

Educational Philosophy and Goals of The School District of St. Joseph

The Board of Education and the staff of the School District of St. Joseph believe that one of the fundamental rights of each individual is equal access to educational opportunities regardless of age, race, sex, religion, national origin, socioeconomic status, or handicapping condition. All students will be encouraged to reach their maximum potential in all developmental areas through a sequential, appropriate, challenging, and comprehensive program of studies in grades kindergarten through twelve.

The educational process should develop a feeling of self-worth and accomplishment within each student. Since self-esteem is related to achievement, the instructional program should encourage responsible decision making and provide opportunities for self-discipline.

Each child and young person should develop attitudes which contribute to the continuation of the democratic way of life in America. Students should appreciate and understand that the democratic and free enterprise system must be learned and earned through active participation by each generation.

The goal of the St. Joseph Public Schools should be to develop individuals equipped not only with basic skills development, but also with competencies and knowledge necessary for adapting to a dynamic and changing society. Students should understand that their education continues beyond the District's instructional program and is a life long process. Each student participating in the District's educational program will have the opportunity for intellectual, social, physical, and career development.

Intellectual Development

Each individual will have the opportunity to the extent of his/her ability to become proficient in the intellectual processes of communication, quantitative and critical thinking, scientific understanding, decision making, and appreciation of the arts.

Social Development

Each individual will have the opportunity to develop skills and understanding related to the physical and social environment, cultural awareness, governmental institutions, avocational pursuits, concept of self, and relationships with others.

Physical Development

Each individual will have the opportunity to develop knowledge, understanding, and skills in the processes of physical growth and maturation, health and nutrition, and physical fitness and recreation to the extent of his/her developmental ability.

Career Development

Each individual will have the opportunity to participate in systematic and sequential activities related to the social significance of work, occupational exploration, and career preparation.

The maximum potential of each student can be realized only through the commitment, cooperation, and effort of students, parents, educators, and patrons of the community working together.

Board Policy Adopted: January 24, 1983

Board Policy Reviewed: August 25, 2006