

In furtherance of its educational philosophy and the achievement of District goals, the Board of Education hereby commits itself to the following principles that underlie the *New Compact for Learning* as published by the New York State Board of Regents in March, 1991:

1. All children can learn

All children are capable of learning and contributing to society.

2. Focus on results

Our mission is not to keep school -- it is to see that children learn. Accountability does not end with following established rules and procedures; its essence is found in results.

3. Aim for mastery

Minimum competence, while necessary, is not enough. All children are entitled to a curriculum, to instructional methods, and to adult expectations which challenge them to perform at their best, and help them to become truly proficient in knowledge and skill.

4. Provide the means

Every child is entitled to the resources necessary to provide the sound, basic education which the State Constitution requires.

5. Provide authority with accountability

Each participant in the educational process should have the authority needed to discharge effectively his or her responsibility, and each participant should be held accountable for achieving the desired results -- students, parents, teachers, counselors, librarians, administrators, Board of Education members, and others.

6. Reward success and remedy failure

Achievement of desired results by individuals and groups should be rewarded. The times demand a system that rewards those who take risks to produce results. Occasional failure is probably unavoidable. However, failure should not be permitted to persist. Help should be provided and the situation changed.

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