

McCall Middle School Statement Of Purpose

McCall Middle School exists primarily to instill in its students a love of learning and a dedication to serious academic pursuit in each student. The McCall Faculty holds itself and its students to high standards. The middle school is a vital part of the town's school system, a system whose aim is to help students develop to the fullest extent during their adolescence and grow into independent, responsible, knowledgeable, contributing members of a democratic society. Embracing inclusion enhances the achievement of this goal. The school nurtures the development of individuals who combine self-respect with respect for others and who recognize the value of diversity in our society.

As a Middle School, McCall serves a population in a unique stage of educational development, children in various stages of intellectual, emotional, aesthetic, social and physical development. McCall recognizes this diversity and strives to foster a continuing development toward maturity.

McCall provides a positive learning environment. McCall is a community of learners, students and teachers alike, in an environment which stimulates joy in learning and instills the spirit of risk taking and discovery. By their example, the faculty are models of life long learning. McCall serves its students in an atmosphere of mutual respect, openness and accessibility among all the school's constituents: students, teachers, administrators, support staff, parents and townspeople. McCall helps its students develop standards of socially responsible behavior by the example of honest, fair, consistent dealing with individuals of any age. We want our students to see themselves as part of the school, the town, and the wider national and world communities. Reflecting the changes taking place in our society, the McCall community is increasingly made up of students who represent many diverse cultures from around the world. We strive, as a school, to welcome newcomers to our school and our country, and to honor the rich traditions and heritage that each culture contributes to our community of learners.

To prepare youngsters for a changing world, teachers in all disciplines foster the development of both creative and critical thinking. Content is selected with the intention of increasing the students' power to interpret the world into which they will mature. The program develops the basic skills students will need for life-long learning with increasing emphasis on the "why" rather than just the "what". The curriculum balances depth with breadth. Teaching methods foster active rather than passive learning, continuously encouraging the students to inquire and learn for themselves. The McCall Faculty shares ideas about teaching and learning and continually updates their curricula.

The school program is varied in order that students can explore their own talents and interests. In particular, the exploratory program provides students with important opportunities to learn and to express themselves in a variety of ways.

All the programs offered by the school aim to help students value their own ideas and talents, while respecting those different from their own. We want our students to learn to use their time and energy effectively and to feel a sense of accomplishment from what they learn in school. In both the content and methods of our program we foster a joy in learning and a sense of self-worth in all our students.