

- Policy Number: 100
 - Policy Name: Philosophy and Objective
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Philosophy And Objective

Responsibilities

The School Board recognizes its obligation to the school students of the District, to their parents, to taxpayers of the District, and to the community as a whole.

The Board accepts its responsibility to provide a relevant, useful, and challenging educational experience for students in the District, conforming to the curricular guidelines and requirements of the Provincial Ministry of Education, so that students will be well equipped to go on to further education or to the world of work.

Furthermore, the Board accepts its responsibility to manage the finances of the district in an efficient and careful manner so that the burden on taxpayers is as small as possible, while still striving for a high quality, excellence oriented educational system.

The Board also recognizes an obligation to make school facilities available for public use where and when appropriate, and an obligation to provide opportunities through continuing education programs for all members of the District community to carry on lifelong learning.

Beliefs

The School Board believes that:

- the school system should encourage students to continue to pursue excellence in some field of human endeavour after they leave school, whether it be academic scholarship, athletics, fine arts, community service, etc.;
 - providing quality educational experiences for young people requires an active partnership between the students themselves, their parents, their teachers, and the board representing the community as a whole;
 - the major goal of the school system should be to help students to maximize their academic and vocational potential;
 - the school system should help students develop abilities to comprehend and to communicate effectively for social, scholastic, business, professional, and vocational purposes;
 - the school system should help students develop a lasting respect for learning and a lifelong desire to continue to learn and explore ideas and experiences;
 - the school system should help students develop self-confidence, and the ability to work cooperatively with other individuals and groups, and at the same time to develop a realistic understanding of their personal strengths and weaknesses, and an ability to plan for the future;
 - evaluation of the school system should be continuous, and that regular review and assessment procedures are a necessary and important part of the evaluation of programs, student achievement, teacher and administrator performance, and board policy and procedures.
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Educational Objectives

Within the constraints of its financial resources, and following the guidelines of the Ministry of Education, the School Board shall provide education programs so that students who expend the necessary effort will develop and demonstrate:

- the basic skills of communication (listening, speaking, reading, writing);
- basic skills in more than one language;
- the basic skills of mathematics;
- basic computer skills;
- critical and logical thinking skills;
- information-gathering skills and
- an understanding of Canadian history and social and political institutions;
- an understanding of economic matters as they apply to everyday life;
- an understanding of other societies and cultures;
- an understanding of environmental and natural resource issues;
- an understanding of the importance of good health and fitness practices;
- an understanding of fine arts.

Board Commitment

To achieve the above objectives and to support its stated beliefs, the School Board shall, to the best of its ability:

- provide appropriate facilities, equipment, and teaching and support staff;
- insure that schools provide challenging programs for all children, including exceptional children;
- insure that schools maintain regular and effective communication with the parents of students;
- insure that schools encourage parental and other community involvement in school educational programs where appropriate;
- insure that schools provide up-to-date career counselling services for students;
- insure that schools develop a statement of school philosophy and objectives, in keeping with the Board's philosophy, objectives, and policies.

To clarify its responsibilities, beliefs, and objectives to the general public, and to provide direction for District administrators, teachers and other employees, the Board has developed or will develop individual policies addressing all the points of this statement.