

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, socio-economic 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 that 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 skill 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 or her ability to become proficient in the intellectual processes of communication, quantitative and critical thinking, scientific understanding, 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, vocational pursuits, concept of self, and relationship to 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 or 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 the effort of students, parents, educators, and patrons of the community working together.

Mission Statement:

Educating Each Child for Success

- Improve academic performance.
- Improve graduation rate.
- Narrow the achievement gap among races and socioeconomic classes.
- Prepare students for their post-high school experience.
- Recruit, develop, and retain a world class staff.