



Characteristics of Professional Excellence “Portrait of a Teacher”

Adopted in May 2017

In relationship to Parents, a CCS teacher:

- Strives for a communicative and collaborative relationship with families in order to best support students;
- Models a patient, compassionate, open-minded, and brave approach to relating to children and adults;
- Remains flexible when working with families, honoring the diverse backgrounds and perspectives that are represented within a community; and
- Shares his/her knowledge of child development and experience with families.

In relationship to Students, a CCS teacher:

- Observes and honors each student as an individual within the community, supporting perseverance and independent growth;
- Fosters the energetic passion that drives children by modeling joy, love and patience; and
- Promotes democracy and equity within the classroom, school and community.

In relationship to Colleagues, a CCS teacher:

- Works collaboratively with colleagues on designing curriculum, improving practice and developing self-awareness while fostering a non-judgmental, professional environment; and
- Strives for a diverse working environment in which intellectual inquiry is honored and valued; and
- Models honesty, open-mindedness and patience with colleagues, understanding that the staff is wholeheartedly invested in the art of teaching.

In relationship to Self, a CCS teacher:

- Is a self-motivated, lifelong learner; and
- Is one who actively pursues professional development as a place for self-reflection, engagement and acquisition of best practices that will benefit the classroom experience for their students.