

## **THE PEOPLE AND THEIR SCHOOL DISTRICT**

The public schools belong to the people. The people govern the schools under rights guaranteed by the Constitution and statutes of Maine and the United States. The people exercise their proprietorship through the elective process. They elect state and federal representatives who establish the framework of laws within which the schools operate. The people elect a School Committee to represent them and to determine local educational policies, goals and objectives.

The School Committee is mindful that the people are the ultimate governors of public education, and that the School Committee is directly accountable to the people through the elective process. The School Committee believes that accountability is a shared responsibility involving students, teachers and other employees, school administrators, and the people themselves, as well as the School Committee. Therefore, the School Committee asserts these beliefs and expectations:

- A. Students should learn at home and at school to be accountable for their own lives, actions and decisions as members of a democratic society.
- B. Teachers should hold students accountable for achieving, in accordance with their abilities, the objectives of each learning experience.
- C. The Superintendent should hold administrators, teachers and other employees accountable for working diligently and with intelligence and imagination to achieve the objectives related to their responsibilities.
- D. The School Committee should appoint the most capable person available to hold the position of Superintendent and hold him/her accountable for providing creative, professional leadership and counsel for the school unit.
- E. The School Committee should hold itself accountable for carrying out its mandate to plan, to make policy, to identify the goals and objectives of educational programs, and to provide the necessary resources to achieve them.
- F. The public should maintain an active interest in the schools - electing capable men and women to represent them on the School Committee and in other elected offices, and providing the resources necessary for the School Committee and school staff to achieve the goals and objectives of the school unit.

Adopted: February 26, 1992

Revised: August 10, 1999