

Professional Development School Planning Group  
March 17, 2009

Foundational Principles for the **process** of creating a Professional Development School:

1. A willingness to try something new
2. A willingness to listen and learn and the belief that we can learn.
3. A belief that all children can and will learn.
4. A commitment to accepting our differences and making them productive.
5. A commitment to open communication (plans and ideas are shared openly and often in both formal and informal settings).
6. An understanding that community is built through relationships and based on trust.
7. Valuing of all opinions, all members are important, a commitment to equal status interactions
8. A gradual, analytical and reflective process (changes and modifications are made as needed)
9. Innovation, exploration and implementation of new ideas is encouraged and rewarded.
10. A commitment to collaborative work.

Our **goals**—we are working towards a school that will be characterized by:

1. On-going, continuous, collaborative, inquire based learning at all levels.
2. Recognition of the power of relationships to impact learning.
3. Being a community of learners.
4. Excellence, rigor and high expectations for all. All students will have access to a challenging and appropriate education.
5. Student learning measured by a thoughtful and effective system of assessment chosen (and developed?) by our group.
6. Collaborative use of resources.
7. Lots of adults in classrooms.
8. A systemic partnership and meaningful engagement.
9. Critical thinking
10. The recognition and utilization of children's local knowledge and community resources.
11. Infusion of creativity into all subjects for all children.
12. A valuing of language and linguistic diversity.
13. A curriculum that nurtures the gifts of all children and responds to the needs of individual children through differentiation.