

# Edgemont Wrestling Vision Statement

**Together, we will build Edgemont Wrestling into the best athletic program in New York competitively AND in terms of personal development.**

Anything is possible when a group of driven people rally together around a common mission and set of values. Our mission is to teach kids the blueprint for success throughout their lives, in any endeavor. Wrestling is simply our vehicle for teaching these lessons and winning is the byproduct.

We will intentionally build a strong, positive culture of deep caring amongst our wrestlers and coaches, knowing they'll need to lean on each other to persevere and rise above the adversity they'll face, emerging stronger, more confident and more resilient each time. When you help someone else become a champion, you're helping yourself as well. We will not leave anyone behind.

We will build leaders and champions on the mat and in life by constantly putting our wrestlers in challenging situations; maintaining a sharp focus on our PantherTough philosophy, core values, and standards of excellence; and by caring about our student-athletes as people first, athletes second.

Our wrestlers will graduate from our program with a tremendous sense of pride, confidence, comradery and preparedness to conquer whatever life throws at them. They'll feel equipped to achieve any goal they set. This is the ultimate reward, from which they'll reap benefits for life.

We will have nearly 100% retention at all levels from year-to-year. Our kids will be engaged and enjoy coming to practice each day. By the time they graduate they'll be fully invested in our program and each other, understand what it takes to be successful in wrestling and in life, and realize they're capable of greatness if they choose to maintain the simple habits that greatness requires. Our kids will make the connection that what makes you successful in wrestling will make you successful in any endeavor and they will apply that in their academics and other areas of their lives. Our kids will be respectful leaders in the classroom, the school and the community.

On the mat, our team will produce State Champions and All-State wrestlers every year. This competitive success will be a byproduct of the culture we create. Every year we will have kids go on to compete at the collegiate level and thrive in college academically. Our HS athletes will be committed to training in the off-season, as their schedule allows, and living a

championship lifestyle. Our kids will go out of their way to support each other, help each other succeed, encourage each other, and lead and serve each other.

We, as a coaching staff, will be great role models for our program's mission, philosophy and values. Each of us will be empowered to constantly and proactively seek out ways to improve on this model. We will all take ownership of our roles in the program and work to improve ourselves, together, year after year. We'll be ego-less and work together for a common cause. When necessary, we'll challenge each other to get better for the good of the kids.

Our parents will be invested in the success of their kids, because we'll do a great job educating them on the value of high school athletics in their sons' and daughters' lives for creating excellent young men and women. Our parents will all buy into the philosophy and mission of our program and will be extremely supportive of their children's endeavors, without being overbearing or over-involved.

As the head coach, I take full responsibility for everything in our program - the buck stops with me. Each year I'll intentionally work with our coaching staff to grow professionally and help them develop into better leaders.

This is a lofty vision. It won't happen on its own and it won't happen overnight, but together, we will make this vision a reality over time.

# PantherTough Philosophy

"To build champions on the mat and in life through love, positive leadership and a relentless focus on the process of excellence."

## PantherTough Core Values

- **Improvement** – constant focus on effort and getting better everyday
  - Embrace failure as a necessary step on the road to success.
  - Focus on the process, not the outcome. Control what you can control.
  - Today, be better than yesterday. Tomorrow, be better than today.
  - There is no “I can’t...” unless it’s followed by “...yet. But I will.”
  - Leave the culture of this program stronger than you found it.
  
- **Accountability** – be the person everyone knows they can depend on
  - Take ownership – no excuses, no finger-pointing, no complaining, no defending.
  - Do what you say you're going to do, when you say you're going to do it.
  - Be a finisher – finish what you start...no quitting.
  - Always compete with class and sportsmanship.
  - Your actions express your priorities.
  
- **Family** – recognize you're part of something bigger than yourself – “It’s not about you.”
  - Respect each other and your differences.
  - Always serve and always protect your teammates.
  - Offer support before criticism.
  - No such thing as “it’s not my job.”
  - You stand on the shoulders of those around you and those who came before you. No one has ever accomplished anything great “by themselves.”
  
- **Habits** – consistency is the number one key to success in anything – there's NEVER a shortcut.
  - Practice is everything. Be there everyday.
  - Every single day/rep matters.
  - Your habits dictate your ceiling.
  
- **Joy** – enjoy the sport, embrace the process, love each other
  - Love the process. Show it with your energy level.
  - Enjoy our time together. We don't ever “have to.” We “get to.”
  - Take a second to appreciate the journey. Know that the best is yet to come.
  - Always express gratitude.