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Teaching the New Basic Skills

By Richard J. Murnane

Free Press. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 272 pages. Dimensions: 8.5in. x 5.4in. x 1.0in. Fifteen years ago, a U. S. high school diploma was a ticket to the middle class. No longer. The skills required to earn a decent income have changed radically. The skills taught in most U. S. schools have not. Today the average 30-year-old person with a high school diploma earns 20, 200, and the nation faces a future of growing inequality and division. Teaching the New Basic Skills shows how to avoid such a future. By telling stories of real people in real businesses and real schools, the book shows the skills students need to get decent jobs and how schools can change to teach those skills. Richard Murnane and Frank Levy begin by describing the hiring processes of best practice firms like Northwestern Mutual Life and Honda of America. In today's competitive economy, these firms search for applicants with the New Basic Skills -- the mix of hard and soft skills that all high-wage employers now require. Murnane and Levy then shift their analysis to schools, asking how they can more effectively teach these New Basic Skills. By using case studies the authors show that...



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