

A VISION FOR THE SOUTH PORTLAND SCHOOLS

MISSION STATEMENT

“ENRICHING LIVES THROUGH QUALITY LEARNING FOR ALL”

The Board of Education holds the following beliefs as the means to accomplishing our mission:

All South Portland learners exhibit a wonder and excitement for learning. They are inspired to explore their interests and build the knowledge and skills that will give them a successful path to their future.

LEARNING

We ensure that all learners meet or exceed rigorous content standards while developing the skills and habits of mind necessary for future success.

- Learning experiences balance a knowledge and understanding of core content with the opportunity to explore personal interests and passions.
- An emphasis is placed on learner growth in the areas of creativity, critical thinking, collaboration, communication and global awareness.
- Learning experiences are challenging and promote reflection, helping learners develop resiliency and responsibility for their own learning.

TEACHING

Our methods of instruction inspire and challenge learners to grow and prepare themselves for a lifetime of educational, career and personal fulfillment.

- Learning environments are flexible in both place and time: inside the classroom, on-line and in the community.
- Learners construct their own learning through hands-on, project based learning.
- All learning emphasizes connections and interrelationships among disciplines.
- Learners grow academically, socially and emotionally as they analyze and solve problems, build interpersonal skills, and develop an understanding of their place in a global community.

SCHOOLS

Every staff member demonstrates a commitment to creating a fulfilling school experience for all learners.

- Relationships are seen as a cornerstone for engagement, and grow out of an excitement for learning and working together.
- Because every staff member is crucial to providing a fulfilling school experience, we emphasize quality hiring, development, evaluation and retention practices.
- All staff members continually reflect on their craft and refine their practices to positively impact student achievement.
- All staff members are engaged in a variety of learning activities that support their professional growth and effectiveness.

COMMUNITY

The schools and community share a responsibility for creating and maintaining a rich and expansive environment for student learning.

- The community recognizes and embraces its role in providing opportunities for learning outside the walls of the schools.
- Education in South Portland is a priority as demonstrated by the community's commitment to ensuring the school system has the resources necessary to support a quality school system.
- Students take on an integral role in shaping the future of their community.
- The community is a proud and active participant in shaping the future of education in South Portland.

Every South Portland learner is prepared for a lifetime of learning for their life's work and for local and global citizenship.