

**WELLS-OGUNQUIT COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY/MISSION**

As advocates for children, the School Committee recognizes that the thorough and efficient education of children is its primary statutory-based responsibility. To this end, the School Committee considers proper and adequate support of schools to be a civic responsibility shared by all citizens.

The school unit will provide an educational environment designed to encourage each student to acquire the necessary skills and perspectives needed for a meaningful life and career. All schools will strive to encourage students to form desirable habits that are necessary for them to become responsible, informed citizens. In general, we aim to have students develop attitudes and practices necessary for satisfying, worthwhile lives.

We believe that all children must be provided equal but not identical opportunities to allow them to achieve at levels commensurate with their abilities. We believe that all students should experience a school environment which allows them to develop positive attitudes toward themselves and respect for others, and which fosters a desire for lifelong learning.

The school unit will develop and implement a rigorous core curriculum designed to achieve specific learning outcomes. It will be planned with the goal of supporting and maintaining standards that will provide students with the skills necessary for success in a global society while giving them a broad educational foundation compatible with their interests, aptitudes and aspirations. All students will have the opportunity to learn and demonstrate proficiency in English language arts, mathematics, science, social studies and technology. The curriculum and graduation requirements will be regularly evaluated to ensure their continued appropriateness.

We believe that in order to achieve our goals and to implement this philosophy, our schools must secure the involvement of the community, students, staff, parents and citizens. Educational responsibility must be shared with important community institutions. We strongly believe that our school system's success depends on good rapport and cooperation with our communities and their institutions.

The School Committee recognizes the role professional staff in providing direct instruction to students. We believe that in order to most effectively carry out their responsibilities, professional staff should establish goals for themselves consistent with the philosophy of the School Committee and individual schools. Staff should engage in self-evaluation for the purpose of increasing their knowledge and skills, with the objective being an improved educational program for all students.

The School Committee fully accepts the responsibility of formulating policies and acquiring adequate funding to support the education process. The School Committee will always consider the welfare of students as the single most important factor in making decisions relative to educational policy. It will be the responsibility of the School Committee and administrators to promote sound educational practices and professional development.

Legal Reference: 20-A MRSA, §§ 1001(1-A); 4511(3)(A)

Cross Reference: ADA – School Committee Mission and Goals

Adopted by the WOCSD School Committee: January 5, 2005  
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