

EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY/SCHOOL DISTRICT MISSION

The philosophy of the Amherst School District is based upon enduring principles of education and serves to guide the policies, procedures and practices which govern the operation of the school system.

We believe it is the responsibility of the school:

--to recognize the students as individuals, with differing temperaments, rates of development, motivation and learning styles; each student is accepted for what he/she is and encouraged to develop his full potential.

--to promote an atmosphere of mutual trust and respect, resulting in a life-long commitment to learning and the pursuit of excellence.

--to provide a stimulating environment for learning, where strong academic skills are developed in conjunction with physical skills, social responsibilities, and sound aesthetic and moral values.

--to give students the means to take responsibility for their own lives and shape the changes they face as members of our democratic society. These tools include problem-solving and communication abilities, techniques to analyze, plan and evaluate, make critical judgments, think independently and fully use available resources.

--to promote education as a continuing process, affected by all members of the community, and directed to meet their needs. The obligation of the school to be responsive and accountable is complemented by the dedication of the district to provide necessary support and resources. This joint commitment of the School Board, professional staff and the citizens of Amherst, forms the basis for a challenging and effective program.

This Statement of Philosophy shall be practiced in the schools and promulgated to the community by inclusion in such publications as the Annual School District Report, Newsletters and School Calendars.

ADOPTION: 9/11/90

AMHERST