

EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

Overview

The Swallow School District values the development of partnerships between our school district, families, and the greater community and policies and practices that improve the district's overall effective operation for the benefit of our students. To this end, the Board of Education has worked in tandem with the Swallow community to develop the following mission, strategy areas, and areas of Board Goal focus to guide policy and decision making:

Mission

The Swallow School District, with families and community, will inspire every child to achieve maximum potential for future success as a self-directed, problem-solving, responsible, life-long learner.

Strategy Areas

In seeking to accomplish our mission, we

- Will design and deliver curriculum and instruction based on the continual use of student performance indicators to **personalize student learning** that reflects current research and best practice in order to meet the needs of EACH student.
- Will cultivate a culture of individuals with good **character** so that students, teachers, parents, and community members will live and work in an emotionally and physically safe environment according to our four values of **compassion, honesty, responsibility, and respect** for self and others.
- Will regularly evaluate the use of **time, space and place** to maximize **student learning opportunities** and teacher **collaboration**.
- Will develop and use **sustainable, accountable, and transparent financial models and strategies** in an attempt to provide the best education possible for our students while providing for the District's long-term financial stability.

Areas of Focus for Board Goals

Study and Plan for District's Financial Future: The District will focus on sustaining the current financial condition of the District and the ability to continue to offer outstanding educational services to our students. The Board will make sound financial decisions based on conservative projections to assure the long-term fiscal viability of the District.

Create and Implement Changes to Key Personnel Policies and Processes: The District will focus on key personnel policies and processes to ensure our ability to continue to recruit, hire, and retain outstanding educators and school staff for the benefit of our students.

Individual Student Focus: The District will keep at the forefront its ongoing belief that student learning is the primary purpose of the district and that student learning will drive the District’s decision-making, resource allocation, and daily work.

Staff Development: In order to fulfill the District’s mission to inspire every child to achieve maximum potential for future success as a self-directed, problem-solving, responsible, life-long learner we must provide targeted and in-depth staff development for our entire school staff. This staff development needs to be aligned with district goals and objectives, ongoing, differentiated to meet the needs of different staff depending on personal expertise and prior demonstrated knowledge, and there must be an expectation that the staff learning translates into changed professional practice.

Community Connections and Communication: The District values the strong and supportive relationships and partnerships that exists between Swallow School and our community and wants to ensure that there is thorough and timely two-way communication with all stakeholders to continue to build and strengthen these relationships and partnerships.

Operations: The District strives to ensure the operational processes of the district promote the health and safety of the entire school community.

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Confirmed by: _____, President

_____, Clerk