

THE ALLAMUCHY LEARNER

In this era of educational reform, the shibboleth of educational gurus is achievement and readiness for college and career. These watchwords appear in almost every policy discussion of education today. They are so pervasive that they have become lost without context and therefore have devolved into meaninglessness. For years, the Allamuchy Board of Education has resisted the temptation to evaluate the educational program of the district through only test scores. We have pursued a more holistic approach to the educational growth of every student. Such an approach considers the student as an individual with particular strengths and weaknesses, likes and dislikes and varying motivations. The size of the District fosters such an approach. The Allamuchy student as a learner has many diverse characteristics. As such, the District works towards developing those characteristics. We have compiled those characteristics in a student that the District strives to develop. Here is the profile of the Allamuchy Learner that helps to guide the educational program of the District. As is evident, we endeavor to develop the entire young person, not one who is only on a path towards college and career readiness.

The goal of the Allamuchy educational program is to develop young people who are curious, well rounded, knowledgeable, caring, respectful and responsible so that they can evolve into self-sufficient and confident citizens and members of a diverse society.

We promote Allamuchy Learners as:

CURIOUS

We nurture our curiosity and developing skills for inquiry.
We know how to learn independently and with others.
We learn with enthusiasm so that we may develop a

THINKERS

We develop critical and creative thinking skills to foster confident learners. We are willing to question our knowledge and to think for ourselves.

PRINCIPLED

We act with integrity and honesty and with a strong sense of fairness and justice. We take responsibility for our actions and their consequences.

CARING

We show empathy, compassion and respect. We have a commitment to service and we act to make a positive difference in the lives of others.

WELL-ROUNDED

We understand the importance of balancing the various aspects of our lives—academic, physical, and emotional—so that we may achieve overall healthiness for ourselves and for those with whom we interact.

KNOWLEDGEABLE

We develop a broad and fundamental understanding, exploring knowledge across a range of disciplines, from the humanities and sciences to the fine arts.

COMMUNICATORS

We express ourselves confidently and creatively through development of a deeper understanding of our language. We collaborate effectively, listening carefully to the perspectives of others.

OPEN-MINDED

We critically appreciate our perspectives, as well as the values and perspectives of others. We seek and evaluate a range of points of view and we are willing to grow from the experience.

RISK-TAKERS

We approach uncertainty with a sense of exploration. We work independently and cooperatively to explore new ideas. We appreciate learning from exploring what was previously unknown to us.

REFLECTIVE

We thoughtfully consider our own ideas and experiences and the context in which we live our lives. We work to understand our strengths and weaknesses in order to support our learning and personal development.

We ask our parents to support this goal and to aid in cultivating these characteristics in our students. We will continue to address the politically driven policy for students to achieve in a measurable fashion. We will continue to utilize the standardized test data for their probative value in evaluating programmatic strengths and weaknesses. However, it is our goal to develop each child as an individual including those aspects of development that are not readily measured by test scores.