

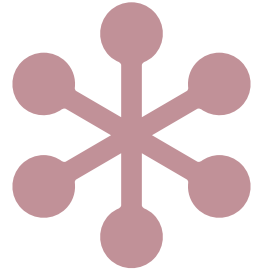
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Educational Philosophy

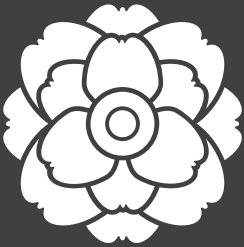
CULTURE

I believe...

- relationships are foundational for learning
- learning is social by nature and collaboration fuels creativity
- risk taking and failure are inherent in learning and innovation
- feeling safe, accepted, and respected opens the door for deeper learning
- each student is uniquely gifted to impact his or her community in an exceptional way
- inclusive environments celebrate and value the contributions of individuals, creating a sense of belonging



I believe...



- students should be at the center of their own learning
- the most impactful learning experiences are grounded in inquiry-based learning practices (project-based learning, problem-based learning, design thinking, etc.)
- learning should extend beyond traditional and discrete disciplines, incorporating interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary structures to contextualize content
- learning experiences should reflect robust, foundational knowledge as well as skills and dispositions essential to success in the 21st century
- authentic assessments allow students to demonstrate knowledge, skills, and dispositions relative to real-world demands and expectations
- ongoing professional growth and learning is essential to a learners' success

DESIGN

INSTRUCTION

I believe...

- instructional methods should be innovative, research-based, and reflect an understanding of neuroscience and child development
- students should develop new ideas not just regurgitate old facts
- experts in the field are invaluable to authentic, real-world learning
- instruction should respond to the social, emotional, and cognitive needs of students and adapt to their curiosities and passions
- clear and specific learning targets are essential for understanding the learner's progress
- technology is a powerful tool for collaborating, constructing, and/or contextualizing learning
- teachers as facilitators optimize full engagement, deep learning, and high contributions of learners



I believe...



- school should look more like real life
- students should be engaged citizen leaders in an increasingly global society
- skills such as creative thinking, communication, critical thinking, collaboration, and ethical decision making are essential for success in a future that is unknown
- active participation in the ownership of the learning journey allows the learner to follow sparks of motivation, interest, and curiosity
- our students do not have to wait to become the leaders of tomorrow, they have the power to impact their world today

VISION