



Dear Lincoln Families!

We are a FISH school!. This journey will help us—teachers and students (and maybe even parents)—establish and build a vibrant, supportive learning community. FISH is all about effective relationships, promoting individual accountability and providing an emotionally and physically safe atmosphere so we can learn better. It is also a lot of fun.

We would like to invite you to explore The FISH! Philosophy along with us.

What is FISH!?

It all started when a company called ChartHouse Learning discovered a group of fishmongers in Seattle...

Despite their less-than-desirable work, these fishmongers brought amazing energy, focus and accountability to their jobs. Inspired by their example, ChartHouse Learning created a video, *FISH!*, with four simple practices—Be There, Play, Make Their Day and Choose Your Attitude—to help non-fishmongers generate the same energy in their lives.

A number of educators watched *FISH!* and thought, “How can I create a classroom with that much energy, fun and productivity?” Then, based on research and best practices in social and emotional learning, character education, classroom management and human behavior, FISH! For Schools was created.

As we explore, your child might start talking about the four FISH! practices at home, so ask what these mean to your child. To help you, here’s a little glossary:

Be There—When we interact with others, we need to really focus on that moment with that person. We take responsibility for who we are “being while we’re doing what we’re doing.”

Play—This does not mean goof off, but it does mean bring a light-hearted spirit to life. Think about how much children learn by exploring, experimenting, playing. Why shouldn’t we all approach learning with the same curiosity and interest? Besides, it is more fun!

Make Their Day—Too often we ask, “What have you done for me lately?” instead of “How can I make your day?” If we turn the focus around and do little things to make others feel good, we can have a powerful, positive impact on the people in our lives.

Choose Your Attitude—We can't control what happens to us, but we do have a choice about how we respond. By accepting responsibility for the attitude we choose, we also empower ourselves to change it when it is not helpful.

If you want to learn more about FISH! For Schools, talk to your child, ask me, or go to www.fishforschools.com.

Change is challenging, and great things take time, but if we all work together, there is no limit to what we can achieve. Thanks for being part of our educational team. Your child will be a more successful person because of you!

Sincerely,
Mr. Langdon, Principal

