

## EDUCATIONAL GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The educational goals and expectations of the School District of Jefferson are as follows:

1. Academic skills and knowledge. Since the development of academic skills and knowledge is the most important goal for schools, the district shall provide an instructional program designed to give students:
  - a. Basic skills, including the ability to read, write, spell, perform basic arithmetical calculations, learn by reading and listening and communicate by writing and speaking.
  - b. Analytical skills, including the ability to think rationally, solve problems, use various learning methods, gather and analyze information, make critical and independent judgments and argue persuasively.
  - c. A basic body of knowledge that includes information and concepts in literature, fine arts, mathematics, natural sciences, including knowledge of the elements of agriculture and the conservation of natural resources, and social sciences, including knowledge of the rights and responsibilities of the family as a consumer, cooperative marketing and consumers' cooperatives.
  - d. The skills and attitudes that will further lifelong intellectual activity and learning.
  - e. Knowledge in computer science, including problem solving, computer applications and the social impact of computers.
2. Vocational skills. The district shall provide an instructional program designed to give students:
  - a. An understanding of the range and nature of available occupations and the required skills and abilities.
  - b. Preparation to compete for entry level jobs not requiring post-secondary school education.
  - c. Preparation to enter job-specific vocational training programs.
  - d. Positive work attitudes and habits.
3. Citizenship. The district shall provide an instructional program designed to give students:
  - a. An understanding of the basic workings of all levels of government, including the duties and responsibilities of citizenship.
  - b. A commitment to the basic values of government, including by appropriate instruction and ceremony the proper reverence and respect for and the history and meaning of the American flag, the Declaration of Independence, the U.S. Constitution and the constitution and laws of this state.
  - c. The skills to participate in political life.

- d. An understanding of the function of organizations in society.
  - e. Knowledge of the role and importance of biological and physical resources.
  - f. Knowledge of state, national and world history.
  - g. An appreciation and understanding of different value systems and cultures.
4. Personal development. The district shall provide an instructional program designed to give students:
- a. The skills needed to cope with social change.
  - b. Knowledge of the human body and the means to maintain lifelong health, including:
    - (1) Knowledge of the theory and practice of physical education, including the development and maintenance of physical fitness;
    - (2) Knowledge of the true and comparative vitamin content of food and food and health values of dairy products and their importance for the human diet; and
    - (3) Knowledge of physiology and hygiene, sanitation, the effects of controlled substances and alcohol upon the human system, symptoms of disease and the proper care of the body. No student may be required to take instruction in these subjects if his/her parent/guardian files with the teacher a written objection thereto. Instruction in physiology and hygiene shall include instruction on sexually transmitted diseases at the secondary school level.
  - c. An appreciation of artistic and creative expression and the capacity for self-expression.
  - d. The ability to construct personal ethics and goals.
  - e. Knowledge of morality and the individual's responsibility as a social being, including the responsibility and morality of family living and the value of frugality and other basic qualities and principles referred to in article I, section 22, of the constitution insofar as such qualities and principles affect family and consumer education.
  - f. Knowledge of the prevention of accidents and promotion of safety on the public highways, including instruction on the relationship between highway safety and the use of alcohol and controlled substances.
  - g. The skills needed to make sound decisions, knowledge of the conditions that may cause and the signs of suicidal tendencies, knowledge of the relationship between youth suicide and the use of alcohol and controlled substances and knowledge of the available community youth suicide prevention and intervention services. Instruction shall be designed to help prevent suicides by students by promoting the positive emotional development of students.
  - h. Knowledge of effective means by which students may recognize, avoid, prevent and halt physically or psychologically intrusive or abusive situations that may be harmful to students, including child abuse, sexual abuse and child enticement. Instruction shall be designed to help students develop

positive psychological, emotional and problem-solving responses to such situations and avoid relying on negative, fearful or solely reactive methods of dealing with such situations. Instruction shall include information on available school and community prevention and intervention assistance or services and shall be provided to students in elementary schools.

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