



Vision Statement

Instilling PRIDE (Positive - Responsible - Innovative - Determined - Empowered) in every student.

Mission Statement

At Castleman Creek Elementary, students develop P.R.I.D.E. in learner-centered environments that are positive, innovative, and collaborative while also being challenged to become forward thinkers preparing for the future.

Pillars of Success

POSITIVE

Why: We, at Castleman Creek Elementary, wholeheartedly believe that “our lives are not determined by what happens to us but how we react to what happens,” and in order to prepare students for the demands of an ever evolving world, we, as educators, must develop students who are emotionally capable of adapting to change and remaining positive. We believe that expressing gratitude, committing to small acts of kindness daily, tending to one’s emotional state, and committing to actions and emotions that are useful and positive are the foundation for which our students will be able to build their futures upon.

How: Every moment at Castleman Creek Elementary is dedicated to fostering positivity and developing emotional fortitude within our students. From greeting each student at the car door with a personal welcome, providing daily character education curriculum within our computer classroom called “CASE,” through highlighting the small acts of kindness throughout the school building in conjunction with Rachel’s Challenge, to celebrating student successes on announcements and at assemblies, we believe that students must learn to choose joy and choose their daily mindset. We strive daily to provide a safe environment for them to develop this skill.

RESPONSIBLE

Why: As the world becomes more connected in this digital age, it is crucial to instill within our students, the first digital natives, the importance of keeping their word, completing work to the best of their ability, being accountable for their actions and behavior, acknowledging mistakes, and graciously accepting credit. These traits are the cornerstones of what it means to be a contributing member of one’s family, school community, and society, and we believe this trait is the foundation for our students’ future success in life beyond Castleman Creek Elementary.

MIDWAY

CASTLEMAN CREEK ELEMENTARY

How: We instill the values of responsibility within our students by consistently practicing and teaching what it means to have a growth mindset. We create this culture by focusing on the power of “yet.” Students around the building acknowledge they are not there “yet,” but with hard work and dedication, they will continue to grow. At our school, mistakes are not a negative thing to be feared but instead are looked upon as opportunities to grow and learn. We celebrate student growth at assemblies and teach them how to monitor their own growth through the use of student portfolios. We encourage students to take ownership of their learning and create mentorship programs for our students to take their learning outside of the classroom and work with other students from other grade levels.

INNOVATIVE

Why: Our students, the first digital natives, will be challenged to come up with solutions to new and complex problems in the future that will not have clear cut answers, and in order to prepare them for the demands awaiting them, we believe that our students need to be well versed in collaboration, communication, creativity, and critical thinking.

How: Through harnessing the power of the iPad and other technologies while also utilizing spaces like our MakerSpace, we challenge our students to think outside of the box by presenting them with challenging problems that require group collaboration, effective communication, creativity, and critical thinking.

RESPONSIBLE

Why: We believe that in order for our students to be as successful as possible in the 21st century, they have to possess the mental fortitude and ability to set goals for themselves and to take the initiatives to achieve those goals. Like climbing a mountain, students have to know what they want to achieve, plan their course, persevere through obstacles, and work hard until reaching the top. We believe that students who possess this ability will be best prepared to effectively solve problems and take control of their lives.

How: We instill determination within our students by helping them set and determine the goals they want to achieve throughout the year, and then through constant check-in and progress monitoring, teachers continually meet with students and conference with them about their goals and game plan how it is they can achieve them.

EMPOWERED

Why: We believe that in order to make learning meaningful and relevant for our students, they must possess the authority and autonomy to take charge of their own learning. The bookmark to our vision is the culmination of what we want our students to achieve. We believe that empowering our students enables them to identify and pursue their interests in a responsible and determined manner.



How: Empowering our students' learning is one of the most important things we do at Castleman Creek Elementary. From discussing school wide issues with our Principal's Cabinet, a group of 4th grade students who meet regularly with the principal to discuss ideas to implement throughout the school, to providing student choice within the classroom and in which devices to utilize.

PRIDE

Built upon the five pillars of success at Castleman Creek Elementary, PRIDE is the culmination of what occurs when we are able to create students that are positive, responsible, innovative, determined, and empowered. We want our students to take PRIDE and know the satisfaction of a job well done, a project well completed, and a life well lived. We are preparing students for an unknown future, and we believe that students who take PRIDE in where they live, the community they are a part of, and the work they complete will best be able to tackle any challenges they face. We want our students to take PRIDE in their school because we take such great PRIDE in our students.