

## ***Educational Philosophy***

*“The purpose of education is not to fill the minds of students with facts...it is to teach them to think, if that is possible, and always think for themselves.”*

*--Robert Hutchins*

Educating students is a community responsibility. Parents, teachers, administrators, counselors, and patrons are all partners in the process. The superintendent provides an environment that allows students to reach their full potential.

My philosophy is a constructivist view of education in that I believe students must learn how to make meaning out of their own learning through authentic classroom experiences. The goal is for students to develop an intrinsic motivation for learning which can be achieved through actively engaging them.

Each child learns differently and needs a stimulating culture to grow and develop. Using differentiated instructional techniques such as hands-on activities will allow the students to become active learners and decision makers. Exposing students to various learning styles will also allow them to understand how they learn best. I expect classrooms to be alive with activity, as teachers take advantage of strategies that empower students to learn.

Classroom teachers who facilitate or guide student learning have a tremendous impact on student development. Therefore, providing them with the appropriate tools for teaching and investing in dynamic professional development will influence student outcomes. Teachers must be given enough autonomy to bring their classrooms alive so learning can be fun and exciting for kids.

As superintendent, I would be the lead learner in the organization. This example will not only set the tone for the organization, it will set the expectation that new, active learning is valued. I have always felt that life-long learning should be at the heart of every educator, especially the superintendent.