

STATEMENT OF GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

In seeking to carry out the pledge of the State of Iowa to establish education as a birthright of every child, the Board declares its aim to provide, within the financial limitations set by the community, the best educational opportunities possible so that all our children will succeed, both personally and as citizens of the State of Iowa and of this nation. The Board and all persons associated with the school district will direct their efforts to this end.

The goals of the public schools of the district will be to permit and assist every child to:

- acquire the greatest possible understanding of him/herself and an appreciation of his/her worth as an individual and as a member of society.

- acquire an understanding and appreciation of and to form satisfying and responsible relationships with persons belonging to the many social, cultural and ethnic groups different from his/her own.

- acquire to the fullest extent possible for his/her a mastery of the basic skills in the use of the language arts -- listening, speaking, writing, reading, spelling, and grammar

- acquire the skills of mathematics for obtaining information, communicating effectively, thinking critically, reasoning logically and solving problems.

- acquire basic information pertaining to the principles of the natural, physical, biological, and social sciences, the historical record, and current events.

- acquire the desire and the ability to express his/herself creatively in one or more of the fine and creative arts and to appreciate the aesthetic expressions found in the art of others.

- acquire the attitudes associated with responsible citizenship for effective participation in the decision-making process of the public institutions of the community, the state, the nation and the world.

- acquire to the fullest extent possible the ability to conceive, perceive, understand, and appreciate the inter-relationship of all academic disciplines to enhance and enrich understandings derived in the separate subject areas.

- acquire the knowledge, understandings, skills, and appreciations that encourage his/her responsible, successful, and creative participation for effective personal and family living, both as a producer and a consumer.

- acquire knowledge, habits and attitudes that promote personal health and cleanliness, public physical, mental and emotional well-being, and cooperation among individuals.

- acquire an understanding of ethical principles and values and to develop an understanding of his/her own worth, abilities, potentials, and limitations to enable him/her to take full advantage of life's rewarding opportunities.

- learn to enjoy the process of learning and to acquire the skills necessary for the successful completion of high school or an equivalent program of secondary education, for a lifetime of continuous earning and adaptation to rapid change, and for the constructive use of

leisure time.

- acquire an understanding of career roles, the relatedness of learning experiences to real life, and the importance of high school education for placement in a job or in programs of higher education.

- acquire the necessary skills and abilities to identify, evaluate and efficiently use ever changing electronic or mechanical devices appropriately to manage information, to learn and to enhance the quality of life.

- acquire the skills of of reasoning which include the critical thinking skills of analyzing, connecting, and evaluating.

- acquire the study skills necessary for future school or work which include self evaluation, goal setting, time management, monitoring attitudes, motivation, locating information, selecting information, organizing information, communicating information, and memory training.

Toward these ends the following process goals are established.

- All instruction will bear a meaningful relationship to present and future needs and/or interests of pupils.

- Each pupil will have significant opportunities, consistent with his/her age, for helping him/her to determine the nature of his/her educational experiences.

- Specialized and individualized kinds of educational experiences will be available for meeting the particular needs of every pupil.

- Teachers and pupils will have significant opportunities to participate in the decisions affecting the operations of the school in which they work or which they attend.

- The resources of the school district available for use in the teaching-learning process will be used with maximum efficiency.

- Instructional, administrative, and support staffs will be of the highest quality in every respect.

- Diverse forms of constructive cooperation with parents and community groups will be developed and used.

- The facilities and equipment of each physical plant will be aesthetically attractive and well maintained.

LEGAL REFERENCE:

DATE OF ADOPTION: November 11, 1981

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