



# Portrait of a Graduate

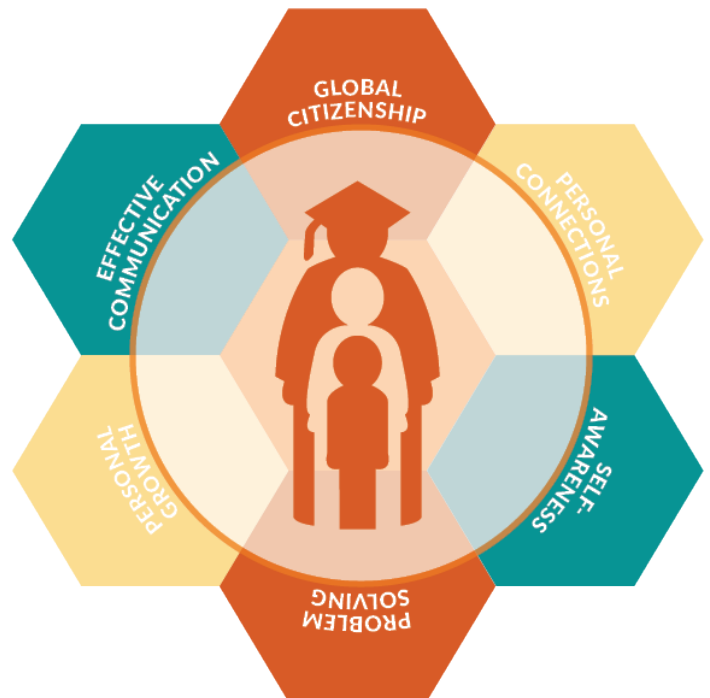
**Platte County School District is committed to developing the essential skills all students need upon graduation and beyond.**

Platte County School District's mission is to prepare individual learners for success in life, by providing meaningful experiences in a safe and caring environment. The District and its community of students, families, teachers, staff, and business partners and the Board of Education are committed to developing in all students a set of essential skills that will set them up for success after graduation and beyond. During our "Portrait of a Graduate" design process, various stakeholder groups shared more than 2,500 attributes desired for PCR-3 graduates.

After synthesizing this feedback, six essential skills were chosen for Platte County School District's Portrait of a Graduate to represent the key competencies students need to succeed beyond high school, in their careers, and in life:

- **GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP**
- **PERSONAL CONNECTIONS**
- **SELF-AWARENESS**
- **PROBLEM SOLVING**
- **PERSONAL GROWTH**
- **EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION**

Each essential skill is defined on the following page, along with a progression of competencies ("I can," "I understand," "I am" statements), as our students move through PCR-3's preK-12th grade system.



## GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

### Academic Language

Aware, Adaptive,  
Connected, Concerned,  
Invested, Resourceful,  
Responsive

Global Citizenship provides an opportunity to be connected to, concerned for, and conscientious of one's local community, as well as communities around the world. Through continued learning, and the exchange of ideas, we become better equipped to make informed decisions that impact our local and global communities.



#### I CAN:

- Communicate/collaborate with a group
- Learn from other's perspectives (*Seek first to understand*)
- Form relationships with others



#### I UNDERSTAND:

- Global Citizenship requires purposeful connections and networks
- Global Citizenship is a reciprocal relationship with others
- Global Citizenship requires deep understanding of others



#### I AM:

- Globally-connected with purposeful networks
- Knowledgeable of global concerns/affairs
- Able to navigate diverse perspectives

## PERSONAL CONNECTIONS

### Academic Language

Reflective, Engaged,  
Empathetic, Invested,  
Discerning, Intentional

Personal Connections allow us to identify our needs and the needs of others. We create personal connections in an effort to exchange knowledge that is mutually beneficial to the people involved, so as to create interdependent communities. These connections allow us to create a network of thinkers, doers, and innovators that result in win-win relationships.



