## Statement on Diversity, Inclusion and Equity

The Mellen School District honors the uniqueness of each individual and embraces diverse backgrounds, values, and points of view to build a strong, inclusive community and to prepare students for a global society.

The best education occurs in a school comprised of students, teachers, and families drawn from a diverse socio-economic backgrounds, cultures, races, religions, and sexual orientations.

A diverse school alone is not enough. We seek to build on this commitment by striving to create a truly inclusive school: one where all students are welcomed and supported.

The Mellen School District is committed to providing every student an equal opportunity to participate and thrive in the academic, extra-curricular and co-curricular programs.

The Mellen School District believes that excellence for all students can be achieved by:

- Assuring that all Mellen School District staff members, with deliberate effort, continue to examine and eliminate institutional beliefs, policies, practices, and teaching that perpetuate disparities in achievement.
- We implement programs and practices that allows equitable access and enable all students to thrive academically, athletically, physically, socially, and emotionally.
- Providing all Mellen students with access to resources, opportunities, support, and interventions that maximize academic success and promotes social emotional growth.
- Identifying and removing barriers in our current policies, procedures, systems, or practices that limit opportunities for students.
- We teach and practice responsibility towards and engagement in our school, our community and the world.
- Ensuring every individual in the Mellen School District community is in a respectful environment, where hate speech is not tolerated and all forms of diversity are accepted.