

**Billings School District 2**

**INSTRUCTION**

Educational Philosophy

The schools and departments of the District will be safe, caring, student-centered environments. Students and staff are challenged to meet standards of excellence. In an environment of high expectations for all students, every student is unique and has individual needs. These needs are the driving force for the educational development of all students. The District will define proficient levels of performance in accordance with the District's assessment policy.

The District will focus educational programs as follows:

1. All District and school-site programs will be centered on research-based models that are congruent with the effective schools correlates and that comply with curriculum development policies and acquisition of primary, supplemental, and incidental materials policies, as well as with District facilities policies.
2. Schools in the District will provide safe and orderly environments, establish climates of high expectations for success, provide instructional leadership, establish and implement a clear and focused mission, provide opportunities to learn by enhancing students' engaged learning time, utilize frequent monitoring of student progress, and promote active home/school relations.
3. School programs will be based on the Montana State Content and Delivery Standards adopted by the Montana Board of Public Education.
4. Each school is required to have a school improvement plan to improve student achievement.

Students will receive equitable access to educational opportunities within the District to enable them to demonstrate proficient levels of performance. The District's educational philosophy recognizes the responsibility for education success is shared by administration, staff, parents, students, and the community as a whole.

Within the framework of its educational philosophy, the District will formulate and implement such programs, processes, procedures, rules, and policies as deemed necessary and appropriate.

Cross References:    2000-P1    Pre-Referral Process Procedure  
                                 2120    Program Evaluation, Curriculum Development and  
                                                    Revision  
                                 2310    Instructional Resources and Textbook Adoption  
                                 2314    Assessment  
                                 9001    Planning

Legal References:    Administrative Rules of Montana, Title 10, Chapter 54  
                                 10.55.701, ARM    Board of Trustees

Policy History:

First Reading:    January 19, 2004 – Board of Trustees  
Second Reading:    March 8, 2004 – Education Committee  
Third Reading:    April 19, 2004 – Board of Trustees  
Adopted on:    April 19, 2004  
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