

RSU #63

- a. **NEPN/NSBA Code:** AD
- b. **Title:** Educational Philosophy
- c. **Author:**
- d. **Replaces Policy:**
- e. **Date Approved:** 12/02/2019 RSU #63
- f. **Date Previously Approved:** 12/16/2013
- g. **Policy Expiration:** Review as Needed
- h. **Responsible for Review:** Policy Committee
- i. **Date Reviewed:** 10/15/2019 Policy Committee
- j. **References:** 20-A MRSA, §§ 1001(1-A); 4511(3)(A)

k. **Narrative:**

As advocates for children, the RSU #63 Board of Directors (the Board) recognizes that the thorough and efficient education of children is its primary statutory-based responsibility. To this end, the Board considers proper and adequate support of schools to be a civic responsibility shared by the community.

- I. RSU #63 (the District) 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.
- II. We believe all children must be provided equal but not identical opportunities to allow them to achieve at levels commensurate with their abilities. We believe all students must learn in an environment that allows them to develop positive attitudes toward themselves and genuine respect for others.
- III. A rigorous core curriculum designed to achieve specific learning outcomes will be provided. It will be planned with the goal of creating and maintaining standards, which will furnish students with the skills necessary for success in a global society while giving them a broad educational foundation compatible with their interests, aptitudes, and aims. The curriculum will be regularly evaluated to ensure their continued appropriateness.
- IV. In order to achieve our goals and to implement this philosophy, we believe all schools must secure the involvement of the students, staff, parents, and community. We strongly believe the District's success depends on good rapport and cooperation with our communities and its institutions.
- V. The Board recognizes the professional staff as the body that is legally charged with the responsibility of providing education to all children. In fulfilling this responsibility, the staff will seek to ensure the following:
 - A. All children will master basic skills in language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, art, music, physical education, health, a world language, and technology.

- B.** Instruction will be provided which is appropriate to each individual with respect to goals, methodology, and evaluation.
 - C.** Students will be seen in their totality as physical, mental, social, and creative individuals.
 - D.** Staff members, in order to effectively execute their responsibilities, will establish goals for themselves consistent with the philosophy of the Board and individual schools. Staff members will engage in a self-evaluation process for the purpose of self-improvement—the ultimate objective being an improved instructional program for all students.
 - E.** The Board recognizes that this highly technological society demands students learn how to cope with change and come to accept that “learning” is a continuous process.
- VI.** The Board accepts the responsibility of formulating policies and acquiring adequate funding to support the educational process. The Board 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 Board and administrators to promote sound educational practices and professional development.