



Accepting

at Allen Creek Elementary School

October 2018

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

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.

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.

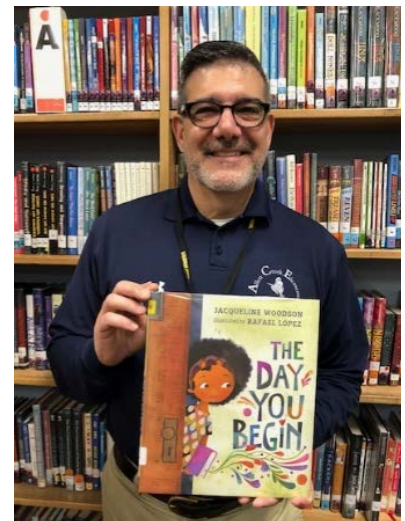
The first quality we are focusing on for the year is "Accepting." A person who is accepting allows others to be exactly who they are. They don't judge or label a person based on their strengths, weaknesses, or differences. An accepting person makes you feel good about yourself because you can be who you are.

Self-acceptance is also a key part of the trait. We want our students to know who they are and to celebrate what makes them unique.

Principal's Schoolwide Read-Aloud

To kick off the school year, Mr. Biondi went to each class to read aloud the book *The Day You Begin*. The book was written by Jacqueline Woodson, the current National Ambassador for Young People's Literature, and illustrated by Rafael López.

The book is about being brave even when you might feel different and alone. The characters show the variety of forms diversity can take, with students feeling self-conscious about their names, the foods they eat, and even their summer vacation activities. The author encourages students to take the first step to reach out and make connections.



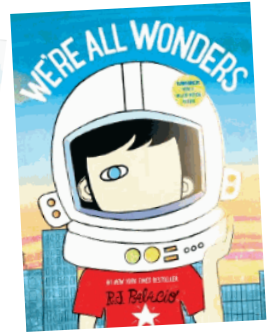
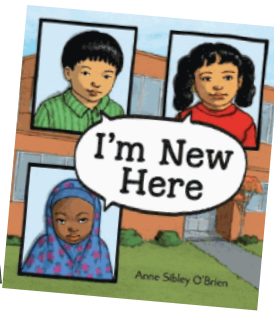
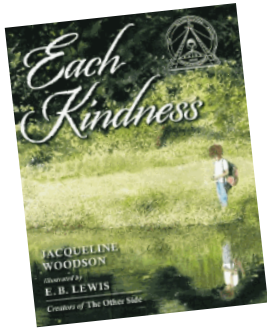
Classroom Lessons That Foster Acceptance

Here are some examples of what our classrooms have been doing to foster acceptance:

- Morning meetings
- All About Me bags
- Getting to Know You Scavenger Hunt
- Diverse Stories Book Talks
- STEAM Activity – Learning to Accept Others' Ideas to Meet a Common Goal



Family Read-Aloud Suggestions



Family Discussion Ideas

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

- What are some ways that people show acceptance?
- How do you act when someone is accepting? How do you act when they are not?
- What's different about you? What makes you special?
- What are your strengths and areas for improvement?
- Sometimes other kids might feel like outsiders. What can you do to help make them feel accepted?

