



Cooperative

at Allen Creek Elementary School

February 2019

The ACES qualities are the foundation of the culture of character at Allen Creek.

Accepting Cooperative Empathetic Supportive

These four traits were chosen as essential to create a school environment where ideas, backgrounds, and perspectives are tied together in a caring community.

Earlier in the school year, we sent out a newsletter detailing some of the ways we are learning about and promoting the quality of being accepting at Allen Creek. The second quality we are focusing on for the year is "Cooperative."

A person who is cooperative is someone who is willing to work with others. A cooperative person always pitches in to do their part of the work and also helps others when needed. They work well with others to achieve a common goal.

Accepting:
Embracing others' differences as well as your own.

Cooperative:
A willingness to work with others toward a common goal.

Empathetic:
When you understand how someone else is feeling.

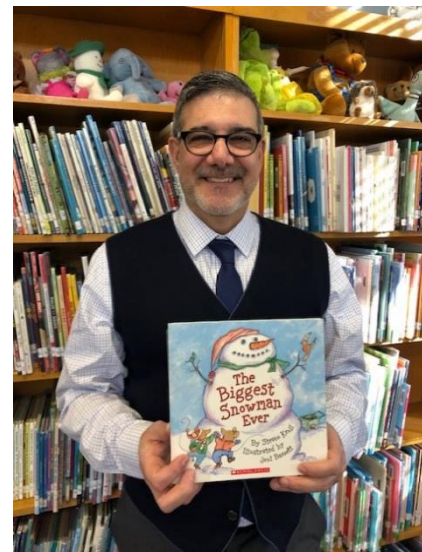
Supportive:
Providing encouragement toward others.

Principal's Book Pick

For this character trait, Mr. Biondi would like to highlight the book, *The Biggest Snowman* by Steven Kroll, illus. by Jeni Bassett.

One winter day in the town of Mouseville, the mayor announces a snowman contest. Whoever makes the biggest snowman will win a prize! Two friends, Clayton and Desmond, are excited and each start working individually. Eventually they realize that if they work together, they can make the biggest snowman of all!

This is a fun story about cooperativeness that makes a great winter read-aloud to share as a family.



Lessons That Foster a Cooperative Attitude

Here are some examples of what our students have been doing across disciplines:

- Classroom meetings
- Socratic seminars
- Cooperative castle building
- Shared pen activity
- STEM activities
- Breakout box activities
- Radio Active River Challenge
- Mock Caldecott activity



Family Discussion Ideas

It may be helpful to have a discussion with your child about what it means to be cooperative. Here are some suggestions of things to talk over:

- What are some ways that you can show that you are cooperative at school?
- What are some things you do at home that require you to be cooperative?
- What makes working with others fun? What makes it not fun?
- What is the difference between being cooperative and just working with others?

Family Read-Aloud Suggestions

