

Courage to be Yourself

Brainstorm by
Te Mata students



We play

Play is a mind-set that brings new energy to learning and sparks creative solutions.

We make their day

Through acts of kindness or unforgettable engagement, you can turn even routine encounters into special memories.

We choose our attitude

We have the power to choose our response to what life brings, and find opportunities that we may never have imagined.

We are present

We are true, mindful and whole hearted to ourselves and each other.



We embrace the fish philosophy from Seattle

In 2006, Te Mata School explored many educational and business models when trying to define Te Mata School's Culture. We decided that we would adopt John Yokoyama's business model of his 'World Famous Pike Place Fish Market in Seattle'. He lives by these three pledges:

1. Make a world famous difference in the lives of everyone who comes into my business.
2. Empower the creative people I work with so that they can make a world famous difference for each other, the customers, the community and beyond; and
3. Demonstrate what is possible when you empower employees.