## PHILOSOPHY

As part of its responsibility to establish a guiding vision for the district, the Governing Board shall develop and regularly review a set of fundamental principles which describes the district's beliefs, values or tenets. The Board and district staff shall incorporate this philosophy in all district programs and activities.

(cf. 0000 - Vision)

- (cf. 0200 Goals for the School District)
- (cf. 9000 Role of the Board)

## **Belief Statement**

- 1. We believe in nurturing excellence through the recognition of quality people and the identification and implementation of state-of-the-art programs.
- 2. We believe in fostering/developing group and individual critical thinking and creativity.
- 3. We believe that safe, clean and orderly school and district facilities are conducive to learning.
- 4. We believe that shared decision-making and shared responsibility lead to open communication and acceptance.
- 5. We believe that success depends on risk taking and achievement through hard work, competition and cooperation.
- 6. We believe in preparing students to be proficient in the use of emerging technologies.
- 7. We believe that by affirming cultural and linguistic diversity we will encourage pride in one's own culture and respect for diversity.
- 8. We believe that when parents are actively involved in the education of their children, students are better able to achieve their academic potential.
- 9. We believe that a supportive family is a cornerstone of a dynamic and successful school community.
- 10. We believe that nurturing positive self-esteem is essential for personal success and mutual respect.
- 11. We believe that the district should operate within responsible financial boundaries that include future fiscal planning which reflects instructional priorities and aggressively seeks available funding sources.

## **PHILOSOPHY** (continued)

- 12. We believe in quality outcomes for which students, employees, parents, and community are accountable for excellence.
- 13. We believe that all individuals will attain their highest potential through an ongoing program of learning.
- 14. We believe that the ever increasing responsibilities of young people require that students be skilled in decision-making strategies.
- 15. We believe in providing a curriculum that prepares all students with marketable and adaptive skills to succeed in a changing world.
- 16. We believe that El Rancho Unified School district will demonstrate responsibility for community, national, global, and environmental issues.
- 17. We believe that planning and implementation go hand-in-hand and requires a commitment to follow-through.

## Legal Reference:

<u>EDUCATION CODE</u> 51002 Local development of programs based on stated philosophy and goals 51019 Definition of philosophy

Management Resources:

<u>CSBA PUBLICATIONS</u> <u>Maximizing School Board Leadership: Vision</u>, 1996