

## EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY/MISSION

As advocates for children, the Committee recognizes that the thorough and efficient education of children is its primary statutory-based responsibility. To this end, the Committee considers proper and adequate support of schools to be a civic responsibility shared by all citizens.

### **Our Vision:**

**W**illing to learn  
**I**ndependent  
**L**eaders  
**D**isciplined & determined  
**C**lear communicators  
**A**ctive participants  
**T**eam player  
**S**elf-confident

**Our Mission:** To create a community of lifelong, responsible, self-directed learners who will set high expectations and be respectful and tolerant supporters of others.

### **Beliefs**

Respectful and tolerant people appreciate complex economic and political inter-relationships. They understand many cultures and respect and value human diversity. They participate in decision-making responsibly. They care for the environment. Caring people seek to make the world a better place.

Self-directed people and lifelong learners demonstrate high performance and standards of excellence. They have a solid academic foundation and demonstrate the ability to apply this foundation. They have the ability to use the tools of learning and technology. They possess communication skills. They are creative and willing to take reasoned risks. Competent people have the ability to function as economically independent individuals.

Responsible people have a healthy body and mind. They have a sense of aesthetic appreciation. They have the ability to make appropriate life choices. They have a sense of humor and the ability to enjoy life as it is. They have a positive sense of their own unique worth. They are willing to make positive changes.

We believe that all children must be provided equal but not identical opportunities to allow them to achieve at levels commensurate with their abilities. We believe that all students must learn in an environment that allows them to develop positive attitudes toward themselves and genuine respect for others.

Students need learning that is active, connected, continuous, exciting, habit-forming, integrated, new, pleasurable, and purposeful.

In order to achieve our goals and to implement this philosophy, we believe that our school must secure the involvement of the community, students, staff, parents and citizens. Educational responsibility must be shared with important community institutions. We strongly believe that our school system's success depends on good rapport and cooperation with our communities and its institutions.

The Committee recognizes the professional staff as the body that is legally charged with the responsibility of providing education to all children. In fulfilling this responsibility, the staff will seek to ensure the following.

- A. All children will master basic skills in the areas of language arts, mathematics, science, history, and technology.
- B. Instruction will be provided which is appropriate to each individual with respect to goals, methodology and evaluation.
- C. Students will be seen in their totality as physical, mental, social, and aesthetic beings, which requires knowledge of child growth and development.
- D. Staff members, in order to effectively execute their responsibilities, will establish goals for themselves consistent with the philosophy of the Committee and individual school. Staff members will engage in a self-evaluation process for the purpose of self-improvement--the ultimate objective being an improved instructional program for all students.
- E. The Committee recognizes that this highly technological society demands that students learn how to cope with change and learn to accept that "learning" is a continuous process.

The Committee fully accepts the responsibility of formulating policies and acquiring adequate funding to support the education process. The Committee will always consider the welfare of students as the single most important factor in making decisions relative to educational policy. It will be the responsibility of the Committee and administrators to promote sound educational practices and professional development.

Legal Reference: 20-A MRS, §§ 1001(1-A); 4511(3)(A)

Adopted: 12/8/11