



PPS Core Values

The following core values are our organization's enduring beliefs that will remain constant over time. These explicit values will tether to our vision because we believe that articulating our ethical principles will guide action toward our collective vision.

These ten statements are new, and describe the core values we need to achieve our Vision. Some of these core values are lived values and some are aspirational; either way, we believe in making them explicit and persistent throughout our work over time.

Students at the Center

We believe that all students have the ability to succeed and that positive impacts on students are at the center of each decision and action. We believe that student voice is essential

to understanding and solving the core issues of education and that including student voice is a priority.

Racial Equity and Social Justice

We believe in the fundamental right to human dignity and that generating an equitable world requires an educational system that intentionally disrupts—and builds leaders to disrupt—systems of oppression.

Honesty and Integrity

We believe in demonstrating honesty and integrity in every action we take, with sincere, ethical, transparent, and accountable communication and decision making in service of our students, families, staff, and community.

Excellence

We believe in rigor and high standards for all students and staff, and that achieving excellence and high performance is the result of the school system acting as a continuous learning organization.

Respect

We believe in respect for all. Every person brings value and deserves to be treated with care, courtesy, and compassion.

Relationships

We believe that relationships are vital to our success. Authentic human connection, established through kind, caring relationships, builds trust, fosters understanding, and strengthens our ability to work together toward shared aspirations.

Creativity and Innovation

We believe in the power of effective problem solving, supported by a culture of creativity and innovation. Challenging assumptions, nurturing curiosity, welcoming new ideas, and developing lateral thinking skills are essential to developing effective strategies for constructive change.

Partnerships and Collaboration

We believe that together, we know and can achieve a great deal, and that by leveraging the collective actions of a group of committed stakeholders, we can achieve our Vision.

Grounded in the Spirit of Portland

We believe that our unique Portland identity gives us the collective wisdom to acknowledge and learn from our community's diverse history and fuel our progress toward a new era of courageous and innovative collective action to create a better Portland for all.

Joyful Learning and Leadership

We believe in learning and leading in ways that foster human connection, deep appreciation for each other, satisfaction in our work, and appreciation of the learning process.