Bill Roberts – PROUD TO RISE

William ("Bill") Roberts ECE-8 School developed and follows the "PROUD to RISE" model. In Elementary School, we encourage our younger students to develop personal and community values by exhibiting PROUD behavior. As students RISE from their primary years to middle school, they become prepared and ready for the next building blocks of character development, including academic challenge and social responsibility. In Middle School, we guide our students to RISE up and meet increasing levels of growth and achievement.

P Prepared
- Ready to learn with a healthy mind and body
- Treating myself well by taking care of my body and my health
- Being in the right place, at the right time, doing the right thing

R Respectful
- Believing in myself in order to be a strong learner
- Honoring my peers, my teachers, and my environment with kindness and acceptance
- Treating others like I want to be treated
- Being friendly and inclusive

O Outstanding Effort
- Giving my all, and then some more
- Ambitious goal setting to be the best that I can be

U United Community
- Making friends from ECE- 8th
- Creating relationships with my buddy as we read, attend assemblies, work on math and spend other time together
- Giving back to our community
- Learning the value of service by watching my parents volunteer at my school

D Determined
- Focusing and understanding my expectations and making it happen
- "I can!" instead of "I'll try"
- Never giving up

R Rigorous and Responsive Academic Curriculum
- Flexible instruction and differentiation supports ALL learning styles
- Promotes critical and solution-based thinking, giving students opportunities to take ownership of learning and encourage deeper level thinking
- Prepares students for rigorous curriculum in high school including AP and IB programs, and establishes a sturdy foundation for higher education

I Innovative Instruction
- Project-based and experiential learning through field trips and exploratory activities
- Interactive online learning
- Staff Professional Learning Communities weekly to promote cross-sharing, collaboration and professional development, ECE-8th

S Small Community
- Track growth from ECE-8th grade
- Friendly and authentic community cultivates deep and meaningful relationships
- Smaller student population in Middle School allows meaningful interaction with teachers and administrators, personalized instruction, and valuable and purposeful team building.

E Encouraging and Supportive
- Strong relationships with staff and peers help students identify and develop their strengths and talents
- Students are valued and respected; risk-taking is encouraged to promote greater independence

Bill Roberts – At a Glance

Curriculum

Our curriculum is based on Common Core standards-based approaches incorporating differentiation and teacher-designed methodology. Some of the tools we employ in addition to the district curriculum include:

- Math – Bridges Math, Singapore Math, Engage New York, and CMP3 (MS) as well as blended learning with online programs such as Khan Academy, Reflex and Math XL
- Literacy – Benchmark, Expeditionary Learning, Engage New York, Lucy Calkins Writing, Guided Reading and LLI Interventions
- Social Studies/Science – National Geographic, LDC and Amplify
- Orton-Gillingham multi-sensory approach to phonics instruction. Over 80% of our K-5 staff are trained in the Orton-Gillingham Approach to reading instruction.
- Spanish- Level I Spanish is required for our 7th and 8th grade students

Technology & SMART Lab

We have received over $400,000 in tech grants in the past five years enabling us to install a Creative Learning Systems SMART Lab where technology works with the curriculum to support hands-on, minds-on learning. Our elementary students use iPads and/or Google Chromebooks and our Middle School was awarded the My Tech 1:1 Computer Initiative grant which provides all middle school students a Chromebook for school work . Our school also has one computer lab. We employ a tech professional to oversee our ongoing technology needs.

Our forward- thinking technology department is on the cutting edge of integrating technology into the classroom.

Electives

All students from ECE-5th grade participate in weekly special electives: Art, Drama, Music, Physical Education, SMART Lab and Library. Middle school students choose two electives per trimester from expanded offerings.

School Uniforms

We have a K-8 school-wide uniform/dress code. Elementary students can wear "Spirit Wear" on Fridays and middle school students can wear "Spirit Wear" every day. Uniforms help us develop a greater sense of pride and belonging on our school campus. They also help reduce the cost for parents, promote an academic approach to learning, help students resist peer pressure to purchase trendy clothes, and create a safer school.

Parents can purchase uniforms at the store of their choice, provided the items meet our requirements. Spirit Wear can be purchased through our school vendor, which can be found on our school website.

Campus Security

Bill Roberts E-8 has a full-time, unarmed security guard on site during school hours and the before/after school programs.

Our campus doors are locked at all times. The playgrounds are completely enclosed, and the ECE playground is configured for greater teacher visibility and child safety. All visitors are required to follow visitor check-in procedures during school hours.

Schedule

Our K-8 students attend school from 8:15 a.m.-3:15 p.m., Monday – Thursday and 8:15 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. on Fridays. Our early release Fridays allow our staff to participate in Professional Learning Communities. Through this unique opportunity, our staff is able to collaborate with colleagues, collect, analyze and interpret data, identify student needs and strengths to determine instructional strategies to improve student learning, and continue their professional development. We offer Discovery Link and Enrichments everyday including Fridays to help working parents.