



A Profile

MICHAEL MOORE

in Excellence

Director of 21st Century Skills, Head of DP Science, Cross Country Coach and Avid Runner

*“Education is what remains after one has forgotten what one has learned in school”
- Albert Einstein*

Albert Einstein was not completely right when he said, “Education is what remains after one has forgotten what one has learned in school.” He was referring to the memorisation of knowledge that disappears from our minds as soon as the exam is over. But he was right that unless we do something with the information we acquire, it has little or no value.

Having taught on three continents and in many different education systems, it is my belief that through applying knowledge, we solve problems, develop skills, and innovate. As a result of today’s increasing globalisation, ubiquitous technology, easy access to information and growing competition, schools must prepare students for a workplace that is changing rapidly. We should assume that the jobs our students will take have not yet been invented, so as teachers, our focus should be on training young minds to harness information to solve problems. My colleagues at Mulgrave and I agree that technology is making the ability to memorise or perform routine tasks less important and puts a premium on critical thinking and problem-solving skills.



Q: *What historical figure would you want to invite for a run, and where would you go?*

A: If I could, I would take Albert Einstein to CERN and we would run around the tunnel that houses the Large Hadron Collider tunnel. I would use the opportunity to ask him to explain to me why length shrinks as we reach the speed of light.

Michael Moore, bio



Mr. Moore’s (Mike’s) love of science led him to pursue a Bachelor in Science from University of Pretoria in his native South Africa. He continued his studies in University of Cape Town where he earned a Bachelor in Education, and later, a Master’s in Education from Open University in the UK. Throughout his teaching and studying career, Mr. Moore became an advocate for advancing education to meet the needs of the changing times. This vision for bringing 21st Century skills into the classroom led him to Mulgrave. Inspired by the school’s progressive approach to teaching, he and his family moved from the UK specifically to Vancouver so that he could bring his vision to life. Today, eight years after first calling Mulgrave and Vancouver home, Mr. Moore shares that the teaching he has experienced at Mulgrave is the best in his career.

When he’s not designing science projects or training the Mulgrave cross country team, Mike can be found spending time with his family, enjoying a run outdoors or traveling.

Bringing 21st Century Skills into the Classroom

We asked Mr. Moore to write about an education topic he is passionate about and he was quick to share an article about Mulgrave's 21st Century (AtL) Skills, an initiative that involved years of research and planning to successfully integrate high-level skills into our curriculum.

As education moves from recall of content to application through problem solving and innovation, the importance of developing students' analytical and research skills, as well as their ability to use technology effectively, becomes more urgent. To address this challenge, since 2010, faculty at Mulgrave have been working to build a curriculum that addresses a complete set of '21st Century Skills'. From 2010 to 2013, research was conducted by a small group of faculty into what key skills are important for our students to be developing. To do so, the group researched worldwide developments, reviewed literature, visited other schools, attended conferences, and carefully considered IB core values. Since the IB inquiry approach to learning focuses on high-level skills like collaboration, discussion, application, evaluation, analysis and communication, the curriculum supports the application of skills. After careful consideration, the group felt that the skills that we had identified as essential life-skills aligned well with the IB Approaches to Learning (AtL) framework. This then became the foundation for our Mulgrave 21st Century (AtL)

"With the additional focus on 21st Century Skills, we give our students every opportunity to reach their personal best, to be successful and happy in both education and life"

Skill set, with five domains divided in associated skill clusters:

- **Communication** - Public Speaking and Presenting; Debating and Discussing; Social Communication
 - **Social** - Collaboration; Digital Citizenship; Relationship; Intercultural
 - **Research** - Information Literacy; Digital Literacy
- **Self Management** - Metacognition; Organizational; Affective; Reflection
- **Thinking** - Critical; Creative and Innovative; Transfer

Having identified the five domains and their associated skill clusters, in 2014-15 faculty began the planning process by focusing on Research skills. During the year, faculty across all divisions described what research skills a student should reasonably be expected to exhibit at each age and stage. The next step was to identify where these skills are intentionally taught, practiced and assessed. The 2015-2016 academic year will see faculty focused on mapping out social and self-management skills; and in the 2016-17 year we

will complete the mapping process for communication and thinking skill areas.

Our commitment to developing the Mulgrave 21st Century (AtL) Skills is built into the school's Strategic Plan. Faculty are investing time, effort and energy to develop the skills continua and the lessons that support teaching, practicing and assessing each skill. It is exciting to have started teaching some of these lessons and implementing an evaluation process where both the content and skill to be addressed in the lesson are clearly identified.

With our newly updated campus, the school environment has been re-imagined for the 21st Century and provides a rich environment to support our students and faculty. I am confident that we are not only offering the progressive IB curriculum in which subject-based skills are being developed but that, with the additional focus on 21st Century Skills, we give our students every opportunity to reach their personal best, to be successful and happy in both education and life.

- MM



Mr. Moore's Top 5's

Travel Tips

1. Grab your backpack and go!
2. Get on a bike.
3. Go with a friend.
4. Never go to the same place twice.
5. Go where the locals go.

Runs

1. Anywhere with the Titans Cross Country team
2. Rice Lake
3. Lighthouse Park
4. Mosquito Creek
5. Cleveland Dam