

NEXTschool Song (recognized by SSHRC)

Written and composed by Vanessa Gold

Verse 1:

NEXT is a response to calls for change in education
A movement aiming to undo a system in stagnation
Embracing ambiguity and testing new creations
All it takes to innovate is some imagination
If I asked you to reinvent the way we learn
If school was the best it could be...what would we see?

Chorus:

Instead of teaching alone, would we work as a team?
Instead of sitting in rows could we sit under a tree?
If there was no homework and there were no tests...
could we reimagine how we view success?
Tell me how could we help our communities?
Would it all go to hell if we got rid of the bell?

Verse 2:

Being digitally native doesn't help you to apply it
To a critical and problematic changing global climate
I'm bound to teach the subject matter they can quickly google
Cause the ministry exam won't test the skills that will be useful
Like empathy and how to problem solve creatively
And if you didn't have to teach to the test...what would be NEXT?

Chorus:

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Instead of sitting in rows could we sit under a tree?
If there was no homework and there were no tests...
could we reimagine how we view success?
How could we help our communities?
Would it all go to hell if we got rid of the bell?

Verse 3:

So the premise is a school decides how they will try
to spend time to renegotiate a framework and apply
the prototypes they iterate to suit their situation
in attempt to meet the changing needs of current education
and we get to see if the changes can become reality
When a school is at its best, tell me would it be NEXT?
No you won't find it in any book... show me how does it look?