

Santa Barbara School Districts

Board Policy

BP 0100

Mission, Goals, and Plans

PHILOSOPHY

The district's mission is based on a set of fundamental principles which describes the district's beliefs, values or tenets. The board and district staff shall incorporate this philosophy in all district programs and activities.

(cf. 0000 - Mission)

(cf. 0200 - Goals for the School District)

(cf. 6010 - Goals and Objectives)

(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)

It is the philosophy of the district to pursue excellence for all students and staff based on the following:

1. All students can learn and succeed at high levels. It is the obligation of schools and programs to ensure that all students achieve academic proficiency in essential areas of skill and knowledge.

(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)

(cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements)

(cf. 6146.5 - Elementary/Middle School Graduation Requirements)

2. Every student in the district, regardless of gender, age, sex, race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, ethnic group identification, marital or parental status, physical or mental disability, linguistic or economic background, sexual orientation or the perception of one or more of such characteristics, has a right to a high-quality education that challenges the student to achieve to his/her fullest potential. Schools and programs must provide appropriate instruction to meet the varied academic and career goals of students by identifying and responding to individual student needs.

(cf. 6000 - Concepts and Roles)

(cf. 6030 - Integrated Academic and Vocational Instruction)

3. The future of our nation and community depends on students possessing the skills to be lifelong learners and effective, contributing members of society.

4. A safe, orderly, and nurturing environment is necessary to promote learning.

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)

5. Parents and guardians have a right and an obligation to participate in their child's schooling. Positive relations with parents and guardians as well as the community are essential and should emphasize communication and invite participation in schools and programs.

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)
(cf. 1240 - Volunteer Assistance)
(cf. 1700 - Relations between Private Industry and the Schools)
(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)

6. The ability of children to learn is affected by social, health, and economic conditions and other factors outside the classroom. The community provides an essential resource to the educational program. Schools must collaborate with public agencies and private organizations to ensure that student's physical, social, and emotional needs are met.

(cf. 1020 - Youth Services)
(cf. 1400 - Relations between Other Governmental Agencies and the Schools)

7. Schools and programs must provide for the specialized needs of identified groups of students. Early identification of student learning and behavioral difficulties contribute to student success.

(cf. 6164.4 - Identification of Individuals for Special Education)
(cf. 6164.6 - Identification and Education under Section 504)
(cf. 6171 - Title I Programs)
(cf. 6172 - Gifted and Talented Student Program)
(cf. 6174 - Education for English Language Learners)
(cf. 6175 - Migrant Education Program)

8. Schools must promote student health and nutrition in order to enhance readiness for learning.

(cf. 3550 - Food Service/Child Nutrition Program)
(cf. 3553 - Free and Reduced Price Meals)
(cf. 3554 - Other Food Sales)
(cf. 6142.7 - Physical Education)
(cf. 6142.8 - Comprehensive Health Education)
(cf. 6145.2 - Athletic Competition)

9. Continuous school improvement is necessary to meet the needs of students in a changing economy and society. Schools must provide a system of shared accountability for student achievement with clear performance standards and consequences.

(cf. 0500 - Accountability)
(cf. 0510 - School Accountability Report Card)
(cf. 2140 - Evaluation of the Superintendent)
(cf. 4115 - Evaluation/Supervision)
(cf. 4215 - Evaluation/Supervision)
(cf. 4315 - Evaluation/Supervision)
(cf. 6162.5 - Student Assessment)
(cf. 9400 - Board Self-Evaluation)

10. The diversity of the student population and staff enriches the learning experience for all students. Schools must develop each student's self-respect, respect for others, appreciation for diversity, and sense of personal responsibility.

(cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate)
(cf. 6141.6 - Multicultural Education)

11. A highly skilled and dedicated staff has a direct and powerful influence on students' lives and learning. Schools must provide time and resources for collaboration, planning, and professional development for all staff.

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)
(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)
(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

12. A high level of communication, trust, respect, and teamwork among board members and the superintendent contributes to effective decision making. Effective communication with all stakeholders helps build support for the schools.

13. The district must maintain fiscal integrity.

(cf. 3100 - Budget)
(cf. 3400 - Management of District Assets/Accounts)
(cf. 3460 - Financial Reports and Accountability)

14. The districts must provide and maintain facilities to meet the needs of present and future students.

(cf. 7000 - Concepts and Roles)
(cf. 7110 - Facilities Master Plan)

15. Schools and programs must employ technology in ways that enhance learning, teaching and noninstructional operations.

(cf. 0440 - District Technology Plan)
(cf. 4040 - Employee Use of Technology)
(cf. 6162.7 - Use of Technology in Instruction)
(cf. 6163.4 - Student Use of Technology)

16. Accountability for the districts' programs and operations is shared by the entire educational community, with the ultimate accountability resting with the board as the basic embodiment of representative government.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

51002 Local development of programs based on stated philosophy and goals
51019 Definition of philosophy

Management Resources:
CSBA PUBLICATIONS
Maximizing School Board Leadership: Vision, 1996

Policy: SANTA BARBARA SCHOOL DISTRICTS
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