

*Policy updated to strongly encourage boards to engage in thoughtful discussions and develop their own statements of district philosophy. Sample statements expanded to add items related to nondiscrimination, the influence of teachers and educational support staff on student achievement, the importance of professional development for staff and the board, the board's responsibility to engage in advocacy, and the link between financial stability and attainment of district goals.*

## Philosophy, Goals, Objectives, and Comprehensive Plans

BP 0100

### PHILOSOPHY

~~As part of its responsibility~~ **In order** to establish **and support** a guiding vision for the district, the **Governing** Board of Trustees shall develop, **articulate**, and regularly review **an overarching** set of fundamental principles which ~~describes~~ **describe** the district's **core** beliefs, values ~~or~~, and tenets. The Board and district staff shall incorporate ~~this philosophy in~~ **these principles into** all ~~district programs and~~, activities, **and operations of the district**.

It is the philosophy of the district that:

1. All students can learn and succeed.
2. Every student ~~in the district~~, **should have an opportunity to receive a quality education** regardless of ~~gender, special needs, or his/her~~ social, ~~ethnic, language~~ **cultural**, or economic background.
3. **Every student in the district** has a right to ~~a high-quality education that challenges the student to achieve to his/her fullest potential~~ **be free from discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying, as prohibited by law or district policy**.
34. The future of our nation and community depends on students possessing the skills to be lifelong learners, **collaborative and creative problem solvers**, and effective, contributing members of **a global and technologically advanced** society.
45. **Highly skilled and dedicated teachers and educational support staff have the capacity to guide students toward individual achievement and growth, and have a direct and powerful influence on student learning and life experiences.**
6. A safe, nurturing environment ~~is~~ **and positive school climate are** necessary for learning, **academic achievement, and student development**.
57. Parents/guardians have a right and an obligation to ~~participate~~ **be engaged** in their child's ~~schooling~~ **education and to be involved in the intellectual, physical, emotional, and social development and well-being of their child**.
- 6-8. **The needs of the whole child must be addressed, as** the ability of children to learn is affected by social, health, and economic conditions and other factors outside the classroom.

- ~~7~~9. Early identification of ~~student~~ learning and behavioral difficulties **and timely and appropriate support and intervention** contribute to student success.
- ~~8~~10. Students and staff ~~respond positively to~~**are encouraged and motivated by** high expectations and recognition for their accomplishments.
- ~~9. Continuous~~11. School improvement is ~~necessary~~**a dynamic process requiring flexibility and innovation** to meet the needs of students in a changing ~~economy and society~~**world**.
- ~~10~~12. Professional development for the Board and district staff is essential for the growth and success of the district and its students.
13. The diversity of the student ~~population~~**body** and **school** staff enriches the learning experience ~~for all students~~**, promotes cultural awareness and acceptance, and serves as a model for citizenship in a global society.**
- ~~11. A highly skilled and dedicated staff has a direct and powerful influence on students' lives and learning.~~
- ~~12. A high level of~~14. A common set of norms and protocols is crucial to effective governance.
15. Communication, trust, respect, **collaboration**, and teamwork **strengthen the relationship** among Board members and **between the Board and Superintendent** ~~contributes to effective decision making, and contribute to the effectiveness of the governance team.~~
- ~~13. The community provides an essential resource to the educational program.~~
- ~~14. Effective~~16. The community and district are inextricably connected partners, wherein the community's engagement in issues that impact the schools enhances the district's programs and student learning.
17. Two-way communication with all stakeholders ~~helps~~**is essential** for establishing continuity, support, and shared goals both within the district and with the surrounding community.
18. The Board has a responsibility to advocate on behalf all students, keep current on legislative issues affecting education, and **build support for the schools** ~~positive relationships with local, state, and federal representatives.~~
- ~~15. Accountability for~~19. A fiscally sound budget which is reflective of the district's vision is imperative to the financial stability of the district and to the attainment of its goals.
20. **Responsibility for district** programs and operations is shared by the entire educational community, with ~~the~~ ultimate accountability resting with the Board as the basic embodiment of representative government.