

**EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY**

The North Merrick Board of Education believes that the education of youth is the basic foundation of our society; that the goal of education is the achievement of excellence through high expectations for all learners and the use of approaches and methods which are most appropriate or successful for students to achieve their maximum potential.

The Board of Education is committed to ensuring a learning environment in which students will be actively engaged in higher level thinking and problem solving, develop desired moral, ethical and cultural values, love of learning and an understanding and appreciation of the rights and duties of American citizens which will enable them to function effectively as independent individuals in a democratic society.

The Board believes that everyone can learn; that each student is an individual and has his/her own innate abilities and talents; and that a school environment which is academically challenging, psychologically satisfying, and socially fulfilling must be provided for students at all levels.

In order to promote this goal, a personal commitment to excellence must be demonstrated by all members of the educational community. The objectives of an educational program are best realized when mutual understanding, cooperation, and effective communications exist among the home, school, and community.