

## **0000 EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY AND MISSION STATEMENT**

The Board of Education recognizes that to govern effectively, it must clearly define its educational philosophy and mission. The Board, therefore, adopts the following philosophy and mission statement to convey the District's purpose and set the direction for the community, administrative and instructional goals.

### **Educational Philosophy**

The Board of Education of the Byram Hills Central School District believes that a universal and free education is essential to the survival of our nation and to the attainment of its most cherished ideals. These ends can be achieved only through a well-educated, moral, and informed citizenry and, therefore, that the common good of all is best served by the fullest development of the individual.

The public school is the community's response to its duty to educate its children. The school, of necessity, reflects and projects the community. Thus, the Board is committed to providing an education for each child where the individual's intellectual potential is developed to the fullest possible extent. The Board values the unique qualities of every child and supports a learning environment that meets individual student needs.

The Board believes that a Byram Hills education endows the students with the maturity, knowledge, courage, and creativity that will enable them to face the challenges and stresses of today and tomorrow wisely and resourcefully and be a responsible contributor to society. To this end, the Board supports a collaborative environment reinforced by respectful dialogue, respect for self and others, and service and kindness.

The Board believes that the school should hold as sacred the idea that learning is a lifelong process. A student's social and emotional wellness must also be supported to maximize student learning. The school is a prime influence on this process, but not the only influence. The Board encourages the use of resources in a child's education, both inside and outside the school.

Learning how to learn is essential; mere acquisition of knowledge is not enough. The District will create an academic environment that fosters inquiry, critical thinking, problem solving, and application of knowledge.

### **Mission Statement**

In an environment of mutual respect, the Byram Hills School District and its community will provide students with the means, the knowledge, and the opportunity to excel in order to become productive and responsible citizens and leaders of the twenty-first century.

#### **Cross-Ref:**

1000 Community Relations Goals

2000 Board Operational Goals

3000 Administrative Goals

4000 Instructional Goals

Adopted: 1/13/04

Revised and Adopted: 3/8/22

# Byram Hills School District

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