



## Welcoming, Caring, Respectful and Safe

How does Alberta Education define this principle?

- Student voice is valued and listened to
- High expectations are held for all students
- Diversity is celebrated

### What does welcoming, caring, respectful and safe look like at Catholic Central?

At CCH, in addition to our everyday conversations with students, we have two powerful instruments to ensure we are “hearing” our students – our Tell Them From Me Survey and our Student Round Tables. The information from these surveys gave us the impetus to create more spaces for student interaction at our school, specifically a student lounge area with comfortable seating and a ping-pong table, a study/test center, staffed by an assistant who can tutor students as needed and act as a reader or scribe for students who need help with tests, a Off-Campus/Career center, to provide a centralized area for our RAP, Work Experience and off-campus courses and “oohkaanaayiikaakii’ moap” (We are all striving for success), our FNMI center where our Graduation Coach and our FNMI Support Worker work together to provide support, nutrition, and instruction for all students, with a particular focus on our FNMI population.

“It’s nice to have our own space. I can come here and work on assignments and get something to eat. It helps keep me motivated to finish my work.”

Grade 10 student

“It’s a place where I can feel comfortable. I can meet my friends and get help with school work. I can also celebrate my culture here.”

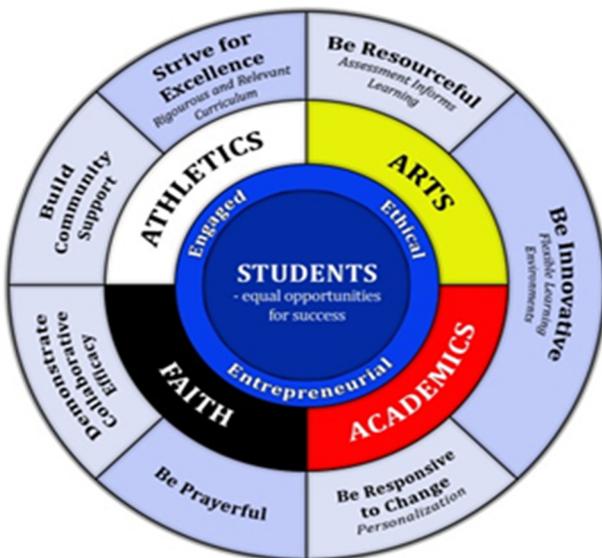
Grade 11 student

"When we created the, "We are all striving for success" space, we wanted students to take responsibility for their learning as well. We created a list of what students are "tasked" with, including, "Showing respect for all cultural groups and people while on their journey", and "placing the 'we' state of mind ahead of the 'I' state of mind as they walk their journey."

Kelsey Kobza  
Grad Coach

### What is the impact on students?

- Students have a designated place to access help –to receive a hot breakfast, de-stress before an exam, or get help with assignments and tests.
- Students are tasked with caring for these spaces and respecting all who use the space.
- Students see that their comments and voices are heard and their needs are responded to in positive ways.
- Community members are included in these spaces; the opening of the FNMI center included elders and Division personnel who participated in a smudging ceremony and blessing of the space.
- Students realize there are adults throughout the school who care for them and are willing to help them, even if they are not their classroom teacher.
- Students discover that "our school" includes all areas and that learning can occur just about anywhere in the building.



"I feel like there's always someplace to go. It's not just a bunch of classrooms where all we do is sit and have to work. It's nice to have spaces to relax. CCH is a really welcoming school."

Grade 10 student