



# THE AAIE NEW SCHOOL PROJECT

**ADAPTIVE CHANGE**  
**COMMUNITY**  
**LEARNING**  
**CAPACITY**  
**EQUITY**  
**WELL-BEING**  
**EVIDENCE**





# PREAMBLE

## GREAT SCHOOLS ARE FRAMED BY A FEW SHARED PRINCIPLES

In 2020, school leaders worldwide faced the unprecedented challenge of a global pandemic, COVID 19. In response, AAIE initiated and facilitated weekly conversations driven by the urgency and importance of supporting each other as we led and managed our way through the crisis.

As the conversation progressed, we realized that, while still needing to support each other with urgent, high-stakes decision-making, we might also begin to explore the opportunity embedded in the crisis. We began to turn our attention to the question,

**'What have we learned that may change our schools for good.in all senses of the word?'**

A collaborative, sustained inquiry into that compelling question led us to co-create the statement that follows, 'Leading on Principle'. As our title implies, we believe that great schools are framed by a few shared principles, not constrained by multiple rules and regulations, and that principles only translate into practice if we make a common commitment to action.

We trust that the Principles that follow will serve us all well as we navigate towards better schools than we have ever previously envisaged.

# LEADING ON PRINCIPLE

## A COLLECTIVE COMMITMENT

As learning leaders, we are living through a time of unique challenge and opportunity. Things are changing around us in ways we have not seen before. Former notions of schooling and learning are falling away. A new awareness is emerging. We are beginning to see ways to forge a different kind of relationship between learners and learning, parents and teachers, schools and their communities.

As leaders we can be swept along by these complex changes, even swept away by them. Or we can choose to lead, embrace

new patterns of possibility, and seize the momentum of a momentous time to build new cultures of learning.

As we map out our new schools and support each other in making our vision a reality, we see the value of broad, shared principles over narrow, imposed rules. After an evolving, rich, and unique conversation together, we are now ready to make a collective commitment to these seven principles.



# LEADING ON PRINCIPLE: A COLLECTIVE COMMITMENT

## ADAPTIVE CHANGE



“WE USE FEARLESS INQUIRY TO CONTINUALLY INTERROGATE AND SHED EMBEDDED PRACTICE THAT DOES NOT AMPLIFY AND INSPIRE PROFOUND LEARNING THROUGHOUT OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITIES.”

## CAPACITY



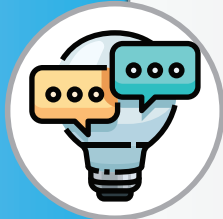
“WE DEVELOP THE CAPACITY IN OUR PEOPLE TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT HIGH-QUALITY AND SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS IN A TIME OF RAPID AND UNMITIGATED CHANGE.”

## LEARNING



“WE ENSURE DYNAMIC, ENGAGING, IMPACTFUL, AND JOYFUL LEARNING EXPERIENCES OWNED AND DRIVEN BY LEARNERS.”

## COMMUNITY



“WE CO-CREATE CARING, ENGAGED, AND INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES, CLEARLY DEFINED BY A COMMON LEARNING LANGUAGE, AND A COMMITMENT TO SHARED LEARNING VALUES.”

## WELL-BEING



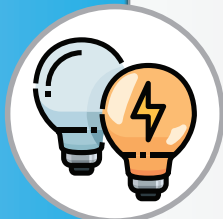
“WE CO-CREATE A CULTURE THAT NURTURES THE INTELLECTUAL, SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL, PHYSICAL, SPIRITUAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, AND OCCUPATIONAL WELL-BEING OF ALL COMMUNITY MEMBERS.”

## EVIDENCE



“WE REJECT OVERDEPENDENCE ON NARROW METHODS OF ASSESSMENT. ALL LEARNERS AND SCHOOLS MUST HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO DEMONSTRATE PROGRESS USING RICH AND DIVERSE DATA AND METHODS.”

## EQUITY



“WE COMMIT TO IDENTIFY, CONFRONT, AND DISMANTLE STRUCTURES AND SYSTEMS OF INEQUITY, TO EXAMINE OUR PRIVILEGE, AND TAKE ACTIONS TO INCREASE JUSTICE AND ENSURE BELONGING.”