

At Cedar Bluff Middle we have had many discussions about what excellence looks, sounds, and feels like in the school and classroom. Students and staff shared their ideas, which were then compiled into two paragraphs. Their exact words were actually used to describe an excellent classroom and school with about 80 to 85% of the words and ideas coming from the students. Below are the paragraphs that describe Cedar Bluffs definition of our excellent school and classroom.

Excellence at Cedar Bluff Middle School

An excellent school is a community where people are passionate about learning, where students and staff are safe and free to express themselves. They help each other perform at their highest levels, encourage each other, respect one another, and stand up against bullying. They help those who struggle and are willing to learn to better themselves. They can be described as welcoming, friendly, happy, positive, and helpful. They are a family. When you enter the school you will see smiles, laughter, teamwork, loyalty, energy, trust, and kindness. Everyone is doing their best, giving their all.

In an excellent classroom students and teachers are excited, actively engaged, and treat each other with respect. Students are learning what they really need to know to be successful in real life and are discussing important matters that can one day change the world. Teachers and students have a passion for what they are doing, feel safe taking risks, encourage and support each other, do their best work, accomplish something together, learn from mistakes, and take responsibility for their learning and contributions. The classroom is a positive community where everyone is energized and willing to work for their own and their classmates' success.

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“Be the change that you wish to see in the world.”

— [Mahatma Gandhi](#)