

# Welcome to 11<sup>th</sup> Grade!

Today may bring you a mix of emotions. Whether you are preparing to bring your first child to school or your last (or somewhere in between!), this day is a big day. You may be feeling anxiety, relief, excitement, or a mix of all three!

We want you to know that we understand what a moment this is. Our school believes that your student will spend the next several months here discovering so much about themselves and the world around them. We also believe that we can impact the future of a child by providing the best possible educational experience, including teaching social-emotional skills and promoting good character through our partnership with Core Essential Values®.

Using this curriculum, we will teach ten values this school year, one per month, all of which focus on our **Big 3**:

Treat others right • Make smart decisions • Maximize your potential

You'll get info each month about what we're teaching, because we hope you'll join us in lifting up these Big Ideas (value words) at home as well.

## 2019-2020 Big Ideas

**August-Big 3:** Treat others right, Make smart decisions, Maximize your potential

**September-Trust:** Putting your confidence in someone you can depend on

**October-Courage:** Being brave enough to do what you should do, even when you're afraid

**November-Honor:** Letting someone know you see how valuable they really are

**December-Joy:** Finding a way to be happy even when things don't go your way

**January-Knowledge:** Learning something new so you can be better at whatever you do

**February-Creativity:** Using your imagination to do something unique

**March-Forgiveness:** Deciding that someone who has wronged you doesn't have to pay

**April-Humility:** Putting others first by giving up what you think you deserve

**May-Perseverance:** Deciding it's worth it to finish what you started

# It's Just a **Phase**... *Don't Miss It!*

In 10 short months you'll be emptying a backpack full of broken pencils, crumpled writing assignments, and science labs. After that, your student will be a senior and you'll never know them as an eleventh grader again! So we want to encourage you to embrace this phase and don't miss it.

Here's some research compiled by our Phase Project ® about eleventh graders:

## Eleventh Graders...

- ... may have difficulty falling asleep before 11 pm, but still need nine hours of sleep and one hour of exercise per day.
- ... are overly self-aware, may think "Everybody's watching me."
- ... are wired for risk-taking.
- ... can be insightful and incisive about complex issues.
- ... tend to be opportunistic and idealistic.
- ... can struggle with long-term thinking.
- ... tend to be self-focused, busy, and unavailable. They can often take on more than they can handle.
- ... value humor as a positive point of connection.
- ... are becoming more at ease with who they are becoming; may become more honest than in previous phases.
- ... may struggle with regulating emotions and social control.
- ... may enjoy sharing ideas with adults who will listen.