



2027 Arkport CSD Strategic Plan

JOURNEY OF A LEARNER



Why have a **STRATEGIC PLAN?**

Strategic planning plays a vital role in the continuous improvement efforts of an organization. Strategic planning is the process of documenting and establishing the direction of your organization by assessing where you are and envisioning where you want to be.



Strategic Focus Areas **IN ACTION**

What was our process for arriving at our **STRATEGIC PLAN?**

In late 2021, we assembled a group of educators, leaders and community members to create a strategic direction for Arkport CSD. In an effort to engage as many voices and perspectives as possible, we conducted focus groups and surveys with our educators, students and their families.

Through a series of in-person and remote workshops, we identified our school community's top priorities, which led to defining our district's strategic focus areas and Journey of a Learner attributes.



What is the **JOURNEY OF A LEARNER?**

At Arkport Central School District, we want all of our students to leave with the mindsets and skill sets they need to succeed. Inspired and informed by feedback from the entire school community, the Journey of a Learner (JOL) outlines the district's goals and expectations for teaching and learning. Our district's purpose is to ensure that when students leave Arkport they will be ready to face the world with confidence in themselves and in what they have to offer. Students' journeys are characterized by six attributes: resilience, courage, respect, critical thinking, responsibility and communication. Character progressions define what attributes might look like across grade-level

1 VERTICAL ALIGNMENT

Vertical alignment is the how and the when of what we teach. Our focus will be to build comfortable, effective learning environments for all students by way of linking lessons, skills and assessments together as a holistic experience.

- Engage in a thorough review of all curriculum used in Arkport. Begin to update curriculum offerings by grade level and subject area.
- Build consistency for students throughout their PK-12 experience.

2 INSTRUCTIONAL OFFERINGS

The district is committed to ensuring that course offerings are useful, engaging, challenging, and -- above all -- will prepare Arkport learners for life outside of school.

- Determine relevancy and success of current course offerings through surveys to teachers, students and their parents/guardians.
- Create a plan to address areas in need of improvement.

3 INTERNAL & EXTERNAL COMMUNICATION

Our goal is that school community members consistently receive clear, concise and timely information, and feel comfortable communicating their own thoughts, ideas and feelings to district leaders.

- Increase communication through student agency by encouraging students to create their own "portfolio of a learner," a collection of artifacts representing the best of student work in grades K-12. Use the portfolio as a means for communicating with families during a scheduled "Portfolio Day" each year.



Strategic Focus Areas IN ACTION

4 JOL IN PRACTICE

All students will have opportunities to embed the Journey of a Learner attributes into their daily work. These attributes represent important academic and life skills that students need to develop in order to be successful both during school (Pre-K through 12) and after graduation.

- Outline the role of the Journey of a Learner to students at the start of the school year and revisit on a regular basis.
- Focus on teaching and practicing the skills and how they are applicable for everyday life (missing work, checking grades, managing time, etc.).
- Embed Journey of a Learner attributes into the practice of all extracurricular leaders, staff, advisors and volunteers and empower them to create space for students to develop their journey.

5 EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

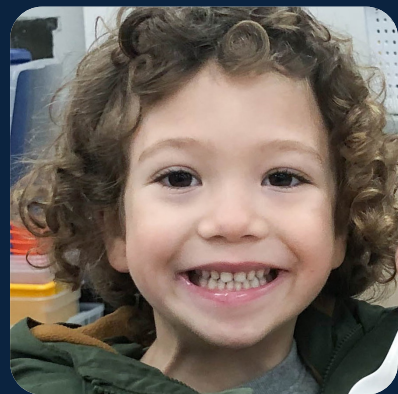
We recognize the connection between an engaged student and better academic outcomes. We plan to offer a wider range of extracurricular activities that meet the needs and interests of all our students and help them develop their unique talents.

- Provide students the opportunity to share their thoughts on extracurricular offerings.
- Empower students to give feedback and make well informed decisions based on personal interest and peer recommendations.

What is a JOURNEY OF A LEARNER?

The Journey of a Learner represents attributes that our school community has identified as essential for all of our students to have in order to be successful. These attributes will be present in everything we do at Arkport Central School District and will be contextualized for each grade level and in every setting in our school community.





Arkport CSD PRE K-2

Age appropriate skill set and mindset expectations for students in grades Pre K-2



CRITICAL THINKING

"I try to solve problems using observation and tools around me."



COURAGE

"I try new activities and share my feelings with others."



