

Profile of a Shenendehowa Graduate

...defining WHAT our students must learn

In order to define success, it is necessary to establish clear and concise expectations which challenge and motivate our students. In our district, these expectations were originally developed by teachers, parents and members of the community in a document entitled The Profile of a Shenendehowa Graduate. Stated as ideals and based upon our research and best judgment, these expectations define in broad statements WHAT our students will need to know and be able to do in order to be successful in school and throughout their lives. From these ideals, detailed Essential Content and Competencies were developed to outline the specific skills each student must demonstrate at each grade level for students in gr. K-5 and each course for students in grades 6-12. We have taken a great deal of time to ensure that these skills are aligned with the New York State standards.



Responsible Individuals

who demonstrate respect for themselves through physical/mental health and for others through caring family/community/career relationships.

ESSENTIAL SKILLS

- Establish priorities
- Recognize the importance of work and leisure activities
- Respect the opinions and rights of others
- Understand the effects of consequences of substance abuse
- Possess life skills necessary to effectively function in society (e.g. parenting skills, personal finance management, marketwise consumer)
- Demonstrate appropriate behavior and understand consequences of inappropriate behavior for oneself and others
- Practice qualities of good character such as trustworthiness, caring, reliability and honesty

Self-directed Lifelong Learners

who understand, appreciate and pursue learning.

ESSENTIAL SKILLS

- Set appropriate goals and work to achieve them
- Identify problems, seek solutions
- Exercise an inquisitive nature
- Explore and pursue personal and career options as necessary
- Recognize, evaluate and respond to change

Critical Thinkers

who anticipate, identify and evaluate issues and use multiple resources to solve problems in a variety of contexts.

ESSENTIAL SKILLS

- Exercise judgment
- Understand the necessity of making informed decisions
- Conduct research, process information and derive conclusions
- Defend and explain decisions in a variety of settings
- Access, analyze, synthesize and communicate information in a logical manner
- Demonstrate creativity

Involved Citizens

who demonstrate the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values necessary for full participation in a democratic society that is part of a global community.

ESSENTIAL SKILLS

- Understand that we live in a diverse society
- Respect the rights of others and accept diversity
- Accept responsibility for own actions
- Contribute to the quality of life in local, state, national and global communities

Effective Communicators

who comprehend and express knowledge, thoughts, feelings and perceptions in a variety of ways.

ESSENTIAL SKILLS

- Read, write, speak and listen in public, personal and career settings
- Utilize a variety of media including visual and graphic tools
- Demonstrate effective presentation skills
- Effectively use interpersonal and interactive skills

Cooperative Participants

who in group efforts accomplish goals and tasks while appreciating individual contributions.

ESSENTIAL SKILLS

- Assume a variety of roles in collaborative endeavors
- Demonstrate effective interpersonal skills
- Use conflict resolution skills
- Maintain personal integrity

Culturally Appreciative Persons

who value arts and humanities in their diverse forms, and who respect creative expression of interests, talents and experiences.

ESSENTIAL SKILLS

- Exhibit curiosity toward cultural development within groups and societies
- Recognize the role the arts play in contributing to the quality of life
- Explore artistic and intellectual accomplishments by various individuals, groups and societies

Mathematically, Scientifically and Technologically Competent People

who apply the skills and strategies of mathematics, science and technology to all tasks and problems, both personal and professional

ESSENTIAL SKILLS

- Use knowledge, skills, tools and materials to express themselves and solve problems
- Learn new systems and adapt old ones to new purposes