

Timberlane Regional School Board	Policy Code: ADAB
Adopted: 10-04-90 Revised: 05-15-97 Revised: 12-03-98 Reaffirmed: 02-24-05 Revised: 05-07-09	Page 1 of 3

TIMBERLANE REGIONAL MIDDLE SCHOOL - STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Timberlane Regional Middle School is an academic community which acknowledges and celebrates the unique characteristics of middle school students, while balancing their needs with a well-defined, comprehensive and rigorous curriculum. Recognizing the nature and importance of this transitional period in the lives of middle school students, it is our responsibility to provide a learning environment for all students that fosters our core values: Respect, Responsibility, and Right Choices. The Timberlane Regional Middle School is committed to sustaining a collaborative learning environment so that our students may become successful, independent learners. It is our mission to:

- Provide a safe, respectful, and nurturing environment that encourages enthusiasm for learning.
- Foster responsible citizenship and provide opportunities for students to acquire and demonstrate leadership and service.
- Provide a challenging, integrated, standard-based curriculum.
- Meet the individual needs of students by identifying differences and using assessment to differentiate instruction and learning.

In doing so, we guide students toward becoming lifelong learners who, as resourceful, confident, reasoning adults, are able to adapt, thrive and contribute to an ever-changing society.

Many factors outside of the school environment have an impact on teaching and learning. We recognize that the Timberlane Regional Middle School learning community extends far beyond the physical boundaries of the building. Parents, business leaders and members of the community all make valuable contributions to the educational process. It is our goal to provide venues to involve them in planning, decision-making and support for our students and our school.

Academic and Social Expectations

Academic

Students are expected to develop strategies to enhance their academic performance by:

- Becoming effective communicators through oral, written and listening skills.
- Improving organization and study skills.
- Improving the quality of their work.

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- Setting individual goals in academic areas and striving to complete these goals through reflection and self-evaluation.
- Maintaining and increasing their knowledge and skills in all subject areas.
- Learning to accept suggestions for improvement as well as praise.
- Participating in co-curricular programs.
- Becoming effective managers of ideas, information and resources, and of the technologies required to access those ideas, information and resources.
- Developing strategies using process, problem solving, and critical thinking skills to integrate and transfer to knowledge across all subject areas.

Social

Students are expected to:

- Take responsibility for their own behavior.
- Learn to make decisions that will lead to positive outcomes.
- Take pride and ownership of their school as well as their community.
- Show respect for the cultural and individual differences of all people starting with the Timberlane community.
- Develop an increasing awareness of the global community.
- Develop the ability to work cooperatively in small/large group settings.

School Performance Expectations

Statement of Purpose

The school will:

- Provide a challenging academic course of studies for all students.
- Examine and implement scheduling alternatives that maximize time for teacher preparation, collegial interaction, curriculum development and interdisciplinary planning.
- Examine and implement scheduling alternatives that maximize time for whole class, small group and individual student-teacher contact.
- Provide a universal effort to recognize and promote those activities which identify positive achievements of both students and staff in order to enhance self-esteem.

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- Work with district administration to provide safe transportation for regular and after school activities.
- Provide a clean, safe and educational environment for students and staff.
- Provide enough support staff, including secretarial, kitchen and custodial to ensure that all identified building management needs are addressed in a timely fashion.
- Ensure that equipment needs of the building are upgraded on a continuing basis.
- Seek to provide improved and upgraded technology equipment, both hard and soft and to ensure the access to the use of such equipment by all staff and students.
- Ensure ongoing and open communication between administration and staff by providing a non-judgmental atmosphere in which to discuss needs.
- Maintain high standards of professionalism for administration and staff.
- Provide ongoing opportunities for parent, family and community involvement.
- Provide a variety of co-curricular activities, both after school and evenings that address the social, creative, emotional, physical, and intellectual needs of the middle school student.
- Provide a cross-section of faculty representation when investigating, researching, implementing and evaluating new programs and curricula.
- Provide a continuum of integrated programs and services during the school day, which meet the educational, social, creative, physical, and intellectual needs of all students.
- Provide an environment which fosters respect and understanding of individual differences of all people in a diverse society.
- Accommodate individual learning styles by utilizing a variety of teaching techniques.
- Provide for all school personnel, varied and ongoing in-service objector programs which address the changing needs of the school population.
- Ensure fair and consistent discipline of all students.