The board believes that the function of formal education is to provide a foundation for lifelong learning and to enable each student to participate effectively and responsibly in a changing world. The board recognizes the critical role of parents, governmental and nonprofit agencies, businesses, and the community in helping individual students and the school system meet educational goals. To ensure that the educational program meets rigorous academic standards, the board shall strive to maintain accreditation of its schools by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and/or the State Board of Education.

A successful educational program also depends on innovation at the individual school level. The board is committed to allowing administrators at individual schools to develop and implement plans necessary to ensure the educational success of their students.

In addition to providing a basic education program as prescribed by the State Board of Education, the board believes that the administrators of the educational program also must strive to provide each student with the opportunity to:

- 1. learn to be responsible for and accept the consequences of his or her conduct and academic performance;
- 2. develop the capacity to examine and solve problems;
- 3. foster respect and appreciation for cultural and ideological diversity and differences;
- 4. develop the ability to be productive in a team environment;
- 5. learn and acquire the skills necessary for a lifetime of continuous learning and adaptation to change in the workplace and society;
- 6. prepare for challenging curriculum beyond secondary school and, when appropriate, complete high school courses required for college entry in less than four years;
- 7. achieve high levels of success in a rigorous curriculum;
- 8. acquire the skills necessary for success as life-long learners;
- 9. acquire the skills needed for technological literacy in a rapidly changing world; and
- 10. remain in school and earn a high school diploma and, when appropriate, earn additional college credit.

These goals and objectives of the educational program will be used to guide administrators, teachers, and the board in all of their duties, including curriculum development, selection of

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materials, and issues related to instructional time.

Legal References: G.S. 115C-12(32), -12(39), -36, -47, -81; State Board of Education Policies GCS-F-016, GCS-L-006

Cross References: Curriculum Development (policy 3100), Selection of Instructional Materials (policy 3200), Counseling Program (policy 3610)

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