

*VOICES from NORTH AMERICA*

# IMAGINE! 2050 FOON YEW

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Foon Yew Alumni Association  
North America

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# We Care. We Speak.

## 2050 - A Future We Can Prepare For

Rapid advances in science, technology, engineering and medicine are making tectonic transformation in all aspects of our society. This is unprecedented in human history.

Preparing for the threats and opportunities brought upon by these changes is of paramount importance. A very possible new reality to ponder with, is that most of the knowledge and skills that new generations learn in school will be obsolete or irrelevant if they are unprepared to adopt changes in ways they learn, think, and communicate.

Take Autonomous Self-Driving Cars as an example. Autonomous Self-Driving Cars offer a glimpse to a near future in which Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence will replace human in learning and performing repetitive tasks, handling complex logics, analyzing vast amount of data, and producing better outputs, decisions, and results in just a fraction of a second.

Are the new generations prepared to strive in this new reality or simply be left behind because we fail to recognize the very challenges the new generations will face?

## A “2050 Persona”

New generations well-equipped to participate in - or even shape the course of - the future, should possess the following soft skills or personal traits:

- Open mind and critical thinking. Study, analyze, reason and form own opinions independently.
- Effective communication. Present own thoughts, not just facts.
- Great leadership and teamwork. Inspire, facilitate, collaborate.
- Savvy business, financial and entrepreneurial skills.
- Connecting dots. Make connections across broad fields of knowledge in BOTH humanities and science.
- Involved with communities. Volunteering and helping local communities.

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## Opportunity to ACT

The Seri Alam new campus presents an opportunity to offer an alternate to the current 2-school system, in building a brand new environment that could meet the challenges from other competing school systems (both public and private) and future demands above.

### An “Open School”

- Rich and balanced emphasis of BOTH science and humanities subjects for all students throughout the years. Exposure and options to different subjects allow students the chance to get guidance, fully develop interests in study/career paths while still in high school.
- Teachers who “facilitate” student’s learning, creativity, problem solving skill, dealing with failures, etc.
- “Wall-less Classroom” - use of teaching and studying materials and technology platforms from reputable sources outside traditional textbooks - Coursera, Khan Academy, Udemy, etc. - to provide students with better instructions and effective/flexible learning experience; collaboration with other international schools and institutions to offer teachers and students experience otherwise unavailable in Malaysia.
- Students learn at own pace based on individual’s ability to complete designated materials.
- “It takes a village to teach” - involve people from the larger Foon Yew community to play a part by sharing experiences with students, mentoring and inspiring them to act in order to achieve their true potentials.