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“Schools Must Change” by Frank S. Kelly, Ted McCain and Ian Jukes was an amazing read to be assigned. Its very refreshing to see even people in the older generation finding flaws with the schooling systems of today, and understanding just how necessary technology has become in every day of our lives. When I was in high school, the authors’ thoughts were the same as my own. I will say, mine weren’t as articulate, but I’ve always pondered the idea of why memorization was so necessary in school. When taking high school English, math, science, almost any subject io could think of, 90% of the class was memorizing specific information and possessing the ability to regurgitate that onto the exams. This was never a struggle, and to be honest mad my life much easier. Memorization is easy over the 12 years of school its easy to determine the best methods to memorize information. However, it certainly isn’t the most effective. I don’t remember half of what was taught in high school. The issue with today’s schools, and an issue I still struggle with, is that the outdated school system has programmed me to remember short bursts of information. When that information is no longer needed, I simply dump it like deleting it from a hard drive. Then as the cycle goes on and finals approach you re-read and rememorize the facts necessary for a good grade. Rinse and repeat for 4 whole years, and then on, well into college. Even here at ole miss, it’s the majority of my classes are focused on memorization. I’m a computer science major in which it is necessary for me to know logic, a horrible amount of math, and syntaxes of multiple computer languages. Sadly, due to the way the educations system is currently structured, I forgot almost everything from my calculus classes I took years back. In computer science, I had to memorize which snippets of code would work so I can get this task done. Well now the majority is gone, I’ve gone from being able to decode morse code, and being able to inverse a binary tree, to only being able to make the computer say hello, or make a simple blackjack game. The school system is flawed and throughout this reading I was wondering what could be done to change it. The thing is, I couldn’t think of anything that would make an impact. School has been so hard wired in my brain that it is comes down to four steps. Lecture, study, memorize, exam. This has been done for nearly 14 years of my life and hasn’t changed so far. I’m very glad to have read this article as it gives me hope that one day my child may have a different schooling experience.

Another thing that the authors bring up exceptionally well is the importance of technology in our daily live. Allowing for ease of access to the internet and its billions of gigabytes of information anywhere anytime. In school, and sometimes today, I’m often told I will not be allowed to use a calculator on tests. This idea has always somewhat boggled my mind. In the real world, will your boss hand an important project for one of the companies’ clients and say “I need this done but you can’t use a calculator.” No! The boss would be thrilled to ensure you are taking every measure possible to ensure what ever you may be producing is accurate and functional. The real world accepts that in the information age technology is what drives it all forward. There is useful software for nearly every job. Just because we are on the subject, I’m going to list a few because its somewhat nice to vent. For education, there is blackboard, computer science there is a myriad of programs, Visual studio, PyCharm, Stack Overflow, Marketing, there is photoshop, adobe acrobat. The list goes on. In this age technology is vital to survival. Even kids are drawn to it unlike our parents. For instance, when I was a kid, and to this day, I play video games. Its my source of socializing with my friends from anywhere nearly anytime. One clicks of a button and I can be hanging out with all my friends in a virtual space without needing to get up from my chair. The author touches on this and that it has wired our brains to be thinking so much faster. My friends and I will be talking about school while also playing a video game which requires us to react in real time with our hands and also use our critical thinking to determine how the game can be played so that we ensure a win. There is so much information that we take into our lives and schools need to evolve to meet the new standard.