Portrait of a Summit Teacher

The faculty of Summit School commit to these characteristics as defining features of our work in serving the needs of our students, their families, our colleagues and the school.

As an educator striving to develop the full potential of each child, I

- Enjoy and respect children
- Understand the important stages in child/adolescent development
- Observe children, giving particular attention to the unique qualities of each child
- Facilitate and guide, fostering discovery, thinking, creativity and the construction of knowledge
- Teach for deep understanding by designing a curriculum organized around meaningful problems, projects, and questions
- Encourage students to form habits of mind as mathematician, scientist, historian, reader, writer and artist
- Cultivate in students Summit’s core competencies
- Gauge students’ understanding through multiple forms of progress-oriented and authentic assessment
- Honor children as citizens, encouraging them to participate in a democratic society

As a lifelong learner committed to professional growth, I

- Reflect on the art of teaching and study the science of learning, always seeking to apply what I learn
- Engage in ongoing personal and professional growth, embracing its inherent change
- Study the Progressive Education tradition and apply its evolving principles in my practice: both pedagogical & curricular
- Strive for excellence in my planning and preparation, classroom environment, instruction and professional responsibilities

As a fully engaged member of the Summit community, I

- Demonstrate an attitude of service and flexibility, and use strengths and talents in a variety of ways to benefit the entire school community
- Actively engage parents in partnerships for the good of the child
- Model and uphold Summit’s Code of Conduct
- Participate positively and with joy in the community life of the school