

[This content was written as web content for a charter school and also used as the copy for their prospective student brochure.]

KIPP SHINE Prep nurtures and strengthens our students' creativity, knowledge, character, and thinking skills preparing them to excel academically, physically, socially, and spiritually in the nation's finest secondary schools, colleges and in life.

KIPP SHINE Prep is rooted in the principles that spell its name: S for Seek, H for Honor, I for Imagine, N for Never give up, and E for Every day. These values are integrated into the curriculum and the school culture as the core of our team and our success. Each value is folded in and utilized in its own unique way.

## Seek.

At SHINE, all of the students and staff are expected to constantly seek knowledge and unity. Whenever there is a problem, we actively seek a solution. A conflict is never left without a resolution. New places, experiences, and challenges are welcomed here.

### **Students, teachers, and parents seek:**

- **Opportunities to help in classrooms, on campus, and in the community.**  
Parents are invited and welcome to assist in classroom and school projects and many seek volunteer opportunities at the school. Teachers are available to communicate with families via phone before and after school and during designated conference times throughout the day. Students are accustomed to seeking out ways to help the school staff in any way they can. We work as a team, and as such we seek to be of assistance to any teammate that needs help.
- **Help from one another.**  
Not only do we seek to help others, but we are not ashamed to seek help from others. We know that at any given time, we can ask for help and it will be given. We view asking for help as a sign of strength and unity.
- **New experiences in and out of the school setting.**  
We partake in monthly field lessons outside of the school where students are exposed to a myriad of new experiences and surroundings that tie in with the current theme being discussed in class. Team members and students alike are encouraged to seek out new opportunities for learning in the community.
- **Solutions to problems and challenges.**  
There is a solution to every problem and we are relentless in seeking ways to overcome challenges that arise.
- **Academic, social, and physical growth.**  
Growth is a sign of learning and we seek to be better every day at the things we do. Physical health is imperative for healthy minds and learning capabilities, so we ensure healthy nutrition and an exercise program that

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includes focused soccer instruction. With that in place, we are able to grow our knowledge base and our understanding. We celebrate our growth monthly at a school-wide Project Growth exhibit of learning.

■ **Success.**

We are striving not simply for competency but total mastery and success as we work together to climb the mountain to college.

## Honor.

We are raising children who honor themselves. When children honor themselves, they take the initiative to honor their families, teachers, other community members and their surroundings.

### **Students, teachers, and parents honor:**

■ **Themselves.**

Positive words and actions are expected of all community members when referencing themselves. We dress accordingly, as well, with students wearing uniforms daily and a high expectation dress code for teachers and volunteers.

■ **One another.**

We are all valuable and essential members of the community and we treat each other as such.

■ **Cultures**

Our families and staff come from a wide array of backgrounds and we take every opportunity to learn from the international cultures that exist in our community.

■ **Ideas and aspirations.**

The only way to achieve big is to dream big. We believe wholeheartedly in validating all dreams and aspirations, no matter how grandiose.

## Imagine.

There are no limits to the imagination and so we encourage our students to embrace all of the possibilities that the imagination has to offer. Any goal can be reached, any obstacle overcome when we dare to imagine a better day, a better way, a better world.

### **Students, teachers, and parents imagine:**

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■ **Themselves in other time periods and places in dramatic play and formal productions.**

Dramatic play and imagination activities are a part of the daily curriculum. Students also take part in a larger scale stage production at the end of each school year.

■ **Themselves in college and beyond.**

It is expected that every child will attend college, no exceptions. In addition, students are encouraged to imagine themselves after graduating from college because success is a lifelong journey.

■ **Solutions to community and world issues.**

Rather than simply talking about issues that bother or worry us, we brainstorm solutions and put them into action.

**N**ever give up.

We never quit trying. We persevere and persist in all facets of teaching, learning, and day to day life. Giving up is not on our list of options.

**Students, teachers, and parents never give up on:**

■ **Themselves and their work.**

When the work gets tough, we get tougher. There is no challenge that can't be overcome together.

■ **Their teammates.**

When a teammate has fallen and is discouraged, we do not leave them downtrodden. We provide encouragement and support in keeping them moving in a positive direction.

■ **Their goals.**

Every goal can be reached with perseverance.

■ **The world and its possibilities.**

We never cease to believe in the endless possibilities of the world and the people in it.

**E**very Day.

These values are in place every day and in every way possible as we build our school community. The values are the root of our teaching approach and thus the root of our students' success. Every day, we strive to SHINE.