

EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY STATEMENT OF THE SEVEN HILLS SCHOOL

OUR APPROACH TO TEACHING

- We believe that learning should be engaging and relevant.
- We use teaching methods designed to ensure that students acquire the intellectual and social skills they need to thrive in an increasingly complex global community.
- We focus not only on the acquisition of knowledge, but on inquiry, discovery, and the application of skills to meaningful problem solving.
- We teach students to make choices, to manage their time, to think critically and creatively, and, above all, to take responsibility for their own learning.
- We are committed to exploring educational best practices and to adapting our instructional methods to advances in technology and developments in the world.

OUR ENVIRONMENT FOR LEARNING

- We believe that students learn best when they work in an atmosphere of open inquiry and mutual respect.
- We believe that the school should provide a safe, supportive, and challenging environment, with clear goals and high expectations for student achievement and conduct.
- We believe that education is relationship-based and that students learn best when teachers fully understand the interests, motivations, and individual learning styles of each of their students.
- We believe that the school should provide the widest possible range of opportunities for students to explore personal interests and develop individual talents.
- We believe that extracurricular and athletic activities should be open to all students who wish to participate, regardless of their innate ability.

OUR COMMITMENT TO CHARACTER

- We believe that the school, in partnership with our families, plays a critical role in helping students develop character and core values.
- We strive to nurture the intellectual, aesthetic, moral, and social skills our students will need to become engaged citizens and responsible leaders.
- We see our teachers, administrators, and staff as role models, mentors, and collaborators, engaging with students in meaningful and mutually respectful ways.
- We value individuality and believe that a rich diversity of backgrounds and perspectives enriches our community.
- We encourage students and faculty to be actively involved in their communities, making us all more aware of the needs of others.

Adapted by The Seven Hills School Board of Trustees August 22, 2012