



Frank M. Silvia Elementary School
1899 Meridian Street
Fall River, Massachusetts 02720
(508) 675-9811

Mr. Patrick Lenz, Principal
Ms. Jennifer Grafton, Dean of Teaching and Learning

Mrs. Kris Delaplain, Assistant Principal
Mrs. Melissa Homol, Dean of Student Support and Operations

January 2, 2019

Dear Silvia Community,

In our continued efforts to improve, the Silvia staff has been spending Professional Development, Instructional Leadership, and Common Planning Time to have discussions relative to the social and emotional wellness of our students. At the core of this work is the belief, and research behind such belief, programs that support students' development in communicating effectively, negotiating conflict, practicing empathy, understanding their own skills and abilities, managing their emotions and behavior, and other social and emotional skills can lead to better academic and life outcomes.

As a staff, we worked together to develop our own core beliefs relative to the social and emotional well-being of our students. These beliefs serve as the "why" we are committed to teaching our students how to achieve and maintain *self-awareness, self-management, social-awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision-making*. These beliefs will serve as our foundation as we continue to work together to integrate social and emotional wellness into all we do and as we create action steps to work towards such beliefs.

Silvia Elementary School's Social and Emotional Learning Core Beliefs are:

- We believe all students are entitled to a respectful, caring, and safe learning environment where they are encouraged to take risks in order to grow academically, emotionally and socially.
- We believe that recognizing and honoring diversity strengthens our ability to teach the whole child and build a sense of community.
- We believe all students will develop the coping skills necessary to build self reliance, perseverance, and self awareness in order to become intrinsically motivated independent thinkers in a collaborative environment.
- We believe mastery learning is best achieved when students have opportunities to apply skills in authentic situations.

Any feedback or questions are welcome. As always, we thank you for all your support.

Sincerely,

SILVIA STARS

*Stay safe * Treat others with kindness * Always do your best * Respect yourself, others, and the school*