

# Our values express our Principles and Standards of Academic Practice



## Equity of Access, Service and Support

At the Cleveland Metropolitan School District ensuring equity means that every child and educator receive the support, resources and care they need; each and every day, in every school, in order to ensure that all students graduate prepared for college, career and life success.

This requires a continuum of opportunities and experiences before, during and after school, that aligns with their needs, abilities and interests.

A commitment to equity requires creating environments where students and educators are held to high expectations and continually grow in their sense of self and purpose. All decisions are made in the best interest of children.

**At CMSD, we BELIEVE in children first!**



## Excellence

Excellence means fostering high-quality teaching and learning in every classroom, in every school across the city of Cleveland. Achieving excellence means we hold educators and students to the highest academic and professional expectations.

We do this by providing a personalized, challenging and rigorous curriculum that offers “choice,” while considering the individual learning styles and program preferences.

**At CMSD, we use a research and evidence-based instructional framework to guide teaching and learning.** This requires the use of best practices and data as strategic assets to ensure the student experience is purposeful, thoughtful and rewarding for educators and learners.



## Collaboration

CMSD expects purposeful and productive collaboration among students, educators, family and the community. Collaboration requires everyone to engage in inclusive diverse learning communities with common goals that foster an environment where people share, support and explore together.

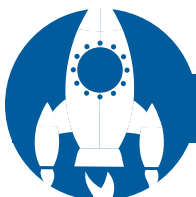
**At CMSD, collaboration is built upon strong relationships, clear communication, trust and commitment to put talent, expertise and smarts to work!**



## Transparency for Academic Empowerment and Choice

High quality teaching and learning happens when there is transparency on the “what” students need to know and be able to do, but flexibility and choice on the “how.” Feedback and communication are essential components of teaching and learning for students, educators and families. When educators use a common framework, they improve communication because they are using the same set of core concepts and terms to describe the expectations to students, therefore creating clarity.

**We believe that transparency around academic purpose and progress engages and empowers all stakeholders in the learning process!**



## Joy and Adventure

Learning should be full of joy and adventure for students and adults. It should empower us to explore ourselves and the world, igniting curiosity, innovation and excitement within us. At CMSD, we foster schools and learning communities where students and adults at every level experience the power of laughter and productive struggle, resulting in the breakthrough, elation and celebration of success. **In our classrooms and schools learning can be messy but instruction is clear with a willingness to try new things. At CMSD, our classrooms are safe spaces that engender student and teacher risk-taking and choice.**

