

## GUIDING VALUES

We will work toward our mission guided by a set of values which we believe to be imperative to improving urban education.

***Results Oriented:*** We are problem solvers. We identify challenges in urban education and will work to ensure improvement. Identifying problems is not enough. Achieving excellence means maintaining a shared culture of high expectations for ourselves and for our students — a culture in which attaining specific goals and benchmarks must be the starting point for identifying new ones.

***Collaborative Inquiry:*** Educational challenges are multifaceted; therefore, they must be addressed from both disciplinary and interdisciplinary perspectives; using the expertise of researchers and practitioners from the community, academy, and the private sector. We are committed to developing partnerships that enhance the condition of urban education and work with the community.

***Combine Research and Practice:*** Urban education needs the best ideas from theory and practice, and the Rossier School embraces and combines both. This requires critical reflection of the practices, programs, and institutions of schooling, standing outside the framework of conventional norms and assumptions.

***Innovation:*** Excellence in urban education means thinking outside of common problem/solution identification. We are an institution committed to innovative solutions that often emerge outside of traditional structures and cultures.

***Commitment to Diversity:*** Meeting the mission of excellence in urban education means believing all people can learn, and striving to improve the education of all. We also believe in a diverse scholarly community (race, ethnicity, gender, social class, sexual orientation, epistemological differences, among others) in which multiple points of view are nourished.