

OUR MESA VALUES

*Together We Can Create a
School of Excellence*

Building Strong Relationships - We intentionally create a supportive community of staff, students, and families that work together as a team.

Whatever it Takes - We are solution focused and work relentlessly to achieve our goals.

Community of Learners and Leaders - We embrace a growth mindset, try new ideas, take risks, and learn together.

High Expectations - We perform to a high standard in ALL we do and strive to meet and exceed expectations.

Engaging Environment - We celebrate our efforts and foster a passion for lifelong learning.

Academic Achievement - We use data to drive our instruction and empower students to own their learning.



THE MESA WAY

*A Community of Learners
and Leaders*



Mesa Elementary
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ENGAGING ACADEMICS

Growing lifelong learners



4th grade shares research experience with 1st grade students.

LIVING THE MESA WAY A GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS



At Mesa we know that ALL students can experience the joy of learning and become life-long learners who can achieve their goals. That's the Mesa Way!



Studying worms with Watch Dog Dad Mr. Thornbrough in Stevens' 1st grade.

We empower students to understand and own their learning

- ▶ We show student what they are learning and what is expected of them through: student-friendly objectives posted in every class, anchor charts in every room, and use of exemplars to demonstrate rigor
- ▶ We help students set goals and track their own progress through: student goal setting, student data binders, and student-led parent teacher conferences

We use data to drive ALL our instruction

- ▶ We use interim and formative data and prioritize effective weekly data meetings and PLCs and analyzing student work to inform instruction and interventions
- ▶ We use data publicly (e.g. war board) to track and celebrate our progress
- ▶ We use grade level data binders that follow students

We use research-based strategies consistently across all classrooms to help students build their vocabulary and reading, writing, and math skills and apply these to deeper learning

- ▶ We build student language skills and vocabulary through: 7 steps to a language rich environment and Talk/Read, Talk/Write strategies; integrating daily literacy instruction throughout the curriculum, using ACE, RACE, TGRRS and other strategies for writing
- ▶ We deepen students' understanding of math concepts and procedures through: number talks, CUBES strategies for unpacking word problems and in-building math coaching and modeling of effective instruction and practices
- ▶ We utilize depth and complexity strategies to deepen student thinking

We strategically focus our time and talent to maximize every minute of learning through:

- ▶ We utilize a common school-wide schedule with dedicated ELA and math blocks and dedicated intervention time
- ▶ We utilize flooding and other strategies for maximizing all staff to support instruction and meet the needs of students
- ▶ We utilize departmentalization for older grades to allow teachers to deepen their content expertise and instruction
- ▶ We have a schedule and culture that emphasizes bell-to-bell instruction and urgency (e.g. before school time, transitions, strategic use of recess)
- ▶ We use technology to differentiate interventions (e.g. Dreambox, Lexia)

POSITIVE CLIMATE AND CULTURE

They are all OUR kids



We build strong relationships with students and families and value their feedback

- ▶ *We build positive relationships that drive student engagement through morning greetings, class council practices, buddy classrooms, and effective parent communication (e.g. Cattails newsletter and REMIND)*
- ▶ *We engage parents and community to support student achievement through: PAWS, Watchdog D.A.D.S., and fun and engaging parent academic nights that are hands-on and student led*
- ▶ *We ask for and value family and student feedback through parent surveys and student perception and student interest surveys. We use this information to drive our goals and improve our supports.*

LIVING THE MESA WAY A GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS



We celebrate our students' growth mindset, efforts and successes

- ▶ *We know that all students can learn with the right support*
- ▶ *We provide clear expectations and consequences in each classroom and school-wide*
- ▶ *We have systems to support positive student behavior including clip-up/clip-down, Getting Along Together, morning messages, positive referrals for positive behavior and school-wide assemblies*

We value student attendance and engagement

- ▶ *Public attendance goals and tracking*
- ▶ *Incentives (pins, medals, attendance flags)*
- ▶ *REMIND - parent engagement*

At Mesa we know relationships matter. We strive to understand and support each child as if they were our own. That's the Mesa Way!



We support the "whole child" (academic, social, emotional, and physical health)

- ▶ *We provide an intentional curriculum to help students learn social-emotional skills (Getting Along Together, Second Step)*
- ▶ *We provide enriching classes for students (PE, art, school-to-farm, etc)*
- ▶ *We utilize brain breaks to get students moving and having fun throughout the day*
- ▶ *We provide a structured before school time designed to welcome students and support a successful transition to the school day (e.g. breakfast, dance, homework help, personal reading time)*
- ▶ *We take into account individual student needs and circumstances when we design academic and behavioral interventions*

EFFECTIVE EDUCATORS AND TEAMS

We are family



LIVING THE MESA WAY A GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS



At Mesa we are a team of teachers committed to each other, our students, and a common goal - creating a school of excellence. That's the Mesa Way!



We develop teachers and support them to be their best

- ▶ *We provide individualized mentoring for all new teachers as well as team teaching, coaching, and modeling of best practices*
- ▶ *We provide observation, feedback and coaching for all teachers. Our principal and instructional coaches are in each classroom at least once a week.*
- ▶ *We provide relevant and engaging professional development. In our culture we put our new learning and ideas into practice right away.*

We celebrate and support the "whole teacher"

- ▶ *We care about each other as people and celebrate and support each other in our personal and professional lives*
- ▶ *We incorporate staff celebrations and fun into our work*

We are a team of educators committed to a common vision, values, and approach

- ▶ *We hire in alignment with the Mesa Way values and plan*
- ▶ *We are all committed to living our values*
- ▶ *We are all committed to the same goals of excellence for our students and will do whatever it takes to help them reach their potential*
- ▶ ***All our work is guided by our 90 day plan!***

We are a collaborative team of leaders and learners who are always learning and growing

- ▶ *We are committed to effective weekly PLCs - we meet together weekly in grade level teams in one room so we can collaborate within and across grade levels*
- ▶ *We have common plan time in our grade level teams weekly*
- ▶ *We practice peer observation and feedback to learn from each other and help each other grow*
- ▶ *Our teacher leaders provide input into the direction of our school and facilitate the weekly PLCs.*