

PHILOSOPHY

Mission Statement

The mission of the Capistrano Unified school district, in partnership with the home and our richly diverse community, is to educate students and to assist them in realizing their full potential as responsible, productive, contributing members of society by providing an educational environment in which students are challenged, excellence is expected and differences are valued.

Beliefs

This mission shall be accomplished by implementing the District's long-range Strategic Plan - A Blueprint of Excellence 1993-2000. This plan represents a covenant with our community. It is founded on a set of commonly held, deep, abiding convictions. We believe that:

- Our nation's destiny lies with our children: their potential is our greatest resource; their development is our highest priority.
- Every student is important.
- Every student has the right to learn.
- The parent is the child's first and most influential teacher.
- Students can learn when given opportunity and encouragement.
- Student self-esteem is critical to the learning process.
- All students need to be challenged to reach their full potential.
- Human diversity enriches individuals and society.
- Respect, honesty, responsibility, and integrity are essential in the educational environment.
- There is a direct relationship between expectation and achievement.
- Meaningful achievement requires focused effort and hard work.
- Students, educators, parents and the community share the responsibility to be involved actively in the educational process.
- The community has the right to hold the schools accountable.
- Learning is a lifelong process.

PHILOSOPHY (continued)

Parameters

As we implement Capistrano 2000, our policies and actions will be guided by the following parameters:

- All decisions will be based on what is best for our students.
- All students will have access to the CORE curriculum.
- The uniqueness of each individual in our school community will be valued.
- Demeaning personal comments and sarcasm will not be tolerated.
- Our schools will be free of violence, alcohol and other drugs.
- Schools will be disciplined environments conducive to learning.
- Every branch of our organization will support the instructional program.
- All levels of the school district will practice shared decision making.
- Structures and programs will not hinder imagination and creativity.
- All courses, programs and activities must make a positive contribution to our District's mission and goals.
- Operational practices and administrative structures will be continually reviewed to improve our efficiency.