



Bassett Elementary School Mission Statement

Bassett Elementary School is a child-centered community empowered to develop responsible, compassionate, globally-minded citizens who are lifelong inquirers dedicated to achieving academic excellence.



Learning in a PYP Classroom

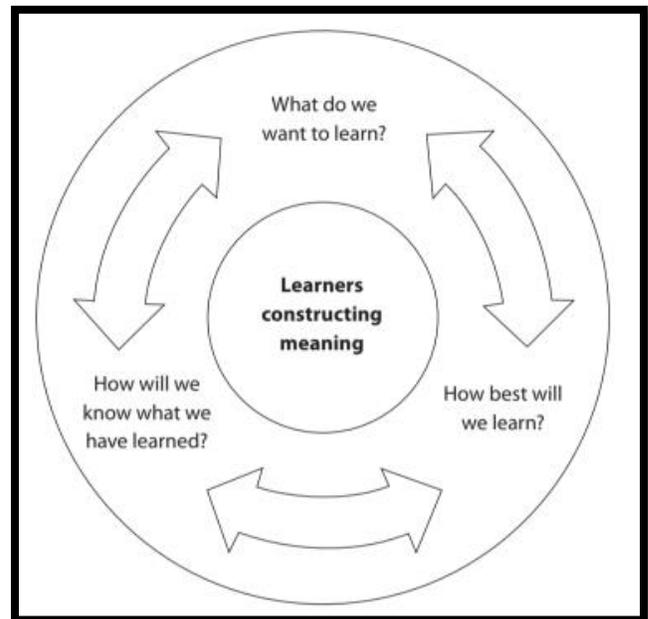
Learning is a dynamic process in which students' knowledge is developing and changing over time. In our PYP classrooms, teachers ask good questions and provide opportunities for students to be actively involved in their learning, make connections between concepts, and build their understanding of the content.

This **constructivist approach to learning** is illustrated in the PYP curriculum cycle, right, and takes place in our classrooms every day. In addition to building knowledge, students use and enhance the [skills](#) needed for future success.

“Constructivist learning allows students to either justify or change their previous understandings about the world around them and their self-identity.” (IBO, 2009)

With teachers' guidance, learners:

- Develop and address questions
- Evaluate information
- Address misconceptions
- Build understanding
- Form/reform opinions
- Ask more questions!



Constructivist classroom activities



1st grade students have their questions about the writing process answered by an author.



3rd grade students explore numerical relationships to build number sense.



2nd grade students investigate & document ways books are organized in the library.



4th graders use math in real world contexts through hands-on practice with money.



Bassett IB PYP News



Totally Awesome Tuesdays & PBIS: Be Safe, Be Responsible, Be Respectful

Through Bassett’s Totally Awesome Tuesdays, intended to promote positive behaviors, we encourage students to follow the **Big 3: Be Safe, Be Responsible, Be Respectful** by focusing on specific IB attitudes & learner profile attributes each month. Adults in the school nominate students each month who exemplify highlighted attitudes or attributes.

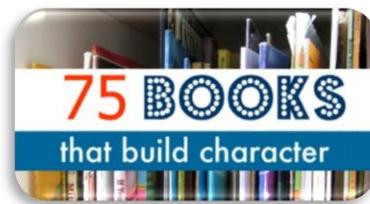
On Dec. 5, a group of students was recognized, by Mr. Sanfilippo and Mrs. Haworth, for showing the learner profile attribute: **Caring** and the IB attitudes: **Appreciation & Respect**. **During December**, we will focus on the learner profile attribute: **Reflective** and the IB attitude: **Independence**.

<p>Students who are reflective know their strengths and weaknesses. They give thoughtful consideration to their own learning and consider their personal strengths and weaknesses in a constructive manner.</p>	<p>Students who are independent take initiative and responsibility in school, at home and in social situations, on their own.</p>
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How can parents help to develop students who are Reflective and Independent at home?

- Spend time **reflecting** on their schoolwork. Ask them to talk about what they have learned and how they could apply that knowledge to the real world. Do they have areas in which they feel confident? Do they see areas that could be improved? When shopping, visiting museums, watching TV, etc. encourage them to apply their knowledge in different contexts.
- Encourage your child to set some achievable goals and **reflect** on their progress periodically. List not only of the goals, but of specific actions that can be taken to achieve these goals. Be sure that your child lists actions that can be taken **independently**, as well as action parents will take to support them.
 - If one of the goals your child sets for herself is to improve her writing, her action might be to keep a journal and write in it for at least 10 minutes each night. As a parent, you might decide that the two of you will participate in shared writing each week and produce a book of narratives together.
 - If one of your child’s goals is to improve at an extra-curricular activity, have him consider the action steps needed to meet that goal, i.e. time practicing foot skills, working on sportsmanship or sharing.
 - If your child has concerns about friendships, help her problem-solve some social techniques to try, then reflect on the outcomes and decide what is next.

Books on this list offer lots of opportunities to discuss reflection and independence



If you are interested in more detailed information, visit our school webpage <http://www.wlake.org/our-schools/bassett-elementary> or contact me: Deb Wadden, IB PYP Coordinator waddend@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.