

Policy Title District Philosophy, Mission, Beliefs, and Expectations

### **District Philosophy**

Marshalltown Community School District is dedicated to providing quality education to all students. The Board is committed to providing a learning environment that promotes the academic, social, intellectual, emotional, and physical development of all students.

The Board will employ highly effective professionals to educate students possessing a wide variety of experiences and abilities. Curriculum, instruction, and assessment, including critical thinking and problem solving, are key elements of an education that prepares students for success as lifelong learners, earners, and citizens.

The support and involvement of the home and the community are essential to excellence in the district. The district will maintain an active relationship with the home and community to promote student academic success and civic responsibility.

### **Mission**

The mission of the Marshalltown Community School District is to nurture students to become intellectually and personally empowered for citizenship in a changing world.

### **Vision**

Marshalltown Community School District will be the district of choice, unparalleled in student achievement gains and innovative practices. We will prepare students for success in a global society, while supporting the continued growth and development of our community.

### **Beliefs**

#### **Foundational**

- All students can learn and succeed at high levels
- Learning starts at birth and is a lifelong process
- Education is the shared responsibility of the individual, home, school, and community

#### **Instructional**

- High expectations supported by engaging and effective instruction lead to high achievement
- Schools must structure learning activities that lead to increased student self-control and responsibility
- Technology must be an important learning tool for all students and staff
- Education must be relevant for today and for the future

- Learning environments must be varied and flexible
- The school organization must continually change to meet the needs of a changing society

### Climate

- Every person has a right to a positive, safe, and supportive learning environment
- Every person must be valued and treated with dignity, respect, and fairness
- Learners build self-esteem through belonging, academic success, and competence as a learner

### **Goal: Increase Student Achievement**

Objective 1: Improve academic performance

Objective 2: Increase readiness for further education and employment

Objective 3: Ensure schools are safe and organized to promote student achievement

The superintendent shall cause to be developed and included in the Strategic Action Plan of the district:

- Progress indicators for each objective, including form of measurement, baseline data, and both multi-year and annual targets
- Strategies for attainment of objectives
- Calendar for annual progress monitoring reports to the board for each indicator and strategy

These documents shall be provided as Exhibits to this policy.

Adopted: November 28, 1994

Legal Reference: (Code of Iowa)

Amended: March 19, 2012

Iowa Code: 255.11 (2011)

Reviewed: February 15, 2016

Cross Reference: 102-Equal Educational Opportunity  
101.1-Long-Range Needs Assessment  
600-Statement of Guiding Principles  
602-Programs of Instruction