



# Dover IB PYP News



## Dover Elementary School Mission Statement

**Dover Elementary educates for excellence by providing a safe, caring and challenging environment that empowers all to be inquirers, problem solvers, global thinkers and life-long learners.**

### Essential Agreements: How can we learn best?

Welcome to the 2017-18 school year at Dover! Students and teachers at Dover have been very busy getting organized and setting goals for the new school year.

One of the first task at hand was developing essential agreements. In each classroom, students and teachers work together to develop a list of qualities that will make their learning environment function best for all learners. Students and teachers agree to follow these goal-oriented, solution-based agreements.

Essential agreements are rooted in the [Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports \(PBIS\)](#) initiative and connected with the IB learner profile attributes and attitudes.

At Dover, our school essential agreement is ***BE SAFE, BE RESPONSIBLE, BE RESPECTFUL***. Students discuss what that looks like, feels like, and sounds like in different areas of the school.



### The Skills needed for success. Focus on IB Approaches to Teaching & Learning

**A recent study** shows that helping children develop social & self-management skills from a young age can have a big impact on their future success as adults. It highlights the importance of teaching students how to work together cooperatively and manage their emotions in different situations

**In IB schools**, students focus on life and learning skills through the **Approaches to Teaching & Learning (ATL)**. The table (left) lists the 5 skill areas of focus and specific skills within. It is easy to see how these skills can be **helpful in school and in real world situations** as students grow to be responsible adults. **Consider how these skills apply** to meal preparation, planning a vacation, driving, or managing a budget.

Social Skills	Communication Skills	Thinking Skills	Research Skills	Self-Management Skills
Accepting Responsibility	Listening	Acquisition of Knowledge	Formulating Questions	Gross Motor Skills
Respecting Others	Speaking	Comprehension	Observing	Fine Motor Skills
Cooperating	Reading	Application	Planning	Spatial Awareness
Resolving Conflict	Writing	Analysis	Collecting Data	Organization
Group Decision Making	Non-Verbal Communication	Synthesis	Recording Data	Time Management
Adopting a Variety of Roles		Evaluation	Organizing Data	Safety
		Dialectical Thought	Interpreting Data	Healthy Lifestyle
		Metacognition	Presenting Research	Codes of Behavior
				Informed Choices



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## Focus Fridays and PBIS: Be Safe, Be Responsible, Be Respectful

Dover's Focus Fridays are intended to promote positive behaviors and also encourage students to follow the **Big 3: Be Safe, Be Responsible, Be Respectful** by focusing on specific IB attitudes and learner profile attributes each month. Staff members nominate students each month who exemplify a highlighted attitude or attribute. During an assembly on Sept. 8, students were introduced to the learner profile attribute: **Knowledgeable** and the IB attitude: **Enthusiasm** by our Third Grade teachers, LBMS 8th grade cheerleaders, and Mr. Haupt.

## Bagels With Barrett: A Breakfast Celebration

On October 6th, a group of students will be recognized, by Mr. Barrett and Mrs. Haworth, for showing the learner profile attribute: **KNOWLEDGEABLE** and the IB attitude: **ENTHUSIASM**. Later that morning, Mrs. Mattingly, Mrs. Helms, Mrs. Fife, and Mrs. Abfall will be presenting to our students about being **Communicators** and showing **Empathy** and **Tolerance**.

**Enthusiasm:** Encourage your child to enjoy learning and willingly put effort into the learning process. Watch ["A Pep Talk"](#) from Kid President and talk with your child about what it means in school, family and extracurriculars.

**Knowledgeable:** Students will explore concepts, ideas and issues that have local and global significance. In so doing, they acquire in-depth knowledge and develop understanding across a broad and balanced range of disciplines.

### WHAT IS ENTHUSIASM?

▶ Enthusiasm: To put forth a lot of effort and to have a large amount of excitement.



### WHAT IS KNOWLEDGE?

▶ Knowledge: I am always learning about myself and the world around me. I use what I have learned.



### Activities for Parents to Promote being Knowledgeable and showing Enthusiasm:

- Encourage your child to read books at home that correspond to the topics being covered in school.
- Ask your child about what they are learning in school and engage them in conversation about it:
  - "Why do you think that is an important thing to know about?"
  - Can you think of anything happening in the world today that might be similar to that aspect of history?"

If you are interested in more detailed information, visit our school webpage [Dover Elementary](#) or contact me: Dameon Headings, IB PYP coordinator [headings@wlake.org](mailto:headings@wlake.org)



Westlake City Schools Mission Statement

We Educate for Excellence...Empowering all students to achieve their educational goals, to direct their lives and to contribute to society.