

SCHOOL COMMITTEE PHILOSOPHY

1. The committee's primary responsibility to each student and the community is to advocate for and provide appropriate and equitable educational opportunities.
2. The committee is committed to adopting and maintaining a rigorous core curriculum and student performance standards designed to promote student achievement.
3. The committee is committed to meeting the needs of each student, recognizing that early identification of difficulties and/or talents enhances student learning.
4. The committee believes that preparation to become a contributing member of society is integral to public education in a democracy.
5. The committee understands that student and staff diversity enriches the learning experience of all students.
6. The educational environment should compliment an educational process designed to nurture each child's development as a continuous learner and foster the development of positive self-esteem.
7. The committee provides support for hiring, evaluation and developing professional staff.
8. The committee believes the hiring, evaluation, and development of professional staff should focus on staff's skills and abilities in maximizing student learning.
9. The committee is committed to involving parents in the formal education of their children and respects parents' rights.
10. The committee acknowledges that ultimate accountability for student achievement in the district rests with the committee as elected representatives; the committee also expects accountability from each member of the education community.
11. The district's philosophical principles will be incorporated in all district programs and activities.
12. The committee will adhere to the statutory roles and responsibilities of the board.
13. The committee conducts the district's business in an open and democratic manner.
14. The committee is committed to its own continuous professional development.
15. The districts' philosophical principles regularly reviewed.

School Committee Self-Evaluation

1. Mentoring Program:

- a. New School Committee members mentoring to include some presentation from a legal perspective.

2. Professional Development:

- a. MASC and other available function

3. School Visits:

- a. More formal scheduled visits to include 2-3 members per visit.

4. School Committee Web Page:

- a. Agenda posting for regular and subcommittee meetings.
- b. Possible collaboration with Central Advisory Council.

5. School Committee Objectives:

- a. Goals
 - MCAS improvement
 - High School space issue
 - Professional Development
 - Fiscal Responsibility
 - Improve communications with legislatures
 - Parent Involvement
 1. Ad hoc committee comprised of school representatives, teachers and committee member(s) as Chair.
- b. **Philosophy**
 - see attached

Adopted: December 16 2002