

Race, Culture, Gender, Individuality, and Inclusion for all at Dows Lane

Our mission at Dows Lane is: *To create a nurturing learning environment where students thrive and develop into caring, compassionate individuals and active learners.*

Whole School Instruction:

- Character Education and monthly themes related to *Habits of Mind*, such as Community, Working Together, Actions are choices we make every day, Fairness, Thinking Flexibly, Self Awareness/ Be Who You Are
- School Counselor goes into each classroom with lessons about *Habits of Mind*, Responsive Classroom, and *Second Step* curriculum
- Assemblies that highlight character education themes and whole school values
- Whole-school read alouds with books chosen for lessons about diversity, respect for others, and inclusion

Classroom Instruction:

- Morning Meetings in every classroom to build community and a culture of self awareness, respect for others, acceptance and honoring of differences
- Buddy-classes collaborate on different grade levels to form friendships with children in different grades and classes
- Read aloud, discussions, and activities to help children learn to engage in discussions respectfully
 - Read alouds that mirror our students
 - Classroom libraries that are diverse and representative of all our students

Small Group and Individual:

- School Counselor, Social Worker, and School Psychologists work with small groups or 1:1 with students and families who need additional resources or support

Professional Development:

- Time together as a faculty to talk and discuss events and ideas, to read articles, and plan for work with students
- Support and resources from the District Office- [Welcoming Schools](#)
- In-school workshops for whole staff with [GLSEN](#)
- Time to reflect and review our classroom libraries and school library and order more and new books to reflect our children