

Develop Your Core Values

Step 1: Put together a group of stakeholders to establish your core values. Highlight as many of the traits or characteristics in the list below that resonate with you and your group. Add any traits that are important to you that may not be represented.

Appreciation of beauty	Honesty	Purposeful
Bold	Hopeful	Respectful
Bravery	Humility	Resilient
Caring	Humor	Self-Regulation
Charitable	Inspirational	Social Intelligence
Connected	Judgment	Spirituality
Cooperative	Kindness	Teamwork
Creative	Leadership	Tenacious
Curiosity	Love	Thoughtful
Fairness	Love of learning	Trustworthy
Forgiveness	Passionate	Zest
Fulfilled	Perseverance	
Goal Oriented	Perspective	
Grateful	Prepared	
Healthy	Prudence	

Taken from the 24 VIA Character Strengths and AOE Relational Dispositions

Step 2: Answer the following questions

When you think about the very best version of your school what are you doing, achieving, and being? Consider the characteristics and traits that you highlighted and use them as you consider the values you hold dear. List those values below.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

Ten years in the future, if you were able to hear a speech about what you have done well by doing good, highlight or list the key values or traits that you would like to hear.

1.

2.

3.

What are your greatest strengths that your school has or would like to further develop?

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

Step 3: Review all the values, strengths, and traits from Steps 1 and 2. After you have reviewed them it is time to create statements using the most meaningful terms to create important statements to drive your value driven work. 1

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

Step 4: Make sure that you are happy with your value statements and make any adjustments necessary for them to best fit how you want the school to become. "Knowing core values is important because when we need to choose or decide something, we can do so easily by simply determining if the choice lines up with our true values. A life lined-up with personal values is a well-lived, purpose-filled life." 2

Step 6: The last step is to simply answer the following two questions about each of your Core Values.

What do you believe about the Core Value?

How do you behave when the Core Value is directing your actions?

1 Phillips, B., (2013, April 13) . List Your Core Values: 10 Minute Exercise to Increase Your Success. *TapRoot: Changing the Way the World Solves Problems*. Retrieved from <http://www.taproot.com/archives/37771>

2 Ibid

