

**HOOKSETT SCHOOL DISTRICT
EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY**

The mission of the HSD is to develop a community of learners who are intellectually curious, resourceful, creative and respectful of self and others. Individual growth and academic achievement, through constantly improving standards, is the District's highest priority.

Additionally, the Board expects each school in the District to collaborate in preparing a written philosophy and a statement of goals and expectations that meet or exceed the state's Board of Education rules and the following philosophical statements, which are viewed as integral to the teaching/learning process:

1. Each child is unique and important, therefore educators should strive to personalize education and develop appropriate performance assessments which will hold students accountable by requiring them to demonstrate mastery of course competencies using varied and sometimes creative techniques.
2. All children can be successful learners and education must raise the level of student learning skills by requiring personal engagement in learning plan development and evaluation applied to real world situations.
3. Children learn by example, but need to know how to learn and be required to show what they know.
4. Learning occurs primarily through faculty and student interaction and the utilization and development of information and communication technologies literacy.
5. Children learn best when community, schools, families and students work together as a supportive and respectful group.
6. Schools must be safe, ethical places where risk taking, failure and successes are all important parts of the learning process.
7. The purpose of education is to teach students to think and develop strategies to learn, memorize and solve real problems.
8. Today's education intends to prepare students for a lifelong learning process that will enable them to reach their full potential as human beings while becoming contributing citizens.
9. All people deserve to live and learn in an environment free of emotional, mental and physical harm.
10. It is essential to recognize the importance of individual achievement as well as teamwork to compete successfully in our complex, interdependent world.
11. Problem solving, communicating and adaptability are essential to success and survival in our changing world. It should also be clear to students that they must achieve and demonstrate specific competencies before moving on to the next level and/or graduation.

12. Acceptance of individuality must be acknowledged, valued and respected. Thus, credit should be awarded for open electives, dual enrollment in high school courses, etc.

13. An environment must be provided that allows the development of the basic skills needed by students to reach their full academic and creative potential.

The Board, working with the Superintendent, will review the philosophy, goals, and objectives at least every five (5) years.

Adopted: February 9, 1989
Adopted: July, 12, 1999
Revised: May 2, 2006
Revised: March 3, 2015
Revised: June 16, 2015

Legal References:
NH Ed Rules 306.5

SAU #15: Auburn, Candia, Hooksett

Core Values

Our Schools, Our Students, Our Charge

Core Value # 1

Schools are for students. All interactions with them must nurture their social, emotional, and academic growth. It is our responsibility to accept all students and treat them with kindness and respect; we are tolerant and non-judgmental. Our decisions are based on what is best for them. We take responsibility for ensuring the success of our students despite the challenges they may face.

It is our responsibility to foster an environment of respect through interactions with each other, parents, and our educational community. Parents are partners in the educational development of their children and are deserving of our acceptance and support. Additionally, all members of our staff are committed to working professionally with each other.

Core Value # 2

Students meet and exceed high academic standards. Our high expectations demand varied and rigorous learning experiences that enable students to think critically, work collaboratively, communicate effectively, and act with integrity. Every student is unique and has different abilities, needs, and learning styles that require varying instructional techniques and strategies. Student success is ensured through the use of purposeful, research based, data informed instruction. We continuously build and maintain the knowledge base and collaborative culture required for high levels of performance for all members of the learning community.

Core Value # 3

We each have the responsibility to ensure the success of all students. The needs of all learners are met when outcome based learning occurs and when students, teachers, and policy makers are empowered by data. All students learn when their passions and talents are coupled with high expectations and academic rigor in a safe and caring environment.

Core Value # 4

Twenty-first century instruction is necessary for twenty-first century learning. All members of our learning community hold the responsibility to value technology and achieve technological proficiency to prepare our students for future jobs, which currently may not exist. Customizable learning tools are used to access information and leverage each individual's learning style. With these technological skills, our students will be prepared to participate in the global community and compete in the global marketplace.

Core Value #5

We believe that it does, in fact, "*take a village to raise a child*". We have a unique opportunity and an obligation in our homes, our community, our businesses and our schools to influence the learning outcomes of our children. These collaborative partnerships within the community foster thoughtful and relevant learning, promoting the growth of each child.