1:30 School District Philosophy

We of Belleville Township High School District 201 (East and West), believe that a democratic society such as that which exists in the United States, though it is imperfect, best enables man to develop his creative potentials and encourages each to seek that which he perceives as good and true and enduring. Therefore, the school together with the home, the church, and other community groups must share the responsibility for helping students develop the attitudes, skills, and concepts which will enable them to function effectively in our changing society.

We believe that our education system exists primarily to serve the young people of this community and the society in which they live by aiding them to become responsible, self-directing, self-educating individuals who are capable of making sound decisions and value judgments. As part of their experience in creative, responsible citizenship, students should be encouraged to express their views on curriculum, student control, co-curricular activities, and other areas in which student participation is practicable.

We strive to achieve these aims through various avenues. Of first importance is a professional staff that maintains an empathic relationship with students. Because teaching should be essentially humanistic, emphasis should be placed on acquainting the student with the thoughts and accomplishment of his predecessors and of his contemporaries, on developing an awareness of the nature of the relationship of man to his environment, on promoting the self-fulfillment of each student, and on creating a respect for the dignity and worth of each individual and an awareness of the importance of moral and spiritual values. We, therefore, base our philosophy on the recognition of the worth and dignity of each student as an individual, regardless of his social, economic, religious, or racial background.

Recognizing the worth and dignity of each student as an individual, regardless of his social, economic, religious, or racial background, we believe that the school should provide for staff, programs, and facilities to educate all students. Thus, to the extent that community support makes it possible, a curriculum sufficiently varied to meet the needs and interests of all students, as well as adequate staff, classrooms, and equipment, should be provided. If the cooperation between school and community necessary to maintain a superior school is to be realized, the community must be kept informed, through appropriate media, of the total school program: its goals, its accomplishments, and its needs. Decisions concerning change should be preceded by a candid exchange of ideas among faculty, students, and community. Furthermore, for a dynamic school program to exist, the faculty must (a) be aware of and responsive to the changing needs of the community; (b) receive encouragement to continue their educational experiences; and (c) keep abreast of developments in curriculum, techniques, methodology, and materials, carefully evaluate them, and take steps to implement those which represent real progress.

If we can lead our students to the highest ethical and moral behavior; if we can develop in them an understanding of and a pride in our American heritage; if we can inspire them to transmit this inherited spirit of democracy to oncoming generations in an improved and enriched form then we believe that our efforts will have been successful.

Mission Statement

Through innovation and a variety of opportunity, Belleville District #201 will provide a diverse student body with a quality education and lifelong skills necessary to address individual, local, and global challenges.

CROSS REF: 2:10 (School District Governance), 3:10 (Goals and Objectives), 6:10 (Educational Philosophy and Objectives)

Adopted: 03/19/2018

Belleville THSD 201