

## **EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY**

The Washington Central Unified Union School District exists to nurture and inspire in all students the passion, creativity, and power to contribute to their local and global communities.

*(SLO unifying statement/vision)*

The Washington Central Unified Union School District is dedicated to taking concrete actions that provide a safer and more supportive learning environment that is free of barriers; one that affirms the identity of each of us and acknowledges and celebrates differences to create a sense of belonging for each person connected to our schools. The school district is committed to creating inclusive educational opportunities that are relevant both historically and culturally, addressing the impacts of bias, prejudice, and discrimination while building more opportunity for us to thrive rather than merely survive. This statement represents a commitment within our school district to acknowledge and end oppression and oppressive systems, to center our full humanity of all in our community, and to keep broadening our perspectives. These identities — including and not limited to race, color, religion, creed, national origin, ethnicity, marital status, family composition, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, varying physical and mental abilities, and socioeconomic status — carry socially constructed meaning and value. Our commitment is to the development of cultural humility and personal growth that is best supported in a climate that respects differences and provides a sense of belonging and inclusion.

*(Humanity and Justice Coalition Vision Statement)*

To those ends, we believe in the following core beliefs:

- *Rigorous Curriculum and Instruction:* ALL students can learn, thrive, and make a difference in their communities. Schools hold high expectations for all students and ensure they see their lives and the lives of others reflected in a meaningful curriculum. Educators nurture and inspire students so that students can direct their learning, celebrate their developing identities, pursue interests, and create meaningful pathways to graduation and lifelong learning.
- *Well Being:* Schools are spaces where people feel safe and valued. Our schools must meet the academic, social-emotional, and physical needs of all students. We foster and practice joy, kindness, empathy, inclusivity, and flexibility.
- *Community Engagement and Relationships:* Strong, positive relationships are essential to our schools, communities, and students. We nurture connections among people and places. The community is engaged in our schools and our students are engaged in the local and global community.
- *Transparent and Responsible Governance:* All decisions about our schools must be student centered. We make decisions using data and input from students and the community. Our processes are clear, predictable, inclusive, and transparent.

Cross References:

WCUUSD Strategic Plan

Humanity and Justice Coalition Vision Statement

Student Learning Outcomes

EQS (once passed)

I.R.I.S Framework (once passed)