

School District

Series 100

Policy Title District Philosophy, Mission, Beliefs, and Expectations

Code No. 101

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District Philosophy

As a school corporation of Iowa, the Marshalltown Community School District, acting through its board of directors, is dedicated to promoting an equal opportunity for a quality public education to its students. The board's ability may be limited by the school district's ability and willingness to furnish financial support in cooperation with student's parents and school district community. The board is also dedicated to providing the opportunity to develop a healthy social, intellectual, emotional, and physical self-concept in a learning environment that provides guidance to, and encourages critical thinking in, the students for a lifetime.

The board endeavors, through the dedication of the school district's resources, to encourage students, who come to the school district from a variety of backgrounds, to look forward to the time when they will have jobs, homes, families, places in the school district community, and attain recognition as individuals. In order to achieve this goal, the board will seek qualified employees dedicated to development of their professional skills for the betterment of the education program and for the expertise for educational productivity.

Instruction and curriculum are the key elements of a public education. Critical thinking and problem solving skills that will assist the students' preparation for life is instructed as part of a sequentially coordinated curriculum. The school district strives to prepare students for employment, to discover and nurture creative talent and to prepare them to meet and cope with social change in an atmosphere conducive to learning.

The support and involvement of the home and the school district community are essential to achieve educational excellence in the school district. The school district strives to maintain an active relationship with the home and the school district community to create within the students an awareness of dignity and worth of the individual, civic responsibility and respect for authority.

Mission

“We develop learners who have the knowledge, skills, and positive mindset to successfully pursue a meaningful future through personalized learning experiences.”

Vision

“Preparing ALL learners, through an unparalleled culture of excellence, to be productive and engaged citizens in a diverse world.”

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

Adopted: November 28, 1994

Legal Reference: (Code of Iowa)

Amended: March 19, 2012

August 5, 2019

Iowa Code: 255.11 (2011)

Reviewed: February 15, 2016

August 19, 2019

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