

## Early Education/Elementary Belief Statements (3-12 yrs)

- We believe that education should be an active process of gaining and adapting new information involving many learners.
- We believe that we should support all children in developing strong moral values that reflect empathy, respect, honesty, compassion, integrity, and trust while keeping personal dignity intact.
- We believe that enthusiasm and curiosity should be cultivated in each child's learning.
- We believe that the curriculum should reflect life-long learning by expanding the traditional subjects and make all learning relevant.
- We believe that children learn best in a safe, nurturing, respectful environment that promotes independence and a positive sense of self-esteem.
- We believe that children should have the freedom to develop goals that encourage internal motivation and nurture inner harmony.
- We believe learning is a natural process that develops spontaneously in the learner.
- We believe that the teachers in the environment are "child development specialists" that guide the learner through the learning process by keeping extensive records through keen observations.
- We believe children should be encouraged to teach, collaborate, and assist each other in their journey to attain and effectively use new or existing information.
- We believe children should use self-teaching, self-corrective material to set their own learning pace to internalize information.
- We believe children should be free to use repetition to gain mastery of new materials or information and be encouraged to use critical thinking skills to come up with their own answers.
- We believe children should have the freedom to be themselves and develop individual and group identities within the community.
- We believe that the school community shares the love of each child and that we respect and encourage each child to develop his/her own uniqueness and individuality.
- We believe that learning is driven internally and should take place in a non-competitive environment.
- We believe that we all have a direct responsibility to our self, our family, our school, our community, our nation, and our world and we instill this responsibility as a continuing part of the curriculum.