# **Philosophy of Idabel Public Schools**

We believe that education is the foundation of our democratic society and should be designed to fit the needs of the students as assessed by the school, the family and the community. We recognize that the educational necessities of individuals vary and that guidance is a very important part of education. Regardless of any variable, each student should be given the opportunity to develop to the fullest extent those abilities, qualities, knowledge, and skills which are essential to the student becoming a self-supporting citizen and a worthy contributor to his/her fellow man.

We believe that education must be flexible to keep pace with an ever-changing society. We recognize that an educational program of curriculum content, methods, and activities should aim toward the growth of intellectual, physical, moral, social, and aesthetic concepts; the development of desirable attitudes and appreciations; the motivation of intellectual competency; and the preparation for living in a competitive society.

We believe that the personal and professional goals of educators should be excellence in preparation and in example as well as high standards in performance in carrying out the philosophy of the school district.

# **Instructional Focus**

The main focus of the Idabel Schools must be directed toward the student. It is the intent of the board of education that the corporate resources of the entire school community be utilized to guarantee that every student in the Idabel Public Schools will be provided an equal opportunity to attain a level of education equal to his/her ability and level of motivation.

It is the belief of the board that the process of educating the children and youth of Idabel is a corporate and cooperative venture in which all involved - community, board, faculty, staff, administration and students - must be involved as both participants and recipients, and that each individual must assume his/her share of the responsibility for the success of the educational program.

The purpose of the various administrative personnel within the Idabel school system to provide an environment which will permit teachers to work with maximum effectiveness and to furnish them with a variety of tools and specialized assistance in developing and carrying out a program of education which will best meet the needs of girls and boys in the world in which we live. The board will attempt to provide the necessary facilities, personnel, equipment, and materials for educating all students to whom it is responsible.

**Goals of the Idabel School District**

* To provide a climate for the students which promotes reflective, constructive thinking and encourages problem solving and creativity.
* To stimulate students to recognize and develop their potential through a curriculum that is designed to meet their intellectual and occupational needs.
* To aid individual growth toward a positive self-concept, self-respect, and self-reliance, self-discipline, and self-realization.
* To teach, using democratic procedures and principles, responsible citizenship with respect for law, authority, public and private property, concern for others, and for our country.
* To educate students, with the help of the family unit and the community, to become effective, knowledgeable consumers and responsible members of society.
* To encourage good hygiene and physical fitness through the optimal use of leisure and recreational time.
* To provide each student opportunities to understand and appreciate our American heritage and the various cultures contained within it.
* To provide each student with opportunities to develop a greater capacity to appreciate the beauty in literature, art, music and nature through joint efforts of school and community.
* To help students develop awareness of and responsibility toward the conservation of energy and natural resources.
* To provide a well-rounded staff which continues striving for professional growth.

## Basic Commitments

If Idabel School District is to successfully accomplish its mission, it is essential that all members of the School board, faculty, staff, and administration commit themselves to certain basic philosophical positions. The following items are of primary importance:

* The welfare of the students in Idabel Public Schools will be placed above all other considerations.
* Good communications will be established and maintained with the community in general and parents in particular.
* Each person in the school community will receive fair, just and equitable treatment.
* All parents will be treated with courtesy, justice, and fairness.
* We will strive to develop a sense of responsibility, a feeling of respect for the rights of others, and respect for authority among all members of the school community.