

PORTRAIT OF A GRADUATE



The **UCPS Portrait of a Graduate** is a roadmap for students. It highlights five essential skills they will need in school and life. The focus areas are innovative leader, a resilient problem-solver, a key contributor, an effective communicator and a skilled collaborator. It prepares students for their next steps, whether it's college, military service or employment.

Throughout the year, there will be solid evidence of how students are learning about the Portrait of a Graduate traits. Teachers and administrators are constantly collaborating to create opportunities in daily instruction, school-wide activities, clubs, etc.

For elementary students (PK-2), envision them creating skits promoting kindness and teamwork, with assigned roles, chosen scenarios and teacher guidance. For elementary students (3-5), picture them brainstorming podcasts about a specific topic, recording it and sharing it. In middle school (6-8), think of them tackling a virtual escape room, where they must use their answers to unlock sections by solving brain teasers; requiring correct answers and perseverance to progress. As for high schoolers (9-12), imagine them collaborating on local and global issues, where effective communication helps them organize and leads them to offer a piece of legislation as a solution.

These traits aren't just words – they're tools that students use no matter where they are in their learning.

Families can make a difference by applying these skills at home, too. Find ways to be creative and solve problems in enjoyable ways. Have open conversations and do activities together as a team.



AN INNOVATIVE LEADER

Rallies others toward a common goal through creativity, integrity and determination. Works to connect with other people through empathy and partnership.



A RESILIENT PROBLEM-SOLVER

Capitalizes on productive struggle, inquiry, discourse and social learning to think critically and solve relevant and meaningful problems. Lifelong learning is driven by the desire for continuous improvement.



A KEY CONTRIBUTOR

Actively participates in the community and is civic-minded, independent, and financially literate. Meets the demands of future opportunities with resilience and generosity.



AN EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATOR

Accomplished in the skills of reading, writing, listening, speaking, and the use of technology. Possesses confidence and works in an organized manner.



A SKILLED COLLABORATOR

Works respectfully as a productive member of a team. Demonstrates flexibility and adaptability for success in a rapidly-changing world.