

I believe that educators cultivate confidence and imagination in their students, empowering them to become self-directed architects of their own learning. Children have within them the ability and desire to learn. Attentive and creative teachers have the ability to help students believe in themselves, reveal their potential, and express their natural capacity for learning in unique and inspiring ways. I am a teacher that inspires students to value their own learning potential.

I believe that learning happens best through nurturing relationships that exemplify safety, care, and belonging. Learning which values shared space, shared friendships, and shared knowledge create environments that honour diversity, model inclusivity, and value respect. I am a teacher that creates and models safe environments for learning.

I believe learning is best when it evokes curiosity, critical thinking and mastery. Students that experience learning in imaginative and explorative ways are best equipped to develop mastery of their own abilities, apply critical thinking to all areas of life, and engage the world with a deep curiosity that will support life-long learning. I am a teacher that designs learning experiences to foster curiosity, develop critical thinking capacity and promote achieving mastery in competency and effort.

I believe that the act of learning marks a great risk for students. The task of learning is difficult and students express extreme bravery when they dive into unknown worlds of knowledge. They open themselves to assessment, critique, and the unknown in ways that adults are often too fearful to attempt. I am a teacher that recognizes the shared journey through risk includes helping navigate difficult learning spaces, co-creating learning goals that are meaningful, and inspiring confidence in my students to take ownership of directing their own path of learning.

I believe that a school is the best expression of community to meet student learning goals and to facilitate student success. The expertise, relationships, knowledge and skills that are present in a school community allow for students to grow in learning while providing a deep pool of supportive resources. I am a teacher that facilitates a community of learning between students,

families and the public through the lens of collaborative partnership. This collaborative partnership recognizes the contributions of the full community in the learning success of students.

I believe that imaginative learning begins with recognizing expressions of beauty. Exposure to the beauty nature, fine arts and music open contexts of learning that require interpretation, create educative disruptions and inspire potential in students. I am a teacher that values arts-based education as one of the unique ways to engage learners in abstract, creative thinking that extends learning outside the walls of a classroom.

I believe a fundamental purpose of education is to help students develop their “authentic self” in ways that enrich their critical thinking, autonomous learning, and self-empowerment. Students who articulate their own goals, cast a personalized vision of success and direct their own learning are fully engaged in the process of developing their authentic self. I am a teacher that advocates for students to have voice and impact in their own learning so that they build personal resiliency, confidence and competency to face any challenge in the future.