



The Stokes School staff established a charter statement in 2013. It is a statement that we as a staff constructed as a basis for all decisions we make for our students. It is as follows:

“We, the staff at Stokes Elementary School will work together to create a positive, comfortable and engaging learning environment for all students. We will challenge ourselves to make all decisions based on students first, which include their learning needs, social emotional needs and developmental abilities. We will lead by example to strengthen our students and staff, while working with the Island Trees Community.”

Each year, we develop goals as a staff to reflect our district wide goals, as well as our school vision.

For the 2017-18 school year, they are as follows:

- *WE WILL* expose our students to mindfulness practices in order to improve social emotional growth. *WE WILL* utilize these practices to focus on learning from our mistakes as learners, shape positive behavioral outcomes and utilize conflict resolution practices in order to maintain a safe learning environment.
- *WE WILL* expand our use of technology as it relates to authentic educational experiences for students, as well as communication with parents and community.
- *WE WILL* develop and utilize instructional practices within the classroom and before and after school activities as it relates to STEAM, Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics within the classroom by using new science standards, curriculum materials, technology, project based learning and explorative practices.
- *WE WILL* continue to embrace professional development learning opportunities by learning from each other by use of shared experiences, collegial visits and collaborative learning.
- *WE WILL* remain flexible and open to learn alongside our students, while seizing “teachable moments.” *WE WILL* remain focused on student driven interests paired with curriculum standards while sustaining an engaging learning environment.

Some of the actions that *WE WILL* take to reach these goals include:

- Expansion of our club offerings (including continuation of clubs offered in the 16-17 school year, as well as adding leadership clubs, “student interest” clubs and clubs that explore the arts and sciences.
- Positive behavioral programs developed to include our character education programs, proactive student interventions and disciplinary procedures.
- Build upon our use of technology to reach all parents.
- Continue to beautify our school building with a concentration on student work, legacy projects and school spirit.

We look forward to pairing our school based vision with the district wide goals in order to keep our student learning as the central focus of our school year. *WE WILL* remain *Stokes Strong - Kind.*

Confident. Compassionate!