

School District Core Values

Harvard Public Schools support a educational environment where all students and staff:

- Are active lifelong learners;
- Are respected for their differences, uniqueness and abilities, and are treated with dignity;
- Develop a social consciousness;
- Think critically, solve problems and take risks.

In this learning environment, the student will:

- Make decisions about and take responsibility for his/her own behaviors, both academic and interpersonal;
- Acquire a core of essential knowledge;
- Use his/her knowledge and creativity to solve problems;
- Communicate clearly and coherently using the most appropriate media;
- Respect cultural diversity and individual differences;
- Acquire global awareness and concern;
- Understand, appreciate and evaluate the fine and performing arts.

In this learning environment, the teacher will:

- Participate in decisions involving teaching and learning, curriculum, flexible schedules, resources and budgets;
- Actively engage learners using cooperative learning, small group work, simulations and other techniques;
- Use interdisciplinary teaching to demonstrate the interconnectedness of knowledge;
- Assess other students' learning through a variety of performance measures, including portfolios;
- Take risks as they learn new techniques and skills needed to provide active learning environments;
- Be valued for the multiple roles required as a member of a professional community.

The Harvard School Committee will review and amend this policy as needed in conjunction with the development and approval of the School Committee's Five Year Strategic Plan.

ADOPTED: June 11, 2007

Reviewed: May 20, 2013