#### I CAN:

- Form relationships with others
- Identify my feelings and needs
- Contribute to a team



#### I UNDERSTAND:

- Personal Connections are necessary for growth and development
- How to purposefully contribute to another individual or to a team
- How to navigate a digital landscape in an effort to forge healthy connections



#### I AM:

- Aware of my present and future needs
- Able to create and maintain a network of supportive relationships
- Able to meaningfully contribute to organizations, communities, and teams in a way that is mutually beneficial

## SELF AWARENESS

### Academic Language

Self-monitoring, Self-regulating, Resilient,  
Poised, Adaptive, Kind/  
Humane, Reflective

Self-Awareness enables us to understand our values, perceptions, biases, and behaviors. It empowers us as adaptive individuals to be fully aware of how our words and actions influence others around us.



#### I CAN:

- Regulate my emotions when events or circumstances change
- Recognize my personal strengths as well as my opportunities for growth
- Take responsibility for the results of my actions, both positive and negative



#### I UNDERSTAND:

- How I view myself
- How others view me
- How both views are interrelated



#### I AM:

- Able to identify and monitor my feelings and thinking in a given context
- Able to make choices that show regard/respect for myself and others
- Able to explain how my decisions and actions led to a specific result



## PROBLEM-SOLVING

### Academic Language

*Creative/Innovative,  
Critical/Analytical,  
Flexible, Curious,  
Versatile, Focused,  
Strategic*

Problem-solving engages us as solution-oriented individuals. We are solution-oriented when we utilize curiosity and versatility to pursue fair, equitable, and meaningful outcomes for ourselves and others.



#### I CAN:

- Think critically and creatively about solutions to problems
- Design solutions to complex problems
- Weigh various options and determine the best approach to a problem



#### I UNDERSTAND:

- Problem-solving is a strategic process
- Problem-solving utilizes both focus and flexibility
- Problem-solving requires persistent, creative, critical, and analytic thinking



#### I AM:

- Able to show initiative and innovation in my problem-solving processes
- Able to persevere in the face of a challenging problem
- Able to navigate a course of action that addresses a problem and recalibrate as necessary

## PERSONAL GROWTH

### Academic Language

*Visionary, Determined,  
Passionate, Persevering,  
Growth Mindset*

Personal Growth involves self-accountability, purposeful planning, and vision. Knowing how to assess where we are and where we'd like to be next leads to both personal and professional success. On our journey to become the best possible versions of ourselves, we acknowledge that progress, not perfection, is the goal, knowing that with mistakes and missteps come opportunities to learn and grow.



#### I CAN:

- Continuously seek opportunities for improvement
- Prioritize, plan, self-monitor, and self-regulate
- Set goals, plan action steps, adjust, and re-calibrate as needed



#### I UNDERSTAND:

- With mistakes and missteps come opportunities to learn and grow
- A strong work ethic, passion, and perseverance toward long-term goals will often take me farther than natural talent, privilege, and circumstance
- Grit is the hallmark of success



#### I AM:

- Invested in my pursuit of fulfillment
- Goal-Oriented and resourceful when evaluating my future path
- Intentionally executing a plan to become the best version of myself

## EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION

### Academic Language

*Clarity, Curiosity,  
Attention to Audience,  
Flexibility*

Effective Communication requires clear and coherent reading, writing, speaking, and listening. With ever-evolving networks, we are mindful of the needs and expectations of our intended audiences.



#### I CAN:

- Seek first to understand
- Write and speak with organized clarity in a timely manner
- Adapt to any given interaction — verbal, written, face-to-face, digital, or virtual



#### I UNDERSTAND:

- Communication involves negotiation, presentation, and persuasion
- My voice is a powerful tool in advocating for myself and others in order to affect change
- Appropriate tone, demeanor, and word choice are critical in how I am heard and viewed



#### I AM:

- Open and accepting of others' perspectives, recognizing that those different than my own can hold merit as well
- Clear and concise when expected and elaborate as needed
- Courageous enough to tactfully question actions which are inconsistent with my core values

