

## MISSION

St. James' Episcopal School, a ministry of St. James' Episcopal Church, serves intellectually able students and their families of varying economic, ethnic, racial and social backgrounds by providing a rigorous academic program, Kindergarten through Grade Six, in a caring environment grounded in the Christian faith.

## CORE BELIEFS

### **Spirituality**

As an Episcopal parish school, we are committed to common worship, to teaching the basics of Christianity and of the Anglican tradition, to understanding and respecting all faith traditions, and to community service.

We rejoice and marvel in the magnificence of God's creation.

As part of God's creation, we are called to community, to mutual respect, and to living out our values.

### **Students and Teachers**

Everything we teach and do is the curriculum.

All our efforts aim to enhance each student's confidence, curiosity, creativity, intellectual integrity, competence, character, and ability to think critically.

Learning is its own reward.

Teachers best motivate students through encouragement, inspiration, respect, and love.

Teachers recognize each student's individual gifts and inspire children to do their best.

By accepting responsibility for their own learning and through diligent work, students develop self-respect and intelligence.

Along with our emphasis on strong intellectual preparation, we help our students become empathetic, actively compassionate people who will use their talents in service to others.

We learn to value different cultures by engaging with one another.

We continually evaluate the curriculum for relevance, quality of intellectual content, and intrinsic interest.

## **The School Community**

In an urban setting, we rejoice in the gifts and challenges of our diversity.

A wholesome, unpretentious atmosphere helps children develop a sense of balance and a realistic view of the world.

Each family's commitment to the mission of the school plays a vital role in the education of our children.

By virtue of being a member of the St. James' School community, one is also part of the St. James' Church community and invited to benefit from all it offers.

### **The World**

We are mindful of the global and ethical implications of what we do.

We all work toward awareness of our responsibilities to our larger communities.

We strive to develop an informed, hopeful view of our roles in the world.

We commit to being good stewards of God's gifts.

**Approved by the St. James' School Board  
December 5, 2006**