



THE SCHOOLS WE ENVISION recognize every child's right to grow up literate as a member of a dynamic learning community that values the richness of linguistic, ethnic, and cultural diversity. Members of the school community are treated and treat others with empathy, kindness, and respect. Students are motivated to investigate new ideas that fuel intellectual curiosity and act as powerful agents in their own learning. Because students are fully engaged and feel a sense of joy in their own learning, they achieve a higher level of literacy. Through dynamic literacy education that exemplifies the beliefs and core values described below, students come to understand their physical, social, and emotional world and their roles as informed global citizens—hallmarks of the literate lives they can lead.

CORE VALUES

WITH MORE THAN
25 YEARS OF
LITERACY LEADERSHIP,
the extensive work of
Irene Fountas and Gay Su
Pinnell has coalesced
into Fountas & Pinnell
Literacy™—a cohesive,
systematic approach to
high-quality literacy
instruction centered on a
powerful principle:
*what we teach, we value;
and what we value,
we teach.*

To that end, Fountas &
Pinnell Literacy™ is built
on a set of Foundational
Beliefs and Core Values
that together reflect a
transformative vision of
what literacy education
can be: a shared
commitment to
meaningful, effective,
responsive teaching that
ensures the right of
every student to lead a
LITERATE LIFE.

Schools are places where *students*:

- 1 Act as members of a **cohesive learning community** that sustains their **literacy growth** and **success**.
- 2 Engage in **authentic inquiry** within and beyond the classroom walls to ignite their **intellectual curiosity** and expand their knowledge of the world and of others.
- 3 **Believe in themselves** and their own ability to acquire and use language and literacy for learning and enjoyment.
- 4 **Read, think about, talk about, and write about relevant content** that engages their hearts and minds.
- 5 Read, think about, talk about, and write about texts that are **culturally sensitive, reflect the diversity** in our world, and **vary in genre, content, and perspective**.

Schools are places where literacy *educators*:

- 6 Implement a **coherent set of evidence-based instructional practices** in whole-class, small-group, and individual contexts.
- 7 Make expert **instructional decisions** based on evidence gained from **systematic observation** and ongoing **assessment** data.
- 8 Work as a **team** to take **collective responsibility** for the high achievement of each student in a widely diverse population.
- 9 Act as members of a community with a **common vision, common goals, common language**, and a strong belief that their work can **transform children's lives through literacy**.
- 10 Demonstrate an **unwavering commitment** to their own **professional learning** and to supporting the learning of their colleagues and team members.