



The vision of the Creston C.S.D. is to provide the foundation for students to become lifelong learners and positive, confident, and compassionate citizens.

Dear Panther Partners:

About ten years ago, a colleague and I conducted a mini-study to learn what children hear and how it impacts them. We presented the results of our study at a professional conference that provided us with good feedback that we planned to use for a follow-up study. We interviewed school aged children (5-18), and asked them to describe what they hear at school and at home and how it impacts them. If you have interviewed a child, you know they are typically unguarded and very frank. Their candid responses made their feedback and our study very interesting.

The children talked about how they hear the adults at both school and home having conversations that impacted their behavior towards others. As we interviewed older children, much of the innocence was lost and we had to engage in deeper conversations. While the conversations were rich, there was one theme that regardless of the child's age that was consistent in nearly every interview - respect. When we followed up and asked the children what respect meant to them, nearly all of them responded with a similar statement that respect is being kind, even when you haven't been treated kindly. The children said many times adults don't think they can hear them when they have critical conversations about others and it discourages them. This was true with adults who spoke positively about others, but the children viewed those adults as kind and the ones they felt they could trust.

My point is, respect is an essential foundation to the growth and development of children and adults alike. Our children are listening and our words matter. Fast forward to today, I draw on boundaries for success: Respect Yourself, Respect Others, and Respect This Place that was developed several years ago but ring true. The children's stories are valuable lessons and the key to healthy and supportive relationships. As a district we work hard to reinforce the boundaries for success, knowing it matters at school, home, and in our communities.

I welcome you to attend one of the many events and activities that our children and staff provide; they will make you proud of our schools and community! Please visit the district website to view the schedule of events and activities and come out and support them. Thank you for supporting our schools and making them the pride of our communities!

Creston Cares,

Deron Stender
Superintendent

Web: crestonschools.org

Twitter: @CCSD_Panthers

Facebook: Creston-Panthers

#CrestonCares