

## Social Justice Statement

- Diversity is more than a value, it is foundational to excellence.
- Social justice is an ongoing practice of teaching and learning.
- Equal access to rights and opportunities is essential for all people.

At Park Day School we are committed to being a school where everyone feels valued and respected. We confront our own biases, welcome perspectives and stories from each person in our community, and seek common purpose. When each member of our community is seen for being their full authentic selves, we can come together to act in courageous and compassionate ways to shape a more equitable and sustainable world.

Practicing social justice is everyone's responsibility. Repairing unfair biases and discrimination in the community's culture benefits the whole community.

## We thrive as individuals when...

- We are kind and brave in our interactions with each other.
- We ask for what we need, and offer and ask how we can help.
- We speak for ourselves, from our own experiences and observations.
- We learn from our mistakes and understand that accountability helps build positive change.

## We thrive as a community when...

- We utilize professional development, parent education, inclusive school policies and practices, and systems of restoration and repair to grow in our comprehensive commitment to social justice.
- We design and implement intentional, developmentally appropriate curriculum that is embraced by all members of the community.
- We approach our interpersonal communications using compassion, inviting different perspectives, listening with an open mind, and withholding judgement.
- We foster positive relationships through interactions that are respectful, authentic and direct.

**Practice:** In order to grow as changemakers in our communities we practice empathy and compassion. We understand that we all have different experiences and different ways of feeling and contributing to our environment and our collective learning. Within Park Day School's experiential, child-centered, progressive framework, we share ideas openly and with growing cultural competency. This enables us to learn from our mistakes, identify and explore systems of privilege and inequity, and face challenging conversations.

**Pledge:** Park Day School is committed to social justice in our teaching practice, and throughout school life. We uphold the standard that our entire community is part of this work. We embrace diverse perspectives and pledge to continuously assess who we are and how we interact with one another to empower our own agency for positive change.