Critical Thinking
Empathy
Learner's Mindset
Perseverance
Communication
Collaboration
Adaptability

North Dakota's Portrait of a Graduate
CRITICAL THINKING
A North Dakotan…
• Consistently improves the quality of one's own thinking by being socially aware, questioning bias and assumptions.
• Applies disciplined thinking that is clear, rational, open-minded.
• Understands the global perspectives while also proposing solutions that are mindful to the impact they may have on the local communities.

EMPATHY
A North Dakotan…
• Seeks, understands, and productively responds to the points of view, feelings, and experiences of others.
• Embraces, global, local, and personal responsibility for making the world a better place.
• Understands that addressing societal challenges often requires compromise while promoting understanding of complex issues and varying perspectives.

PERSEVERANCE
A North Dakotan…
• Understands the relationship between effort, attitude, and achievement.
• Embraces the idea that failure is a part of success and quickly pivots to keep moving forward.
• Navigates adversity by identifying its source and duration, utilizing strengths and available supports.
• Demonstrates grit, curiosity and positive attitudes while on a life-long quest for knowledge and skills.

COMMUNICATION
A North Dakotan…
• Listens to understand before communicating to be understood.
• Articulates thoughts and ideas effectively in a variety of forms and contexts.
• Uses communications for a range of purposes and audiences (e.g. to self-advocate, build positive relationships, resolve conflict, achieve shared goals,) to give and receive feedback.

COLLABORATION
A North Dakotan…
• Assumes shared responsibility to utilize strengths to build collective commitment and action.
• Contributes to group effectiveness in pursuit of a shared vision.
• Possesses a team mentality that elicits diverse perspectives and contributions.

ADAPTABILITY
A North Dakotan…
• Responds productively and positively to feedback, praise, setbacks, and criticism.
• Understands, negotiates, and balances diverse views and beliefs to reach workable solutions.
• Analyzes conditions to create a plan utilizing self-awareness and self-management to overcome them.

LEARNER’S MINDSET
A North Dakotan…
• Embraces a commitment to lifelong learning while approaching their pursuits with passion.
• Possesses the desire to learn, unlearn, and relearn.