## **Copeland Elementary School**

Volume 4, Issue 3 November 2023



Wildcat PYP Newsletter

#### **Upcoming Events**

Nov 2 - Fall Festival

Nov 10 – Veterans Day No School

Nov 13 – World Kindness Day

Nov 16 – IB Open House 5<sup>30</sup>

Nov 17 – Student of the Month Breakfast 8<sup>30</sup>-9<sup>30</sup>

Nov 20-24 – Thanksgiving Break

Nov 28 – Copeland Career Fair

Dec 8 – Science Fair

Dec 14 – Multicultural International Extravaganza

We're on the Web! https://www.rcboe.org/copeland



## Did you know!?

iReady, MyOn, Dreambox, Reflex, Frax, and Lexia utilize personalized instruction that students can practice at home by logging into their Launchpad account.

# **Transdisciplinary Themes**

Learning in the PYP is guided by six transdisciplinary themes. Each theme is selected for their relevance to the real world. Themes are structured to support State Standards, district assessments and transdisciplinary learning. Students explore the six themes each year of the program with the exception of Pre-K and Kindergarten who explore four themes to allow more time for organized, creative play.

The descriptors for each theme are listed below.

#### Who We Are

Inquiry into the nature of the self; beliefs and values; person, physical, mental, social and spiritual health; and human relationships.

# Where We Are In Place and Time

Inquiry into our orientation in place and time; personal histories; the discoveries and explorations of humankind; and the interconnectedness of individuals and civilizations.



#### How We Express Ourselves

Inquiry into the ways in which we discover and express ideas, feelings, nature, culture, beliefs and values.

#### How The World Works

Inquiry into the natural world and its laws, the interaction between the natural world and human societies; the impact of scientific and technological advances on society and on the environment.

#### How We Organize Ourselves

Inquiry into the interconnectedness of humanmade systems and communities; the structure and function of organizations; and their impact on humankind and the environment.

#### **Sharing The Planet**

Inquiry into rights and responsibilities in the struggle to share finite resources with other people and other living things; access to equal opportunities; and peace and conflict resolution.

From Principles Into Practice ibo.org - PYP Resources PYP for parents - International Baccalaureate® (ibo.org)

# Student Agency – What's your passion?

Developing student agency is one of the most important things we can do as parents and educators to prepare our students for the future. Student agency is about the student taking an active role in their own education. Encouraging student agency helps students take an active role in their own learning, increases their confidence, motivation and interest in activities. Ways to support Student Agency at home: <u>Set goals</u> – These can be academic or personal goals. Setting goals helps students develop awareness, self- discipline, impulse control and stress management. <u>Initiate and take action toward</u> <u>the goals</u> – Create steps to work towards the goal. If the goal is to increase their class averages, set a goal to read or practice math for 15 minutes a day. If the goal is to be more organized, set a goal to clean out your backpack every night and prepare for the day ahead. <u>Reflect and Revise</u> – Check in regularly to see your student's progress toward their goals. <u>Passion Project</u> – If your student seems to not be motivated, they may need a passion project. A passion project can be on anything your student is interested in. Maybe they want to learn to cook or paint? Giving the student the opportunity to pick their own project helps them set goals and expand their interests.



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# <u>The 411</u>

Did you know that Copeland has several policies that will help parents and stakeholders better understand the IB Program at Copeland?

Admissions Policy – Grading Philosophy and Process

Inclusion Policy – Special Education

Language Policy – Development of Language

Technology Policy – Role of technology

Child Protection Policy – Ensuring the safety of our students

Admissions Policy – Enrollment requirements

Academic Honesty Policy – Safe and fair use

Policies are located on the website under the <u>Parent</u> <u>tab – IB World School –</u> <u>IB Policies</u>

## How can Parents Help Support the PYP at Copeland?

- Make the Learner Profile part of your daily home life. Try to use the language of the Learner Profile with your student and help them to see how the Learner Profile applies at home too. This will help your child make connections between school and home.
- **2.** Read the IB Newsletter. The newsletter contains information on how to support your student in the PYP. Archived newsletters can be found on the Copeland website. www.rcboe.org/copeland
- **3.** Maintain contact with the school and your child's teacher. Be sure to check their Take Home Tuesday folder each week for important announcements.
- **4.** Encourage your student to take positive actions. Help your child understand their actions affect others and they can make a positive difference.
- **5.** Encourage your child to ask questions. If you do not know the answer, this is a good opportunity to do research and find out!
- **6.** Encourage International Mindedness Help your child become aware of different cultures around the world.
- 7. Read with your child every day!
- **8.** Attend school events, meetings and functions so your child sees your presence in the school. If you are connected to the school, they will be more likely to be connected to the school as well.

### The Action Cycle

In the PYP program, student-initiated action is encouraged and celebrated. Students are not only taught to take responsibility to for their own learning but also for their behavior and actions. The PYP Action Cycle helps students to become more reflective in their actions and to make choices based on their reflections. The Action Cycle encourages students to act in meaningful ways.

The Action Cycle is a simple tool, yet it is powerful. Students cycle through three steps: Choosing, Acting and Reflecting. The visual helps remind students that each action has a consequence and helps students to develop cooperation, problem solving, conflict resolution and social/emotional skills. The Action Cycle helps promote student agency, self-reflection and critical thinking.

You may notice the Action Cycle posted around the school, on the website or in your teacher's virtual classroom. Parents can help too by encouraging their children to use the action cycle daily.

