Consider essential questions, then, at an even higher level of generality.

Central Park East Secondary School in New York, founded by MacArthur

Fellow Deborah Meier, builds its entire curriculum around a set of essential

questions cast as key “habits of mind” for students to internalize:

*In every class and every subject, students will learn to ask and to answer*

*these questions:*

*• From whose viewpoint are we seeing or reading or hearing? From what*

*angle or perspective?*

*• How do we know when we know? What’s the evidence, and how reliable*

*is it?*

*• How are things, events or people connected to each other? What is the*

*cause and what is the effect? How do they fit together?*

*• What’s new and what’s old? Have we run across this idea before?*

*• So what? Why does it matter? What does it all mean?*

*Understanding by Design p. 281*