

*As educators at St. Mark's, we celebrate the uniqueness of each child. We are stewards of our students' learning, modeling intellectual curiosity and a passion for discovery. We cultivate joy, playfulness, and growth in a child-centered environment. Our actions as teachers, individuals, and community leaders uphold this ideal.*

## CHARACTERISTICS OF PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

### RELATIONSHIP TO TEACHING AND MENTORING

An educator at St. Mark's...

- engages children and inspires learning
- balances the art and science of teaching
- embraces each child as a member of our community and works to meet his or her needs
- creates a positive, playful environment for learning
- possesses content knowledge and experience commensurate with job responsibilities
- prepares and delivers lessons in support of varied learning styles
- explores and utilizes emerging tools and techniques to meet the needs of 21st century learners
- communicates information about student learning and behavior in an authentic and tactful manner
- actively reflects on his or her practice and seeks to improvecollaborates and shares in the spirit of learning

### RELATIONSHIP TO SELF

An educator at St. Mark's...

- flexibility
- passion
- commitment
- selflessness
- self-discipline
- enthusiasm
- grace
- dignity
- accessibility and approachability
- moral courage
- ownership of personal learning needs
- initiative
- creativity and curiosity
- an innovative spirit

### RELATIONSHIP TO COMMUNITY

An educator at St. Mark's practices...

- Respect for the inherent dignity of students
- open, respectful interactions with parents, colleagues, students
- a commitment to the school through active participation, engagement in positive conversation, and support of colleagues
- an understanding of and appreciation for the Episcopal school tradition
- service to others
- global awareness and cultural sensitivity
- communication that builds relationships of growth and trust
- collegiality and sharing of resources and ideas
- service to others

