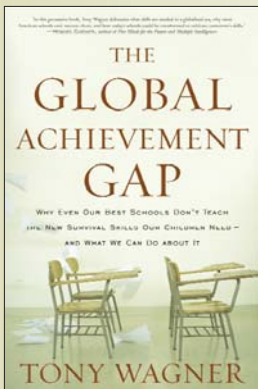
Tony Wagner

"*The Global Achievement Gap* is thoughtful and inspirational. It describes how, in these changing times, schools too must change if the US is to remain a strong economic and intellectual leader in the world, and it offers creative solutions and examples of success. This book will capture your head, your heart and, I hope, your future actions. This is a VERY important book for anyone who cares about preparing young people for success in a rapidly changing global society. Every school board member, administrator, teacher and parent in the nation should read this book." —Anne L. Bryant, Executive Director, National School Boards Association

Our nation's schools are dangerously obsolete. Instead of teaching students to be critical thinkers and problem-solvers, we are asking them to memorize facts for standardized tests. Even our top schools are not teaching or testing the skills that matter most in the fast-paced knowledge economy, and American teenagers are losing their competitive edge in the global market. Tony Wagner conducted scores of interviews with business leaders and observed hundreds of classes in some of the nation's most highly regarded public schools. He discovered a profound gap between the passive learning environments in our schools and the skills employers seek in young people today: critical thinking, creativity, and effective communication. Highlighting discussions with teens and the adults who work with them, Wagner explains the ways in which young people are differently motivated and explores new models of schools that are inspiring students to solve problems and communicate effectively. *The Global Achievement Gap* is essential reading for anyone interested in seeing our young people achieve their full potential and contribute to a strong economy and vibrant democracy.

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TONY WAGNER is Co-Director of the Change Leadership Group at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. He consults to schools, districts, and foundations and served as Senior Advisor to the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. A former teacher and principal, he is the author of *Change Leadership*, *Making the Grade*, and *How Schools Change*.

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