

## PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION

We believe that each student at Sharon Springs Central School District must be provided with the optimum opportunity to learn. It is our philosophy to maintain our high standards while meeting the requirements of the New York State Education Department and the NCLB Act in a solid educational structure making every effort to provide for the needs, abilities, aspirations and interests of each student.

We further believe that the role of the small, rural school goes beyond school education and crosses into everyday society involving family, community and various agencies/organizations.

Within these parameters the objectives of Sharon Springs Central School shall include but not be limited to:

Teaching the skills of communications; listening, speaking, reading, computing and writing; stressing the importance of solid fundamentals in all.

Encouraging creative and disciplined thinking and to strengthen the capacity for inquiry; to develop the ability to identify, define, and solve problems; to encourage competence and interest in self-instruction, and independent as well as advanced learning in support of modern technology.

Developing an understanding of and loyalty to our American system of government with its rights, privileges, responsibilities and duties, and to understand the ways in which it differs from other forms of government, past and present; to emphasize the need for intelligent participation on all levels, as voters and possible future office holders.

Providing a fundamental understanding of the humanities, social natural sciences, and mathematics, thereby allowing our young people the opportunity to compete in the 21st century.

Developing an appreciation and awareness of literature, music, arts, sciences, and technology.

Providing instruction in interscholastic sports and encouraging participation in the interscholastic programs, stressing life as well as competitive sports; emphasizing the importance of good mental and physical health habits; aiding in the understanding of the role of sexuality in human life.

Developing intellectual and moral character; fostering civic and personal virtue; and promoting honesty, integrity, fairness, self discipline, personal responsibility, courtesy, and respect for themselves and others.

Fostering an appreciation of the family unit and its importance to the individual and to our society; developing both an awareness and appreciation for the wealth of cultural richness and diversity present in our global society.

Providing educational opportunities for adults of the community as their interest and desire are expressed.

The Board of Education will endeavor to provide the finest administrative, instructional and operating staffs, and physical facilities possible. Programs will be developed, evaluated and implemented with concern to our changing needs and educational priorities targeting our present and future needs and aspirations. The Sharon Springs Central School stands ready to lead by example and meet the educational challenge of future generations in a quality small school setting.