



## OUR CORE VALUES

The foundation of our Strategic Plan and the very fabric of our community is our set of shared Core Values. Our Core Values are a commitment to a behavioral standard or social norm and define how we interact with each other as we work through our rhythms and projects to optimize our Strategic Goals in achieving our Vision in service to our Mission. These values are prerequisites for being a member of our community.

We have created Core Value Cards and activity suggestions to practice using these values with one another and deepen how to support each other in our interactions. By choosing to be a member of our community, in ANY role, we commit to holding ourselves and each other to striving for these values in every interaction. None of us is perfect. We will fall short of these values at times. When we do, we gently remind each other and get back on track.

### CORE VALUE CARD ACTIVITIES

1. What core value is most important to you and why?
2. Rank the core values for you and explain.
3. What core value is most challenging for you?
4. Choose a core value and describe to another person why it is important to our community.
5. Create a role play or skit that supports one of our core values and a skit or role play that challenges or doesn't support a core value. For the core value that is being challenged, describe how that problem might be solved.



6. Draw a picture of ways that exemplify our core values. For example, you may draw a picture of a group of children sitting peacefully at a beautifully set table.
7. Make a poster of how our core values can be used to strengthen our community. For example, a poster could be made that helps our community understand how empathy can be helped on the playground or how curiosity can be supported by following our media guidelines.
8. Write a song or a poem using our core values.
9. Draw a card that represents your child's teacher. Share why through a few words, an illustration, or create an appreciation for the teacher.
10. Draw a card that represents your child. Share why with a few sentences on a note, an illustration, or an appreciation for your child.

## GROUP ACTIVITIES AROUND THE TABLE

1. Everyone chooses one value card that represents the value that resonates the most for them. They then find the rest of the people in the room with the same card and discuss why they care about that one. This could also be done in pairs or trios.
2. Everyone draws a value card out of their deck without looking, then get into groups with the same card. Each person shares a story that describes this value in action somewhere in the Golden Valley community. Can also be done in pairs and trios.
3. Build a story: get into groups of 6. Each person represents a different value and pulls the corresponding card from their deck. They "tell a story" (see list below) where each person adds to the story exemplifying a value.





Story prompts:

We were all gathered in the parking lot for a nature walk/field trip...

It was time for the class play...

On the first day of school...

The morning of May Day...

Once upon a time at Eagle Chase...

Example: Once upon a time at Eagle chase... I met up in the morning with ten other parents. We all came as volunteers in joyful service. As we were setting up one of the children came up to me with tears in her eyes. She had lost her raffle tickets. One of the upper grandchildren came over to give her a hug and share their tickets showing a lot of empathy. We all went out to the track that was set up on the blacktop and the next group of classes arrived and took their places. Even though it was an interruption in their day, the teachers were there and cheering on their students showing their commitment to our school community. After the run was over and the classes were streaming towards the prize corral, I noticed two boys standing near one of the planter beds bent over examining something intently. I asked what they were up to and they showed me a Caterpillar that they were quietly observing with reverence and curiosity. At the end of the day all of the volunteers joined in the celebration and announcement of awards and prizes. It was a joyful moment of creating community.

