

Board Policy: #0100

Section: 0000

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## **Philosophy**

In order to establish and support a guiding vision for the district, the Governing Board shall develop, articulate, and regularly review an overarching set of fundamental principles which describes the district's beliefs and values. The Board and district staff shall incorporate principles into the programs, activities, and operations of the district.

(cf. 0000 - Vision)

(cf. 0200 - Goals for the School District)

(cf. 0460 - Local Control and Accountability Plan)

(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)

It is the philosophy of the district that:

- 1. All students can learn and succeed.
- 2. Every student should have an opportunity to receive a quality education regardless of his/her social, cultural, or economic background.

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)

- 3. Every student in the district has a right to be free from discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying, as prohibited by law or district policy.
- 4. The future of our community and nation depends on students possessing the skills to be lifelong learners, collaborative and creative problem solvers, and contributing members of society.
- 5. Highly skilled and dedicated teachers and support staff have a direct and powerful influence on student learning.
- 6. A safe, nurturing environment is necessary for learning, academic achievement, and student development.

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(cf. 5131.2 - Bullying)
(cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate)
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7. Parents/guardians have a right and an obligation to be engaged in their child's education and to be involved in the intellectual, physical, emotional, and social development and well-being of their child.

(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)

- 8. The ability of children to learn is affected by social, health and economic conditions and other factors outside the classroom.
- 9. Early identification of learning and behavioral difficulties and timely intervention contribute to student success.
- 10. Students and staff are encouraged and motivated by high expectations and recognition for their accomplishments.
- 11. School improvement is a dynamic process requiring flexibility and innovation to meet the needs of students in a changing world.
- 12. Professional development for the Board and district staff is essential for the growth and success of the district and its students.

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)

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(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)

(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

(cf. 9240 - Board Training)

- 13. The diversity of the student population and staff enriches the learning experience, promotes cultural awareness and acceptance, and serves as a model for citizenship in a global society.
- 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 the Superintendent, and contribute to the effectiveness of the governance team.
- 16. The community provides an essential resource to the educational program.

(cf. 1000 - Concepts and Roles)

- 17. Effective communication with all stakeholders helps build support for the schools.
- 18. The Board has a responsibility to advocate on behalf all students, keep current on legislative issues affecting education, and build positive relationships with local, state, and federal representatives.
- 19. A fiscally sound budget is imperative to the financial stability of the district and to the attainment of its goals.
- 20. Accountability for the district's 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.

## Legal Reference:

**EDUCATION CODE** 

51002 Local development of programs based on stated philosophy and goals

51019 Definition of philosophy

51100-51101 Parental involvement

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

The School Board Role in Creating the Conditions for Student Achievement: A Review of the Research, May 2017 Governing to Achieve: A Synthesis of Research on School Governance to Support Student Achievement, August 7, 2014

Defining Governance, Issue 2: Governing Commitments, Governance Brief, February 2014

**WEB SITES** 

CSBA: http://www.csba.org

National School Climate Center: http://schoolclimate.org

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