



Portrait of a Graduate



As a District, we are committed to making sure that our students will one day be employed, enrolled or enlisted. We realize that now more than ever, learning experiences for our 21st Century learners must not only provide for the acquisition of rigorous academic content, but they must also foster other 21st century skills our young people need to thrive in this complex, rapidly changing world.



In 2019, NWLSD rolled out its Strategic Plan highlighting the district's new mission, vision and belief statements, as well as the 5 key goal areas of focus: (Culture of Trust, Financial Stability, Diversity and Equity, Social and Emotional Development and Student Achievement). The Portrait of a Graduate (POG) is a key component of the district's student achievement goal area.

GOING BEYOND THE NUMBERS

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

We're going beyond to ensure that all of our students thrive: in life, in school and in the classroom. That's our top priority. Our District provides an education to approximately 9,000 students, and our administrators and teachers are going beyond to reach all of them. Our goal is to empower students to achieve success and exceed their ambitious expectations.

Strategic Objectives

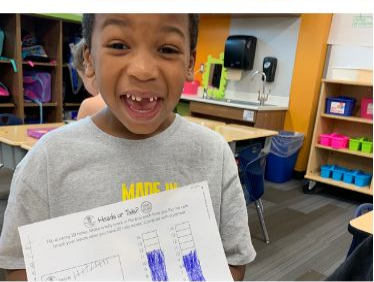
- Create a learning experience that is rigorous and engaging for all students
- Raise academic achievement across State and District measures of success through a relentless focus on literacy (reading, writing, listening, speaking, thinking and viewing) across all subject areas
- Facilitate student ownership of learning through personalized and differentiated instruction





The Portrait of a Graduate will be a North Star to guide the district's learning experiences and instructional design in and out of the classroom, this includes the learning experiences of all students Pre-K through 12th grade.







The district's team of stakeholders met once per month starting in January, and convened throughout the month of April. The virtual meetings were held on the following dates: January 13, February 11, March 16 and April 14.



The following emerged during the development and vetting processes of Northwest Local School District Portrait:

- The leadership team assembled a strong, dynamic, and committed team of community members and educators. This team worked well together and stayed mostly intact throughout the entirety of the process and provided critical input to inform the Portrait of a Graduate.
- The leadership team, consisting of the superintendent and other district leaders, were mindful throughout the process of the needs of the students and community.



PORTRAIT OF A GRADUATE COMPETENCIES

- Adaptability
- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Empathy
- Integrity
- Learner's Mindset





NORTHWEST LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT PORTRAIT OF A GRADUATE



ADAPTABILITY

Our students....

- demonstrate flexibility and resiliency by responding effectively to changing situations and circumstances
- reflect and respond productively to feedback, praise, setbacks, and criticism
- understand and balance differing views to negotiate workable solutions



COMMUNICATION

Our students....

- express thoughts and ideas effectively using oral, written, and nonverbal communication for a variety of purposes and audiences
- actively listen to understand others and remain open-minded
- use communication strategies to resolve disagreements peacefully and productively



CRITICAL THINKING

Our students....

- consider multiple strategies and solutions to complex problems
- consistently analyze, assess, and reflect to enhance the quality of their own thinking
- apply intentional thinking that is clear, logical, and informed by evidence
- propose solutions that are mindful to the impact they may have on self and others



EMPATHY

Our students....

- demonstrate awareness, sensitivity, concern, and respect for others
- seek to understand and connect with other's thoughts, feelings, experiences, and cultures



INTEGRITY

Our students....

- earn others' trust and respect by speaking and behaving in ways that are consistent and honest
- do the right thing even when it is challenging



LEARNER'S MINDSET

Our students....

- display positive attitudes and beliefs about learning
- demonstrate curiosity by exploring concepts and asking questions
- actively seek diverse perspectives and learn from others
- demonstrate perseverance by working towards a goal despite difficulties while learning and growing from mistakes