MERCHANTVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION 130 South Centre Street Merchantville, New Jersey 08109	File Code: 0100 Adopted: 8/22/78 Revised: 9/14/99 Reviewed: 03/18/2024

Educational Philosophy

The Board of Education of the Merchantville Public School recognizes its primary responsibility to be, the preparation of all students for contributing membership in our democratic society. To accomplish this, it is the duty of the Merchantville Elementary School to strive to attain the highest possible degree of individual achievement in the areas of basic skills while providing for the unique academic and non-academic needs each student. It is with this concept in mind that the Board of Education oversees the preparation of students for entrance into the receiving schools as well as maintaining vigilance over the students of the borough in the receiving secondary schools.

The educational program thus offered must integrate a sound academic program with citizenship training which instills high standards of integrity, self-respect, physical and mental health, and recognition of the rights of others while accepting personal responsibility for all actions. This program must be administered and staffed by well-trained and highly-competent personnel who will work to maintain a cooperative attitude toward one another while exhibiting professional skill and sincere concern for the welfare and academic accomplishments of the students. The Board recognizes its responsibility to employ such professionals and staff members and to encourage professional growth and pride among these employees by lending support and encouragement as well as striving to achieve and maintain the most suitable and healthful physical plant for the pursuit of school activities.

To meet the unique needs of each individual, both academic and non-academic programs must contain provision for the broadest scope of individual achievement, thus offering or providing for the individual needs of all classifications of students --but attention to anyone particular level of the educational spectrum should not work to the detriment of any other group. Standards in all programs must be set which call for the best from each student. Realizing the fullest individual potential while promoting opportunities for social growth and self-direction should be the aim.

The Board of Education recognizes its responsibility to promote cooperation between the school and the several community agencies responsible for the development of youth as well as its responsibility to promote understanding and cooperation with parents and other interested parties in order to prepare adjusted, self-sufficient citizens of society.

The Board also recognizes its role in serving the total community through programs which encourages the responsible use of professional talents and physical facilities for adult education, senior citizen program, Borough Council sponsored activities, PTA and other service organizations programs and recreational, physical fitness, health and safety programs for all ages.