RESILIENCE

"I try my best, even when things feel hard."



RESILIENCE

"When I face a challenge I ask for advice to help me persevere."



COURAGE

"I overcome discomfort to achieve my goals and do what is right by myself and others."



CRITICAL THINKING

"I collaborate with my peers and expand my thinking."



COMMUNICATION

"I listen to others, share my thoughts, and ask for help when I need it."



COMMUNICATION

"I build connection to my peers by actively listening."



RESPECT

"I show kindness towards others through my words & actions and expect others to do the same."



RESPECT

"I treat all people, places and things with care and compassion."



RESPONSIBILITY

"I know that words & actions are important."



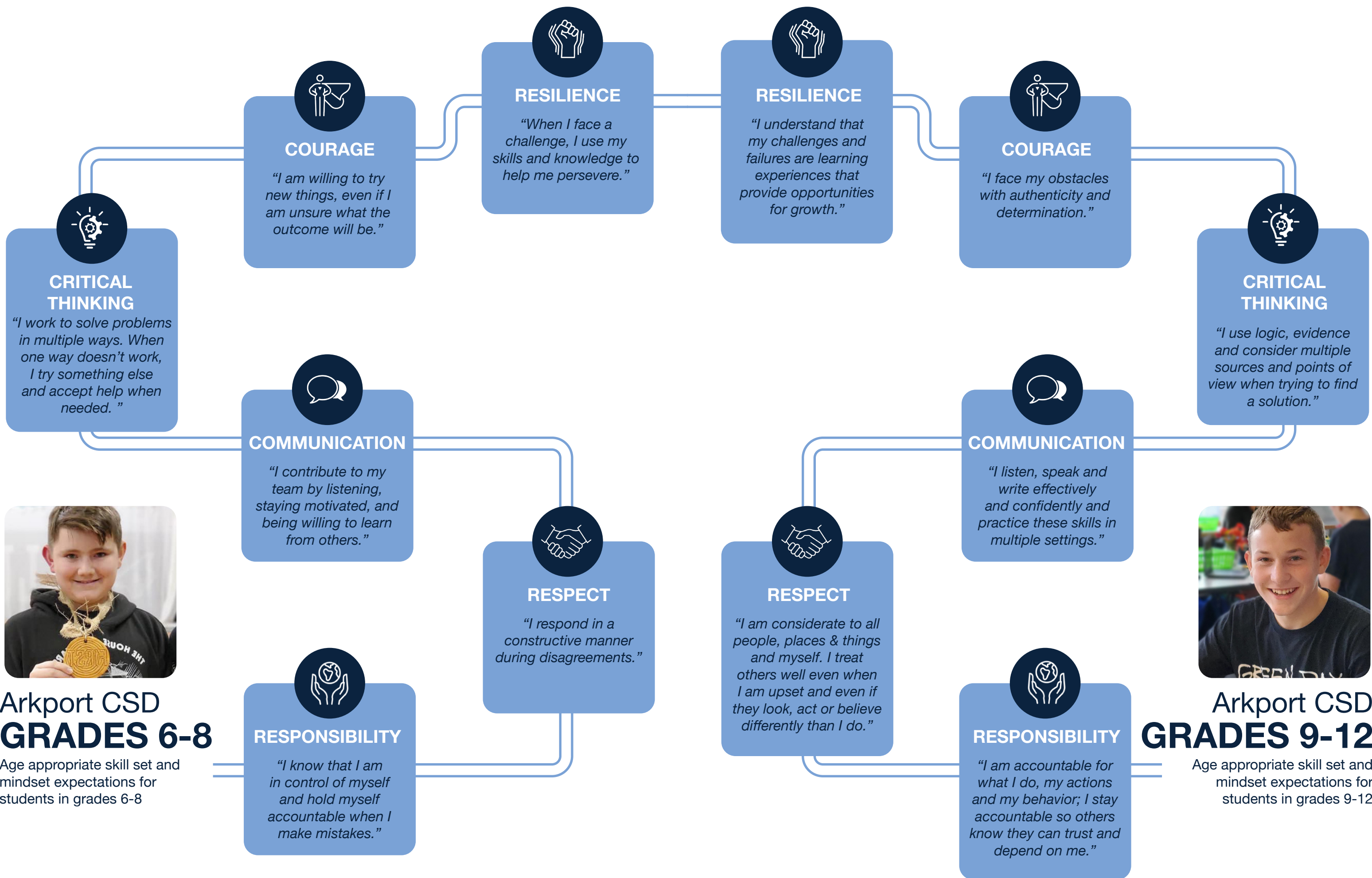
RESPONSIBILITY

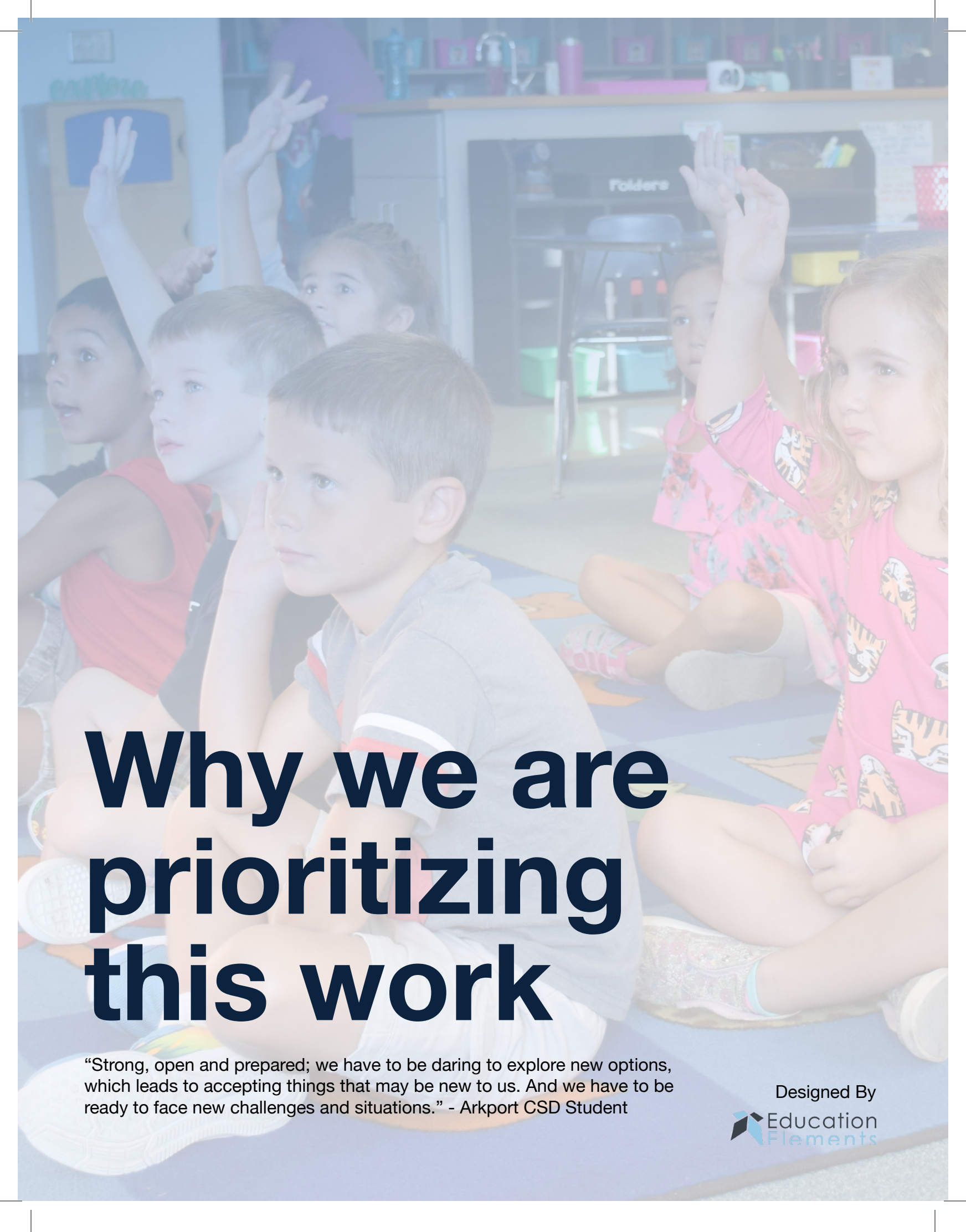
"I follow through on my actions and words. If I say I will do something, I make sure to do so."



Arkport CSD GRADE 3-5

Age appropriate skill set and mindset expectations for students in grades 3-5





Why we are prioritizing this work

“Strong, open and prepared; we have to be daring to explore new options, which leads to accepting things that may be new to us. And we have to be ready to face new challenges and situations.” - Arkport CSD Student

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