

# Philosophy of Teaching & Learning

The Savannah-Chatham County Public School System is committed to preparing our students to be life-long learners. We also commit to engage the entire community in a partnership to work together for the success of all our students. We will recruit and retain highly-qualified staff members who creatively engage students, ensuring high levels of academic achievement. We will also recognize, value, and build upon both the differences and similarities in our students while at the same time encourage them to be contributing citizens in our community and beyond.

We, the Chatham County Board of Education, will support the delivery of education to the children of Savannah-Chatham County by lobbying for and creating policy that is both intentional and flexible. We will be committed to identifying changes in the external environment, quickly committing resources to new courses of action in response to those changes, and recognizing and acting promptly when it is time to change or modify existing resource commitments. Further, we will work cooperatively with district leadership to ensure that district policy is comprehensively implemented in the best interest of every student.

We, the Teachers, will deliver a rigorous, viable curriculum and effectively use data from assessments to create and revise instructions and planning in order to ensure mastery of standards for all students. We will communicate with parents meaningfully and continuously. We will continue to be life-long learners and participate in professional learning communities and other educational activities that assist us in becoming better educators to our students. We will also establish a safe learning environment that is conducive for all students to excel.

We, the Families, are committed to the Savannah-Chatham County Public School System. We will ensure our children come to school prepared to learn. We will create an environment that is conducive for learning. We will establish allotted time for homework and the review of course materials. We will support our children by meeting with teachers and administrators on a regular basis. We will become actively involved in school-related activities such as PTA. We will partner with the teacher, administrators, and the school for the success of our children.

We, the Administrators, will be exemplar instructional leaders who model the necessity of life-long learning and a commitment to students, parents, and the community. We will be ethical, fair, and consistent decision makers. We will possess the knowledge and skills needed to ensure high levels of learning which lay the foundation for success at the next level in our students' lives. We will be accountable for serving as a resource for teachers and students, exhibiting fiscal responsibility and fostering a safe learning environment.

We, the Support Staff, will work in conjunction with teachers and administrators to provide a positive learning environment for all students. We will remain life-long learners and participate in professional and staff development activities that will support high-quality job performance. We will be accountable for maintaining high levels of professionalism while supporting the mission and vision of the school system.

We, the Students, will be present in school and actively engaged in learning. We will take ownership of our learning and our academic success. We will work with our teachers and family to achieve our educational goals. We will behave appropriately so teachers can teach and students can learn. We will also help create learning goals for success in post-secondary education and the world of work.

We, the Community Members, will support the teaching and learning process in our schools and into the world of work. We will volunteer to be active members in the education of our students by providing learning opportunities for students beyond the classroom. We will make a commitment to employ local, highly-qualified graduates. We will hold the school board, system administrators, school-based staff, and ourselves accountable for improving standards of teaching and learning. We will support appropriate funding initiatives to ensure resources are available to recruit and retain highly-qualified staff, educate our students at high levels and provide adequate facilities.

