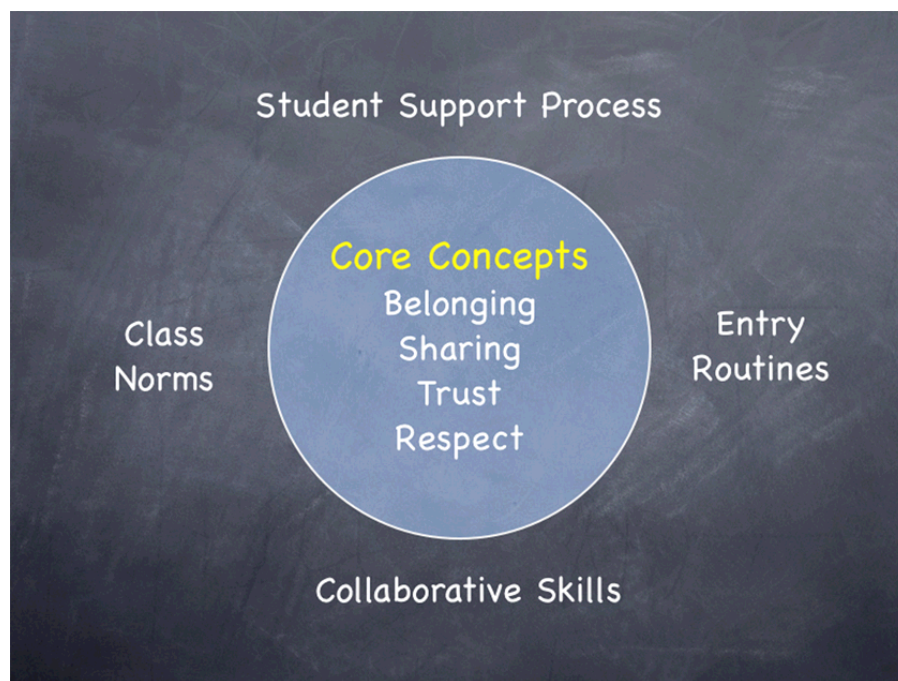


# The Supportive Classroom

The Supportive Classroom Curriculum was developed with funding from the United States Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs from 1997 - 2000. The project was a collaborative effort involving a Curriculum Design Team of classroom teachers, special education teachers, related service providers, administrators, and community members and 14 classrooms. Since the development of the curriculum, it has been used extensively by an additional 11 schools as a part of Vermont's Character Education Grant funded by the United States Department of Education (2001 - 2006).

The Supportive Classroom is intended to facilitate the creation of a classroom environment in which all children and adults feel safe, supported and cared for in order to allow each member of the classroom community to be successful. The curriculum consists of the five key elements depicted below:



## In Supportive Classrooms:

- The **Core Concepts** of Trust, Sharing, Belonging and Respect are taught, modeled and practiced throughout the school day.
- **Classroom Norms** (e.g., cooperate and help each other; respect self/others/property) are developed jointly by students and instructors to provide a general

set of behavior expectations that support the core concepts of trust, sharing, belonging and respect.

- **Collaborative Skill Instruction** and practice on skills that support the class norms are integrated into activities throughout the day.

- **Entry Routines** are used to promote a sense of recognition and belonging, prepare students to concentrate on learning, and facilitate positive transitions from home to school and between activities or classes.

- A **Student Support Process** is used to develop Success Plans for each student based upon their strengths, interests and needs. For students who present intensive behavior or learning challenges positive behavior plans and/or activity inclusion plans are also developed to maximize their participation in classroom and other school and community activities.

For more information on the Supportive Classroom please refer to:

- \* The Supportive Classroom Website:

<http://www.uvm.edu/~wfox/SupportiveClassroom.html>

- \* The Supportive Classroom Blog: <http://tfox.blog.uvm.edu/supportiveclass/>

- \* The Supportive Classroom Manual be be purchased (\$25.00) by contacting:

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