# GROUNDING VIRTUES

**Words That Matter**

The words we use shape how we understand ourselves, how we interpret the world, how we treat others.

**Hospitality**

Hospitality is a bridge to all the great virtues, but it is immediately accessible. You don’t have to love or forgive or feel compassion to extend hospitality.

**Humility**

Humility is a companion to curiosity, surprise, and delight. Spiritual humility is not about getting small. It is about encouraging others to be big.

**Patience**

Human transformation takes time — longer than we want it to — but it is what is necessary for social transformation. A long, patient view of time will replenish our sense of our capacities and our hope for the world.

**Generous Listening**

Listening is more than being quiet while others have their say. It is about presence as much as receiving; it is about connection more than observing.

**Adventurous Civility**

Civility, in our world of change, is about creating new possibilities for living forward while being different and even continuing to hold profound disagreement.
What is the best decision you have ever made?

Why?
What is the one thing you would like to learn this year?
If you could teach one thing to the generation before/after you, what would it be?
Define what a successful school year would look like to you.
YOU are an influencer. What do you hope to achieve?
What is the best advice you have ever received?

Did you follow it?
Discuss the importance of being a good citizen and contributing to society.
In the age of cancel-culture, how do we find constructive ways to hold someone accountable and move forward?
How do we take pride in our state’s history, but also recognize the complexities of its founding?
If you could make one rule that everyone had to follow, what would it be?

Why?
If you had a superpower, what would it be?

Why?
How do we create an environment that fosters belonging and the courage to speak up?
Name one thing that makes you nervous about the new school year?