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EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY - SERIES 100

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It is the purpose of the GMG Community School to equip all students with the knowledge, competencies, and orientations needed to live responsibly and successfully in our changing society. In order to fulfill this mission the school will implement programs and establish conditions that maximize learning success for all students.

Underlying this mission is our belief that every child can learn and succeed. Each child is a separate individual differing from others in learning style and learning rate. Each child comes to us at differing stages of development in social skills, physical maturity, cognitive ability and emotional adjustment. While the rate of growth is not the same for all areas within the child, neither is the rate of growth constant. We also believe that children perform according to expectations and that each child can be expected to develop to the fullest of his/her potential academically, physically, mentally, and socially. Children will be supported in developing family and community values.

We believe that learning is a lifelong process in which success breeds success. Each person needs a positive self-concept in order to learn effectively. In learning one must: acquire new knowledge, insights, and skills; practice to reinforce and apply those acquisitions in more advanced ways; and then demonstrate proficiency.

Effective learning occurs in a non-threatening, interesting environment where students, parents, teachers, the school, and community take joint responsibility and work cooperatively to foster a positive learning attitude. A desirable learning atmosphere is rich in opportunities and relevant, meaningful, and challenging learning activities which demonstrate high expectations that all students can and will do well. Differing styles of teaching are employed in the constant search for ways to expand success experiences and support for all our students every day.

The school will provide future oriented and problem solving educational experiences to enable our students to be “good at life” during their school years and after they graduate. All students will be provided with the time and instruction they need to: acquire knowledge and the skills for learning; develop thinking, initiative, creative ability, and critical judgment; acquire necessary social and moral habits and attitudes; learn to express themselves courteously and thoughtfully; maintain emotional, psychological, and physical health; understand and respect self, make decisions and set goals; develop the responsibility and self discipline to work independently and do a task thoroughly; understand the interdependence of our global society; be able to use technology; and develop an awareness of the contributions to our multicultural society by diverse groups.

August 12, 2013
September 8, 2008
September 8, 2003

Approved: June 1989

Reviewed: Jan. 1995

Revised: April 1995

Legal Reference: _____

Cross Reference: _____

Related Administrative Rules and Regulations: _____

Policy Title: District Goals

Code No. 104

The GMG Community School Board will set and/or review district goals and objectives will be published in the district's newsletter and will be part of the official board minutes.

August 12, 2013
September 8, 2008
September 8, 2003

Approved: June 1989

Reviewed: Jan. 1995

Revised: April 1995

Legal Reference: _____

Cross Reference: _____

Related Administrative Rules and Regulations: _____

The Board shall conduct ongoing and in-depth needs assessment, soliciting information from business, labor, industry, higher education and community members, regarding their expectations for adequate student preparation as responsible citizens and successful wage earners. In conjunction with the in-depth needs assessment of the school district, the Board shall authorize the appointment of a committee, representing administrators, employees, parents, students and community members, to make recommendations and assist the Board in determining the priorities of the school district in addition to the basic skills areas of the education program.

The Board has authorized the formation of a school district School Improvement Advisory Committee. This committee meets as a whole at least once annually to review student academic achievement. Subcommittees will be formed to study and recommend action in specific areas of concern.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to ensure the school district community is informed of students' progress on state and locally determined indicators. The superintendent shall report annually to the Board about the means used to keep the community informed. In addition, the superintendent shall require that attendance centers regularly inform parents of their individual child's academic performance.

As a result of the Board and committee's work, the Board shall determine major educational needs and rank them in priority order; develop long-range goals and plans to meet the needs; establish and implement short-range and intermediate-range plans to meet the goals and to attain the desired levels of student performance; evaluate progress toward meeting the goals and maintain a record of progress under the plan that includes reports of student performance and results of school improvement projects; and annually report the school district's progress made under the plan to the committee, community and Iowa Department of Education.

August 12, 2013

September 8, 2008

September 8, 2003

September 9, 2013

March 10, 2003

Approved: June 1989

Reviewed: Jan. 1995

Revised: April 1995

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 21; 256.7; 280.12, .18 (1997). 281 I.A.C. 12.3(3) 123.8(1)(b).

Cross Reference: 102 Educational Philosophy of the School District
202 Statement of Guiding Principals
236 Committees of the Board of Directors
600 Basic Instruction Program
902 Statement of Guiding Principals
904 Building and Sites Surveys

Related Administrative Rules and Regulations: _____

The GMG Schools will include the following provisions for long-range needs assessment:

1. Collect, analyze, and report information derived from local, state, and national sources.
2. Review information acquired on the following:
 - a. State and other locally determined indicators
 - b. Locally established student learning goals
 - c. Specific data collection required by State and Federal Programs
3. Provide for collecting and analyzing data on State, locally determined indicators, and locally established student-learning goals.

Cross Reference: 106 Long-Range Needs Assessment

It is the policy of the GMG Community School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its employment practices. There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy, please contact the district Equity Coordinator.

The board requires all persons, agencies, vendors, contractors and other persons and organizations doing business with or performing services for the school district to subscribe to all applicable federal and state laws, executive orders, rules and regulations pertaining to contract compliance and equal opportunity.

Legal Reference: 20 U.S.C. §§ 1221 *et seq.*
20 U.S.C. §§ 1681 *et seq.*
20 U.S.C. §§ 1701 *et seq.*
29 U.S.C. § 206 *et seq.*
29 U.S.C. § 794
42 U.S.C. §§ 2000d and 2000e.
42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 *et seq.*
34 C.F.R. Pt. 100.
34 C.F.R. Pt. 104.
Iowa Code §§ 216.6; 216.9; 256.11; 280.3.
281 I.A.C. 12.

Cross Reference: 101 Educational Philosophy of the School District
401.1 Equal Employment Opportunity
500 Objectives for Equal Educational Opportunities for Students
506.1 Student Records

Approved 11/19/01

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10/08/04
9/21/09
7/21/14
09/12/16

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10/19/09

