



What's so important about being a cooperative?

What's so powerful about this idea? How is it beneficial and to whom?

The Staff:

Being a teacher here is different. You are an “owner” of the school. You sit on the board and have a direct say on the direction of the school. You have a say about your salary; you decide what to teach and how to teach; you vote on how school funds should be spent and what tuition to charge. Each teacher is empowered.

The teachers are also the administrators. Be it on a core administrative committee or as a titular administrator, the teachers run the school quite literally. The administrators know exactly what the teachers need and vice versa. The synergy is amazingly practical—and cost effective.

The Students:

Being a cooperative is as much a way of being as a state of mind. It's an environment that fosters teamwork and collaboration as well as a commitment to self.

Learning to learn and contributing as a member of a team for the benefit of the whole is a fundamental part of a progressive education. Students become thinking, caring learners who are self-motivated to do what is right for themselves and the group. It means that the way you learn, the way you think, the way you are is important and of value to those around you.

The Parents and Synergy Community

We ask a lot of our community. We ask them to sit on our board and to be active members of one or more of numerous committees. Each and every member of our community is an active contributor to our cooperative because they care and they understand that their actions make a difference.