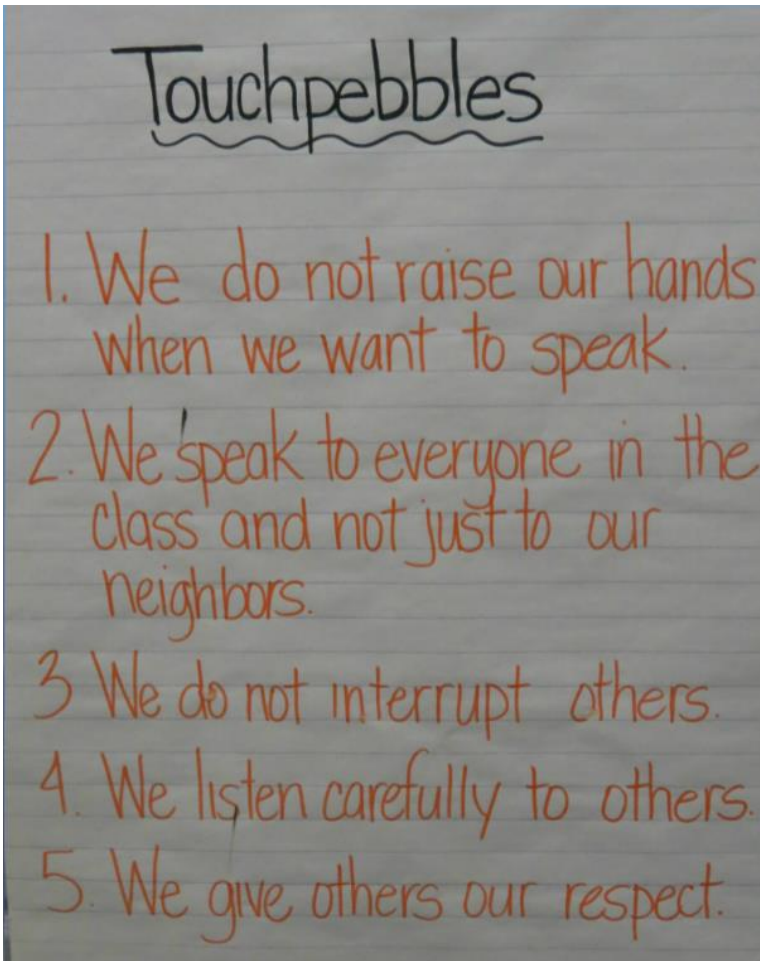


Touchpebbles

"Through their engagement in Touchpebbles discussions, students learn several skills essential to their development as well-rounded learners. These skills include the ability to listen carefully—both to one another and to the text—to speak clearly and organize their thoughts, and to function independently. Through the practice of these skills, students learn to speak to their classmates instead of looking to the teacher for praise or approval. The flexibility of a Touchpebbles discussion encourages freedom of expression while the structures, ground rules, and attention to discussion dynamics ensure that this freedom is used productively and responsibly. " - www.touchstones.org



Teachers participate in a Touchpebbles training as they learn to maximize the opportunities presented by the discussion circles.



After reading the writings of various authors from Aesop to Francis Bacon to Malcolm X, students hold an open-ended discussion around morals and values.