

HOUSE STRUCTURE COMES TO EIMS

AMBITIE **KAAWAAN** **OPOWATUM** **SAGESSE**



Houses - Meaning and Purpose

Each house name was selected purposefully by staff members. We chose four names that represent important cultures in our community. Also, we chose words that speak to the school culture we would like to create.

AMBITIE

- pronounced am-bee-sea
- Dutch word for ambition
- house traits are ambition, bravery, persistence, determination

KAAWAAN

- Philipino word for compassion
- house traits are respect, compassion, kindness

OPOWATUM

- Cree word for dreamer
- house traits are dream, passion, inspire, create

SAGESSE

- pronounced sa-j-essss
- French word for wisdom
- house traits are wisdom, strength, energy, courage

Why Houses?

The house structure is designed to create a sense of family and belonging in our school. Students already have a sense of belonging to a grade level and within their grade teams, teachers and students work together in creative ways. Houses will provide us with opportunities to build positive connections and relationships between students and staff in cross-graded teams. Houses will work together to build school culture, foster and encourage character education, and move forward the values of our school.

Every week, students will be engaged in House Time where they will be doing team-building activities, community service projects, school spirit activities, and character education. Students will be able to earn house points by following MP3 expectations, achieving excellence, 'winning' friendly team competitions, uplifting their peers, and being good citizens of our school and community.



House Shirts

Every student in our school received a house shirt today as they were inducted into their houses. We will ask students to wear their house shirts on house days, which will be announced weekly. We would encourage students to only wear their house shirt on house days so that shirts will last. House shirts have been labelled with the students' names. These shirts are worth \$10 each, so please do not lose them.

On Tuesday, May 17 we will be having a "housewarming" afternoon, so students should wear their house shirts on Tuesday.

