**ELMS Core Beliefs:**

**1. We believe in collaboration and shared leadership to continually improve and promote a professional learning community. “We are Crew, not passengers.”**

We will participate in discussions and come to consensus as a staff on school improvement decisions.

**2. We believe in Expeditionary Learning’s expanded definition of student achievement: Mastery of knowledge and skill, high quality student work, and development of student character.**

We will implement EL’s Core Practices robustly, so that our students will have greater engagement in school and community, and will achieve at high levels.

**3. We believe in challenging ourselves, our colleagues, and our students to reach our potential as learners and leaders ~ to do more than we think we can.**

We will provide opportunities for students to be continually challenged physically, socially and academically. (e.g. outdoor adventure, fieldwork, E-Nights, Crew…)

**4.  We believe in building relationships among school personnel, students, families and community to assist students in their continuing academic and personal growth.**

We will provide Crew, parental involvement events, community service opportunities, and speakers from the community.

**5.** **We believe in sustaining high quality and rigorous expeditions.**

We will document, analyze student work and reflect on expeditions for future improvement

**6.** **We believe in promoting work habits that will prepare students for success in high school and beyond.**

We will give deliberate attention to the habits of work and learning (HOWLs) in order to sustain a legacy of EL excellence.

**7. We believe that team cross-curricular planning is essential for authentic learning, student engagement, and high levels of achievement.**

We will hold structured, agenda driven, and recorded team meetings regularly.

**8. We believe in developing our students’ civic and leadership skills.**

We will provide our students with opportunities to contribute on a local and global scale and to develop leadership capabilities in a variety of settings including Crew, community meetings and the classroom, in order to create active participants within our school and our community.