

Stonington High School
Statement of Core Values, Beliefs, And Learning Expectations

The mission of Stonington High School is to foster a lifelong pursuit of learning in a challenging, motivating, and engaging environment. Upon graduation our students will possess a working plan for post-high school life and become responsible and productive citizens in the 21st century global society.

Our core values include and emphasize:

- Personal Responsibility
- Respect for self and others
- Tolerance for others and their opinions
- Technological literacy
- Partnerships among students, staff, and the community

Our beliefs about learning include and inform our instructional practices:

- Students learn best when they
 - o Participate actively
 - o Work together to learn
 - o Construct knowledge
 - o Engage in authentic experiences
 - o Reflect/self-assess/set goals
 - o Connect what they are learning to the world
 - o Can talk to their teachers and each other
 - o Get timely and meaningful feedback
- Teachers teach best when they
 - o Collaborate and communicate effectively
 - o Use multiple strategies based on content and student needs
 - o Encourage independent thinking and innovation
 - o Create a positive, respectful learning environment
 - o Demonstrate they are learners who construct knowledge
 - o Create meaningful, rigorous, relevant and increasingly complex work
 - o Use varied assessments to make decisions about what and how they teach

Our 21st century expectations for learning for each student include:

- Communicate information clearly and effectively.
- Work independently and collaboratively to accomplish goals.
- Demonstrate innovation to solve problems and accomplish goals.
- Apply analysis, synthesis, and evaluative processes.
- Use digital technologies and other research tools to facilitate learning.
- Demonstrate civic and career readiness through responsibility, civic-mindedness, curiosity, and respect.