

## Our Mission

Anderson School District Three takes **Pride** in creating teaching and learning environments for the **Purpose** of imparting **World Class Knowledge and Skills** into South Carolina Graduates who display **Passion** for the **Life and Career Characteristics** required to make a meaningful contribution to the community and society as a whole.

There are three core words that guide the purpose, vision and beliefs of Anderson School District Three and they are **Pride, Purpose and Passion**. We believe every position in the district has a profound impact on the lives of our students. It is people, not programs that are important and it is our people that give our work meaning and value. We want to exhibit **Pride** in the sense of doing our work to the best of our ability. This should be our guiding principle. Our **Purpose** primarily is to create learning and work environments where students are the focus, learning is the capstone, and service is the vehicle that accomplishes these tasks. **Passion** is the “want to”, the desire to wake up every morning inspired to fulfill our calling, and to serve each other along the way so our students will be the ultimate benefactors.

Anderson School District Three embraces the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate and the three tiers represented therein. Beginning with **World Class Knowledge** we realize and embrace the fact that our students are not competing locally, but rather internationally for acceptance into higher education and/or the workplace. To that end, we teach rigorous standards for kindergarten through twelfth grade to prepare our students for the college and careers of their choice. We have had a particular focus on STEAM curriculum as we are entering our third year in JET Toy in our elementary schools, second year with LEGO and rocket creations, and our first year with Gateway to Technology in our middle school. Each of these initiatives are leading to Project Lead the Way and Career Center course offerings to prepare our students for advanced coursework, training, and work opportunities with an emphasis on curriculum that encourages hands-on engagement, problem solving, and the use of technology for research, collaboration and project presentations. We anticipate moving into our new Career Center in 2018 in conjunction with Anderson School Districts Four and Five opening up even more opportunities for our students. For the past three years we have been adding rigorous coursework and pathways for our students in Biology and Chemistry as well as Dual Enrollment Pathways with two local Technical Colleges in Mechatronics, Welding, HVAC, and Agriculture.

We have a teaching and learning environment where **World Class Skills** are incorporated daily. It is crucial for our students to know how to apply learning, how to implement and use technology in a variety of ways, to collaborate with each other through project based learning, and to use creativity, innovation, and critical thinking as they problem solve. As an example, we provided Career Ready 101 for all juniors and seniors before they took the WorkKeys assessment.

We believe that our daily interaction with each other, our students and stakeholders should model **life and career characteristics**. As we work collaboratively to move our team forward, we use excellent interpersonal skills as this is a key ingredient for employability and success in life. We should model integrity in all we do. For teaching and learning tasks at hand, we exhibit perseverance, and an impeccable work ethic until our work is completed in a superb manner. We are self-starters, looking for opportunities to grow and learn as we incorporate **pride, purpose and passion** into every facet of our work and relationships.

We believe...

- Students are our highest priority
- All students have value and can learn
- Student learning guides our work
- All individuals are entitled to a safe school environment
- A quality education with a focus on academic excellence is a right of all individuals
- A positive support system at home and school contributes to learning
- Cultural diversity and individual differences strengthen our society
- All individuals should be challenged to attain their greatest potential
- Learning is a lifelong process
- Involvement of all stakeholders is imperative for a quality education