

2015 Clara Barton Open School Leadership Profile

Clara Barton Open School is a magnet school offering a program built around the philosophy of open education. Open education refers to a style of teaching that values student choices in the educational process, hands-on learning experiences, integration of curricular areas, and regular opportunities for cooperative, small group learning experiences. These principles emphasize student centered learning (learning that is experiential, holistic, authentic and challenging), cognitive learning (valuing deep understandings of concepts through higher order thinking and constructivist inquiry), social learning (viewing learning as socially constructed and interactive) and democratic learning (seeing the classroom and the school as a model of what it means to live in a democratic society). The Barton school community is committed to progressive education values and maintaining Barton's integrity as a school and a model for other Open schools.

The most important criteria in selecting the next principal should be:

- Brings a clear, informed, and experienced vision for open education
- Believes that all students want to learn, can be leaders, and want to have positive behaviors
- Knowledge of and enthusiasm for supporting and moving forward with our progressive education ideals
- Ability to collaborate and communicate effectively with staff, students, families and community members
- Visible and actively present in the building for students, staff and families
- Ability to build relationships and connect with students across grades k-8.
- Actively seeks and incorporates input from multiple perspectives, which mirrors the building demographics
- Demonstrated will, skill, knowledge, capacity and commitment to lead staff towards equitable academic and social/emotional learning in a K-8 setting
- Understands the proper use of data in considering effective instructional strategies appropriate in an open school
- Ability to provide equitable support and feedback to all staff
- High academic expectations within the context of progressive education`
- Ability to challenge and support educators to develop innovative practices
- Ability to maintain a joyful, respectful, and safe school environment
- Ability to advocate and work effectively with the district for: the needs of Barton students, the integrity of progressive education and the K-8 status of Barton.
- Supports positive student behavior and school climate through *Responsive Classroom* practices
- Finds and implements solutions to address achievement gaps
- Welcomes and utilizes involvement of parents
- Encourages and utilizes shared leadership
- Models high level of integrity and responsibility
- Committed to unique, high-level programming (including after-school programs, multi-age classrooms, project-based learning, goal-setting conferences, portfolios, all-school morning meetings) and actively and visibly promotes these programs
- Embraces and renews the culture that has been created at Barton as well as the cultures that shape Barton and its students
- Honors rituals and routines important to Barton while helping the community move forward

Qualities

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| • Communicator | • Progressive Educator |
| • Collaborator | • Innovative |
| • Committed to equity | • Flexible |
| • Life-long learner | • Caring |
| • Has integrity and humility | • Authentic |
| • Hard working | • Curious |
| • Energetic, visible | • Inspiring |