

GUIDING PRINCIPLES: EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY/MISSION

We, the members of the Islesboro Committee believe that Islesboro Central School is a unique and wonderful school. We maintain that, taking advantage of the circumstances of our small school population, we offer classroom instruction directed to the individual level of skill of each student. Our physical setting offers us the opportunity to feel the immediate presence of the natural world: to explore the natural world both on land and water.

Though seemingly remote, we are inextricably linked to the larger world. Similarly, the subjects we teach are linked one to another. We believe in an interdisciplinary approach to teaching and learning, which encourages students to make connections and consider the whole picture.

Our school should provide opportunities for students to acquire a strong academic background, an appreciation for the arts, a knowledge of our technological society, and competency in basic skills, including those skills necessary for the successful completion of high school or an equivalent program of secondary education.

The school should provide the opportunity for students to acquire values enabling them to respect the rights and property of others, to appreciate human diversity, as well as to cooperate with other individuals.

Our school should provide opportunities for students to develop an appreciation for learning as a life-long process, and the knowledge, habits and attitudes that promote personal health and cleanliness, as well as physical, mental and emotional well-being.

The multiple programs of our school should teach students how to cope in an increasingly complex world by becoming curious, creative, analytical and adaptive citizens of their school, community, nation and world, as well as acquiring values which enable students to use leisure time wisely, to build self-confidence, and to develop an appreciation of learning as a life-long process. All students should be given the opportunity to participate in decisions that shape their lives.

A desirable relationship between students, teachers, administration and the community is characterized by mutual respect, trust, acceptance, concern for others' needs and open communication.

We believe that programs, methods and materials should provide for student differences and abilities and enable all students to achieve their personal and academic potential.

Education at Islesboro Central School should promote a global awareness that will lead to a more intelligent use of the natural environment.

Adopted: January 14, 1999
Revised: **February 12, 2002**