

Nippersink School District 2

Board of Education Belief Statements for 2009-2011

Approved 01/26/10

Belief Statement 1: Quality Education For All Students

The Board believes every student deserves a quality education that meets or exceeds State of Illinois, “No Child Left Behind, and IDEA standards.

The Board’s Role is to provide for this through its teachers, administrators, policies and review processes.

Goal 1: Support the implementation of school improvement activities and RtI through District policy and resources.

- Board Members will receive periodic presentations of RtI components and school improvement activities.
- Board Members will review and analyze student assessment trend data.
- Board Members will utilize data for strategic decision-making.

Goal 2: Administer a decision-making /selection process for the consideration of instructional/curricular programs and staffing determinations through the review of data indicators, best practices, and stakeholder interests.

- Board members will create and utilize appropriate and relative criteria.
- Board members will apply identified criteria when considering instructional and staffing decisions.

Belief Statement 2: Finance

The Board believes a balanced budget is essential to the operation of the schools.

The Board’s Role is to ensure that the Board and its employees will be fiscally responsible in the use of taxpayer money.

Goal 1: Maintain fiduciary responsibility to the community through monthly financial reporting and an annual independent audit of school district finances, all with a commitment to ongoing compliance with all federal and state regulations, as well as applicable district policies and procedures.

- Board Members will approve a balanced budget by September 30, 2010 and September 30, 2011.
- Board Members will establish five year financial projections by February 28, 2010 and February 28, 2011. This timing will facilitate the decision-making process that takes place with regard to program, personnel and registration fee decisions for the 2010-11 and 2011-12 school years, respectively.
- Board Members will place specific emphasis on forming both short term and long term fiscal priorities, as they continue to monitor potential reductions in revenues in these distressed economic times.

Belief Statement 3: Enhanced Technology

The Board recognizes the relationship between enhancing technology and providing increased and improved teaching and learning opportunities for staff, students, and parents.

The Board's Role is to provide the resources to support this belief statement.

Goal 1: Improve the technology infrastructure throughout the district.

- Board members will facilitate the resolution of connectivity issues.

Goal 2: Foster and expand a relationship between the school and community by enhancing communication through technology.

- Board members will support the modification of district websites and their utilization as a broader communication device.

Goal 3: Increase student use of applications of technology.

- Board members will provide for staff development opportunities and resources in order to promote technology integration and best practices.

Belief Statement 4: Communications

The Board believes a healthy school district depends on systematic, two-way communications with all stakeholders.

The Board's Role is to provide communication through various media.

Goal 1: Accomplish the District's utilization of various means of communication.

- Board Members will issue newsletters as needed.

- Board Members will form advisory committees as appropriate.
- Board Members will encourage and welcome public input at school board meeting as governed by policy.
- Board Members will consider other viable methods of public communication.

Belief Statement 5: Student Health and Safety

The Board believes a healthy, safe and secure school environment provides the best opportunity for learning.

The Board's Role is to provide for this belief through its policies, practices and crisis and emergency plans.

Belief Statement 6: Educational Setting

The Board believes the quality of education is enhanced when all students learn in settings in which they and their peers experience, share and engage a cross-section of perceptions, life references and views.

The Board's Role is to continually analyze residential growth in the district, in an effort to determine its impact on our educational facilities, so that we can maintain current and potentially new educational settings that are of high quality consistent with human and fiscal resources.