

## Resilient and Self-Directed Scholar

**Rationale:** Robbinsville students need to take risks and ultimately make independent and informed decisions in an ever-changing world. Author of *Life, the Truth, and Being Free*, Steve Maraboli stated, “Life doesn’t get easier or more forgiving, we get stronger and more resilient.” Self-directed scholars of the 21st century are able to set goals, initiate resolutions by seeking creative approaches, and adjust their thinking in light of difficult situations. Resilient students are able to take risks without fear of failure and overcome setbacks by utilizing experiences to confront new challenges. Resilient and self directed scholars will consistently embrace opportunities to initiate solutions and overcome obstacles.

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As an **educator** of a resilient and self-directed scholar, I will:

- Create opportunities for students to grow from setbacks by providing timely feedback
  - Foster a classroom culture that emphasizes the benefits of remaining hopeful in spite of failure
  - Design experiences that require students to be innovative in exploring origins and resolutions to problems
  - Teach through tangible examples and experiences that learning resilience and self-direction means adopting a flexible stance and persevering attitude
  - Utilize teacher language in the classroom that is positive and reflective of hope in light of setbacks
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### **Students:**

In order to be a resilient learner, I will:

- Accept setbacks and learn from my mistakes
- Maintain positive language
- Build strong interpersonal relationships
- Practice self-care and self-awareness
- Persevere in challenging situations
- Recognize and capitalize on my strengths
- Work effectively in a climate of ambiguity and changing priorities
- Demonstrate the ability to be flexible and adapt
- Generate and employ strategies to improve weaknesses

In order to be a self-directed learner, I will:

- Follow through on commitments

- Organize my time and materials
- Manage my behavior so that I remain focused
- Take ownership of work and actions
- Know when and how to seek help and assistance
- Find and use information from a variety of resources
- Demonstrate a willingness to take a risk in order to learn
- Set and meet goals, even in the face of obstacles and competing pressure
- Assess my work in order to identify areas of strengths and weaknesses

**Sources:**

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Raising Self-Reliant Children in a Self-Indulgent World - Stephen Glenn and Jane Nelsen