

## Tenaflly Middle School: What We Believe

Over the last two years our school leadership teams, the Facilitators Committee and the Team Leaders Committee, have worked together with the TMS faculty to revise the school's mission and vision statement. We believe the revision and renewal of our mission and vision statement will continue to guide our ongoing efforts to maintain a tradition of excellence while preparing our students for future success in a rapidly changing world. As middle school educators, we recognize the important interdependence that exists between the academic and social-emotional learning of young adolescents. These principles are reflected in the revised TMS mission and vision statement. We hope that you will take the time to read and give thought to the document below. In recognition of our diverse TMS community, this document has been translated into Chinese, Hebrew, Japanese, Korean, and Spanish and is available on the TMS homepage: [www.tenaflly.k12.nj.us/ms](http://www.tenaflly.k12.nj.us/ms)

- [應為我們感謝我們TMS的不同的人種, 這篇文章被翻譯成中文, 我們在TMS 的主頁發布了這篇文章.](#)
- [TMSの様々なコミュニティの中には様々な人種がいます。この和訳されたドキュメントはTMSのホームページで利用できます。](#)
- [TMS에서는 다양한 국적의 학생들이 많음으로 이 문서는 한국말로 번역되어있고 TMS 홈페이지에서 볼수 있습니다.](#)
- Al reconocer la comunidad diversa de TMS, este documento está disponible en español:
- בהוקרה מהצוות של קהילת חטיבת הבניים בטנפליי, קובץ זה מתורגם לעברית וזמין בדף הבית של חטיבת הבניים בטנפליי.

[www.tenaflly.k12.nj.us/ms](http://www.tenaflly.k12.nj.us/ms)

### **Tenaflly Middle School**

*A Community of Caring and Excellence*

***“Take Care of Yourself; Take Care of Each Other; Take Care of This Place”***

### **Our Mission and Vision**

***“Tenaflly Middle School, in partnership with parents and the larger community, is dedicated to the growth and development of young adolescents by providing an environment that promotes academic rigor, social responsibility and lifelong learning.”***

***Therefore, in recognition of the unique needs and characteristics of these students. . .***

#### **Our curriculum and instruction emphasizes:**

- Content mastery as well as applied skills in all disciplines so students can think critically, communicate effectively and become informed decision makers
- Instructional pacing matched to students' abilities and competencies
- Understanding for systems of knowledge, themes and concepts
- Open-ended yet guided questioning that encourages student inquiry
- Meaningful homework and individual projects that promote higher order thinking
- Making valid and important connections among disciplines
- Self-reflection, goal setting and self-monitoring
- Real world applications that are problem or issue-based

#### **Our school culture promotes:**

- A safe, supportive, and nurturing environment in which every individual feels a sense of belonging
- Acts of kindness, respect, and recognition between and among all members of the school community
- Willing and active involvement in service to the school and greater community
- Honest, respectful, and responsible behavior
- Understanding and appreciation of diverse cultures, talents, ideas and learning styles
- Opportunities to take risks, explore personal interests and abilities, and engage in self-expression with the freedom, support and encouragement to do so
- Opportunities for initiative, leadership and self-reflection which capitalize on individual passions and idealism
- Personal growth through effective self-management
- An atmosphere in which everyone in the T.M.S. community shares the responsibility to act on these beliefs and to help each other to do the same

***To this end, students, teachers, staff, administrators and the community will work together in the spirit of mutual respect and cooperation.***