

# **Purposes, Goals, and Objectives**

## **Philosophy of Education for Vernon Public Schools**

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The Board of Education believes that the educational programs and services available in the school system are designed to provide opportunities for the academic, social, and emotional growth of our student population. To this end, the Board will maintain continual review of its educational system, and where benefits to education are identified, it will strive to initiate appropriate improvements and changes.

The Board of Education also places a high premium on accountability: in measurable achievement of student learning; in the evaluation of all staff performance; and in maintaining appropriate fiscal controls. The Board recognizes that continuing improvement of the school system is facilitated by the support and interest of the community in which it serves and also rests on the professional abilities and commitment of its various staffs. To achieve the common goal of a quality educational system, the Board welcomes constructive discussions with its staff and with community members when evaluating the needs of the system and the development of efficient means to address those needs.

Recognizing that within a school system there are diverse issues, strengths, and weaknesses, the overriding philosophy is to coalesce the positive energies of all involved personnel into a strong unit working together. There always is to be the opportunity for the alternative or divergent opinion to be considered in any decision-making process. When a final decision is made, however, there is the expectation that everyone will work in concert with the intent of that decision. To do otherwise would be counter-productive to the system's ability to progress.

Students are the primary focus of the system's activities, processes, and procedures. They have been entrusted to us for the expertise we can and do provide. That responsibility is the staging upon which the Board accepts its roles as guardian and advocate for education and for which it seeks the support of the system's personnel.