

PHILOSOPHY

Note: The following paragraph reflects state education policy as stated in AS14.03.015, enacted by chapter 173, SLA 1990

In accordance with state education policy, the purpose of education is to help ensure that all students will succeed in their education and work, shape worthwhile and satisfying lives for themselves, exemplify the best values of society, and be effective in improving the character and quality of the world about them.

Note: The following sample language augments state policy and may be revised or deleted as deemed appropriate.

The School Board is committed to providing a program of instruction which offers each child an opportunity to develop to the maximum of individual capabilities. The Board believes that all students can succeed regardless of their race, background or ability. Furthermore, the School Board believes that a culturally responsive education in which District staff practice a high level of cultural proficiency will honor and positively influence the opportunity for students of all cultures to become successful individuals, exemplifying positive values and improving communities and the world. School staff shall embody this philosophy in all district programs and activities.

Understanding and Supporting Healing

Intergenerational healing and racial equity are necessary to create successful outcomes for students and stronger, healthier communities. This involves recognition of the needs, resources, and contributions of students, families, cultures, and community, as well as the educational system made up of administrators, staff, teachers, the school board, and the land and structures comprising the public school system. Healing supports should be designed to have the following impacts: correct injustice and other wrongs, accurately represent history, educate educators to ensure an accurate understanding of history and protocols, establish schools as a Native place and community, orient and welcome people to the land and place, create and implement healing in policies and partnerships, and integrate ceremony and protocol. Healing supports are intended to make reparations and new experiences within the educational setting.

The School Board strives to support all students to succeed by creating conditions for learning, teaching, and partnering in the schools. The District’s policies and regulations should be considered, adopted, and implemented to further equity and nondiscrimination, cultural safety and responsiveness, student-centered learning and teaching, restorative or trauma sensitive practices, and collaboration with community.

(cf. 0410 – Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)

Legal Reference:

ALASKA STATUTES

14.03.015 State education policy

14.08.111 Duties

Reviewed 1/15