

Casey Cummings
Principal of Rowayton Elementary
School

How do you and your school community promote a sense of belongingness?

At Rowayton, we work intentionally to ensure that every member of our community feels seen, valued, and connected. Through the 'I Am Rowayton' movement, we celebrate individual strengths and contributions while helping each person recognize what they bring to our community. Our Rising Tide mindset reminds us that when we lift one another up, everyone benefits. We build opportunities for meaningful relationships, student voice, and connection so that everyone knows they belong.



What do you value most about your staff?

I value the incredible strengths, talents, and commitment that each member of our staff brings to our school. Our staff genuinely cares about students and continually looks for ways to grow, innovate, and make a difference. I especially value the way they support one another and recognize that each person's contributions make our school stronger. They truly embody our Rising Tide belief that we are better when we lift one another up.

How does your school community help you to be a better principal?

Our school community makes me a better principal by encouraging me to be a lifelong learner. Our students, staff, and families each bring unique strengths and insights that continually shape my thinking and my leadership. They remind me of the value of creating the conditions for others to contribute their strengths and succeed. The 'I Am Rowayton' movement has reinforced for me that our greatest impact comes from learning and growing together.



What are you most proud of and what are you striving to do better?

I am most proud of the culture we are building at Rowayton. Our school is a place where everyone is encouraged to recognize their strengths, contribute their talents, and believe in their potential. I am proud of the growth of the 'I Am Rowayton' movement and the way our Rising Tide mindset has become part of how we think about our community.

I am striving to ensure that every student feels seen, valued, and supported. We will continue to recognize strengths and work together to ensure that every member of our community has the opportunity to rise.