



HADDON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

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9100. PUBLIC RELATIONS

Community Activities Program

A. Philosophy Statement

The Haddon Township Board of Education/Township Commissioners endorse, support and adopt the concept of community education and the operation of community schools into its operational program.

Community education concerns itself with the dynamics of relating the problems of people to the resources of a given community. It is a process through which the school, as a prime educational and public institution of the community, along with its local governmental unit, commits itself to involving the people in identifying community needs and wants. The concept is based on the belief that given the opportunity to make fuller use of their schools and other community resources, people will work together to improve themselves, their homes and their community. School becomes a center for community activities and operates on the premise that broad-based education is continuous rather than terminal. Hence, the term community school is derived.

The community education concept calls for an expansion of the role of traditional school from a formal learning center for children and youth to a total community opportunity center for all ages. Community education recognizes the interdependence of home, school and community. The positive impact local community schools have on the home and community will be reflected in the academic achievement of its pupils and the quality of community life. Therefore, the use of the community shall be encouraged in the instruction of children and adults.

Community education recognizes education as a lifelong process and the ability of anyone to be either a pupil or a teacher at any time in his/her life. The local community school and its leadership serve as that catalytic agent identifying individual and community educational, recreational and social needs and resources. It takes as its responsibility the development of meaningful programs and activities for all ages by bringing needs and resources together through a process of community involvement. It should be clearly understood that these programs and activities, however, shall not be promoted or utilized as a replacement of any part of the regular school program.

Community education additionally recognizes the necessity of material and organizational cooperation by community agencies such as Boards of Education, local governments and agencies in the maximum and efficient use of local resources. Therefore, cooperative endeavors to serve the public shall be encouraged.

B. Organizational Structure

The Superintendent of Schools or designee is administratively responsible for the adult school, a school-age child care program and other programs and services as determined.

The determination and approval of adult school courses and the content thereof rests exclusively with the Board of Education.

Adopted: March 17, 2011