The Principles of Excellence

Principle One

Aim High—and Make Excellence Inclusive
Make the Essential Learning Outcomes a Framework for the Entire Educational Experience,
Connecting School, College, Work, and Life

Principle Two

Give Students a Compass
Focus Each StudentÕs Plan of Study on Achieving the Essential Learning OutcomesÑ and Assess Progress

Principle Three

Teach the Arts of Inquiry and Innovation
Immerse All Students in Analysis, Discovery, Problem Solving, and Communication, Beginning in School and Advancing in College

Principle Four

Engage the Big Questions
Teach through the Curriculum to Far-Reaching IssuesÑContemporary and EnduringÑ
in Science and Society, Cultures and Values, Global Interdependence, the Changing Economy, and Human Dignity and Freedom

Principle Five

Connect Knowledge with Choices and Action
Prepare Students for Citizenship and Work through Engaged and Guided Learning on ÒReal-WorldÓ Problems

Principle Six

Foster Civic, Intercultural, and Ethical Learning
Emphasize Personal and Social Responsibility, in Every Field of Study

Principle Seven

Assess Students’ Ability to Apply Learning to Complex Problems
Use Assessment to Deepen Learning and to Establish a Culture of Shared Purpose and Continuous Improvement