

Statement on Diversity
APPROVED BY THE BOARD, MAY 26, 2010

At The Learning Project we feel enriched by diversity, by the uniqueness of each individual, and we aspire to build an inclusive community shaped by principles of equity, justice, respect and caring. We work to be a school where *every day, every child* and adult will feel that his or her whole self will be honored, safe, valued and empowered, and where individuals learn to appreciate their own identities and the identities of others. It is our expectation that all members of our community will embrace diversity as the norm, and will work to understand its complexities, meet its challenges and learn its lessons.

The school supports diversity by seeking to honor and learn about all kinds of human difference and by requiring respect among all members of its community. Our curriculum and programs are designed to extend the knowledge and vision of the children beyond the world that is comfortable and familiar. We encourage our children to reject stereotypes and bias, to value different perspectives and to want to promote fairness and justice in their school and beyond. We educate our children about the injustices of the past and about the privileges and disadvantages that accumulate from that history. We teach them how ordinary people and those who are better known have worked to promote equity and social justice and we seek to cultivate in our children similar habits of the heart and mind.

The school promotes inclusiveness by making it possible for children from families of different financial means to attend; by providing supports and opportunities for different kinds of learners; and by promoting within the entire community a deepening understanding of what it means to be a diverse and inclusive school. The school works to build a diverse community of children, families, teachers, staff and trustees, which reflects our society's diversity of race, ethnicity, culture, religion, sexual orientation, ability and interest, and socioeconomic status. The school works to break down age and grade barriers and to build a sense of a single school community where the children all respect and care for one another.

Our effort to be an inclusive and diverse community is ongoing and the school always strives to do that work better tomorrow than it did today.

Revised: May 2010