



# R.I.S.E. & Shine

## Character Education Program

At Lee Road Elementary School, character education is a cornerstone of student growth and community building. Our program, **R.I.S.E.**, begins in elementary school and follows students into middle and high school, creating a consistent and supportive framework for character development across the district.

### **R.I.S.E. stands for:**

- **R – Respect & Responsibility:** Students and staff show respect for themselves, others, and property at all times, while taking accountability for their actions and academic responsibilities.
- **I – Integrity:** We demonstrate honesty and fairness in all aspects of social and academic life.
- **S – Safety & Staying Healthy:** Our community cooperates to maintain a safe, friendly, and supportive environment, while making choices that promote health and well-being.
- **E – Empathy:** Students and staff are encouraged to understand and value the feelings of others, and to show compassion to those in need.

## Strong Inside, Kind Outside

This year's theme, "*Strong Inside, Kind Outside*," reinforces the belief that true strength comes from practicing self-control, resilience, and personal growth on the inside, while expressing kindness, empathy, and compassion toward others on the outside.

## Curriculum Highlights

The R.I.S.E. program is woven into the school year through monthly lessons, assemblies, and family connections that focus on key character traits. Each theme is reinforced with age-appropriate activities, classroom discussions, and schoolwide initiatives. Students learn to:

- **Regulate their emotions and behavior** through strategies such as the Zones of Regulation.
- **Build self-esteem and show respect** for themselves and others.
- **Develop empathy and friendships** by understanding diverse perspectives.
- **Practice responsibility and integrity** in schoolwork and relationships.
- **Express gratitude and celebrate growth** as they reflect on personal and academic progress.

Through R.I.S.E., Lee Road and the district community work together to ensure that students are not only prepared academically, but also develop into responsible, caring citizens who are **strong inside and kind outside**.