

The following set of beliefs comprises the educational philosophy of the Johnson City Central School District.

WE BELIEVE THAT ALL STUDENTS CAN LEARN WELL

1. ABILITIES CAN BE DEVELOPED

We believe in creating learning experiences that enable each student to develop his or her academic potential to the fullest.

2. EXCELLENCE FOR ALL

We believe in excellence for all.

We believe in setting high and achievable academic expectations for each student.

We believe that by creating varied options within a single program we can discover and develop the potential of each student.

3. PREVENTION

We believe in a learning process that places the emphasis on the prevention of learning difficulties.

We believe when learning difficulties do occur there should be effective intervention and/or remediation.

4. OPTIMISM

We believe in being positive about each student's ability to learn.

We believe that optimistic beliefs serve the goals of the organization and its students.

5. COOPERATION AND COMPETITION

We believe in creating learning experiences and conditions that help students learn how to cooperate in the achievement of individual and common goals.

We believe students should be encouraged to compete with themselves in pursuit of ever higher standards and success. Competition among individuals and groups can be natural and beneficial. It is that kind of competition that we encourage.

6. INVOLVEMENT

We believe that we should responsibly include all students in our school program in as many ways as possible.

We believe in creating varied options within a single program that include all students.

7. LEARNING FOR MASTERY

We believe learning is enhanced and optimized when students know what they are to learn, how they are to learn it and why they are to learn it.

We believe in ensuring that students are ready to achieve what they are to learn to the best of their ability.

We believe students should be engaged in the learning process. This engagement should include student self-evaluation under the direction of the teacher, as well as teacher evaluation of student performance.

We believe in performance-based learning rather than time-based learning. Therefore, we should vary the time and learning experiences available for students.

We believe students learn at different rates and in different ways.

8. TRUST

We believe in practices and behaviors that encourage a spirit of trust among students and members of the district and community.

We believe in creating mutually developed and respectful expectations that are consistent with our behavior and actions.

We believe that trust rather than fear succeeds best to motivate and encourage people to perform at high levels.

9. SUCCESS

We believe all students can achieve success in a physically and psychologically safe environment.

We believe that success in learning can breed confidence, which begets even more success.

We believe success and failure enables people to learn and grow from both experiences. When setbacks occur they should be examined, learned from and corrected.

We believe a positive attitude helps students deal with opportunities, challenges and problems successfully.

10. VALIDATION

We believe all students can grow through affirmation and validation.

We believe we should encourage self-direction, self-evaluation, self-correction and self-acceptance.

We believe all members of the school community should model and encourage respect for self and others.