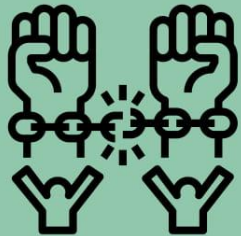




# CORE VALUES OF THE PFS COMMUNITY

## Freedom



### What does freedom mean/look like at PFS:

No classes, dictatorships, or nitpicking. Being able to do things yourself and take the first step towards something, while also being able to ask for help if needed. Getting together to create/plan something. Being able to go off campus and govern your schedule. Freedom to choose how to spend time and freedom from coercion. No required academics. Restraints of our own creation. Use your time in any way you desire as long as your choice isn't infringing on other's rights or violating rules that School Meeting has passed. It means that students are free from evaluation, testing, and other standard hallmarks of conventional education unless they seek those things out.

### What does trust mean/look like at PFS?

Allowing people as much time and space as they need to figure themselves out, supporting students' work when they request it regardless of disagreements with their approach. Holding yourself accountable. Handing responsibility over to students. Respecting each other and not having power dynamics. Openness and being able to rely on people around you. Allowing people to solve their own problems. Setting a good example for other kids young and old. Trusting that children can make decisions for themselves no worse than adults can. Trust that people will generally do the right thing without constant supervision. At PFS we trust people to explore, play, struggle, fail, succeed, and grow. Trust means making space for others. It means having faith that others can and will handle their own affairs.

## Trust



## Responsibility



### What does responsibility mean/look like at PFS?

Each person is responsible for figuring out what to do with their own time. Accepting the consequences of violating group norms. Maintaining the school both in terms of infrastructure and culture. Following the rules within the community. Owning your decisions and actions. Owning your education and your safety (emotional and physical). Helping other kids at school. Holding others accountable. Writing schoolmates up. Considering the well being of others in the community as well as the continued existence of the school. In short, it means handling your business and learning about who you are and who you want to be--know thyself. It means engaging with the democratic structure of the school when you need help with a problem that you can't solve on your own (interpersonal or otherwise). It means advocating for yourself.

### What does accessibility mean/look like at PFS?

Central location and lower than average tuition. Everyone has an equal opportunity to do whatever they want and have all the support to back it. Commitment to allowing anyone who wants to be here to attend as a student, regardless of the socioeconomic situation of the family. We are all school meeting members. Doesn't matter who you are or what you are, everyone is welcome. Access to whatever resources (within reason) desired, or at least trying as hard as possible to get them. Accessibility means the school being available and accessible to anyone between the ages of 4-19 who have a desire to attend and whose parents want them to attend.

## Accessibility

