FRESNO COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS FRESNO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Philosophy, Goals, Objectives and Comprehensive Plans PHILOSOPHY

The County Superintendent and the County Board believe that the education of all people is essential and a necessity and responsibility for our democratic society. All residents of the County of Fresno are entitled to the broadest range of educational opportunities consistent with their individual capabilities, creativity, and motivations.

The County Superintendent and County Board further believe that the educational process includes the development of basic skills, moral and spiritual values, and ethical standards of conduct. In addition, the educational process must include the principles and knowledge regarding the history and development of the democratic society in the United States of America, including its political and economic systems.

It is the philosophy of the County Superintendent and the County Board that:

- 1. All students can learn and succeed.
- 2. Every student should have an opportunity to receive quality education regardless of each student's social, cultural, or economic background.
- 3. Every student in County Superintendent and County Board schools has a right to be free from discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying, as prohibited by law or County Superintendent and County Board policy.
- 4. The future of our nation and community depends on students possessing the skills to be lifelong learners, collaborative and creative problem solvers, and effective, contributing members of society.
- 5. Highly skilled and dedicated teachers and educational support staff have the capacity to guide students toward individual achievement and growth, and have a direct and powerful influence on student learning and life experiences.
- 6. A safe, nurturing environment and positive school climate are necessary for learning, academic achievement, and student development.
- 7. Parents/guardians have a right and an obligation to be engaged in their child's education and to be involved in the intellectual, physical, emotional, and social development and well-being of their child.
- 8. The needs of the whole child must be addressed, as the ability of children to learn is affected by social, health, and economic conditions and other factors outside the classroom.
- 9. Early identification of learning and behavioral difficulties and timely and appropriate support and intervention contribute to student success.

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- 10. Students and staff are encouraged and motivated by high expectations and recognition for their accomplishments.
- 11. School improvement is a dynamic process requiring flexibility and innovation to meet the needs of students in a changing world.
- 12. Professional development for County Superintendent staff is essential for the growth and success of County Superintendent and County Board schools and their students.
- 13. The diversity of the student body and staff enriches the learning experience, promotes cultural awareness and acceptance for all students.
- 14. A common set of norms and protocols is crucial to effective governance.
- 15. Communication, trust, respect, collaboration, and teamwork among County Board members and the County Superintendent contribute to effective decision making.
- 16. The community's engagement in issues that impact the schools provides an essential resource to the educational program.
- 17. Effective communication with all stakeholders is essential for establishing continuity, and helps build support for the schools.
- 18. Accountability for the programs and operations of the County Superintendent and County Board is shared by the entire educational community, with the ultimate accountability resting with the County Superintendent and the County Board as the basic embodiments of representative government.

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Legal Reference

EDUCATION CODE

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