

**PHILOSOPHY OF ELEMENTARY EDUCATION**

We believe that in the elementary school a student formulates lifelong attitudes toward the school, the adventure of learning, the environment and himself.

The elementary school has an obligation to meet the developmental needs of the student and to foster the skills and patterns, which prepare an individual to function within a changing environment.

We believe that all students need to develop a sense of self-worth. To feel that one is of worth removes the necessity of continuously proving the value of oneself; thus, freeing the individual to concentrate on problem-solving, to refine one's creativity, to develop abstractions and to relate positively with others.

We believe that all students need to develop optimum physical well being.

We believe that all students need to develop curiosity and inquiry.

We believe that all students need to develop a sense of design and purpose in nature. A realization of patterns and order in nature will help the student feel he has a useful place in his environment. Through the understanding of natural relationships a student can be guided in decision-making and learn to master his environment, thereby allowing him to assume responsibility toward future generations and the environment.

We believe that all students need to develop a positive sense of futurity. A confident perception of time to come results in hope, a supportive quality of life necessary for constructive planning.

We believe that the elementary school has the major task of schooling youngsters in the process of learning. Further, success as a learner is dependent on the student's attitudes and requires behaviors of self-direction, self-management and self- evaluation.