

Educational Philosophy

As the American public school has historically been a reflective institution, in which society's needs as expressed through the individual community school board have determined the school's concept of education, it follows that the staff and administration of the Scappoose School District must consider the nature and needs of our society as the essential base for determining the philosophy and objectives of this district.

From this base, then, we must see that our society has traditionally delegated to the American public school and to the school only the primary responsibility for the mental or intellectual development of the individual. We would define this intellectual development as mental preparation for active citizenship, vocational utilization and personal development.

Each student in the Scappoose School District shall demonstrate, if possible, those competencies necessary to read, listen, analyze, speak and write effectively. He/She shall also be able to compute, using all basic operations accurately. The "learning how- to-learn skills" shall enjoy highest priority in the instructional program.

Students shall also demonstrate an understanding of basic scientific and technological processes, shall develop and maintain a healthy body and a healthy mind and shall appreciate that learning should be a life long endeavor.

Each student shall also demonstrate those competencies necessary to function effectively and responsibly as a citizen in our community, in the state and in our nation.

And finally, each student shall demonstrate those competencies necessary to explore a broad range of occupation, to choose a prospective career wisely and to begin to develop within the schooling process the competencies necessary to achieve occupational success within our modern, technological, democratic society.

In addition to the primary area of responsibility (intellectual development), society has more recently delegated additional responsibility to the school in the areas of physical, social, moral and emotional development of the individual. These areas of responsibility are shared with other institutions in the community.

They remain an integral part of the total school program and the school must provide ample opportunity for individual development in these areas. However, it is believed that these added roles are secondary in nature and it is the duty of teachers and administrators to advise parents of any conflict between the above listed responsibilities and the primary area of responsibility. But the final decision concerning any conflict which might arise remains in the hands of the parent.

Each student is different. He/She varies in every way that it is possible to measure or compare. Each varies in readiness for learning, in ability, background of experience, motivation and each varies in actual level of achievement. Each person has his/her own potential to fulfill, has different needs, wants, desires, expectations and satisfactions. The district is committed to personalizing the educational program for each student within the resources available.

We recognize the right of every student to equality of educational opportunity, the right to develop to the fullest his/her education potential. But rights also imply duties, responsibilities and obligations. A student may forfeit his/her right to an education if he/she is not willing to behave in a responsible manner.

Therefore, recognizing that in our society all have the right to equal opportunity, though all do not have equal ability, Scappoose School District will not knowingly discriminate unjustly against any student who lacks the capacity to compete successfully in the curriculum K-12. Insofar as it is possible, each student will be provided the opportunity to be educated to his/her capacity.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 329.025](#)

[ORS 329.035](#)

[ORS 329.485](#)

[ORS 332.107](#)

[OAR 581-022-1020](#)