

**The People and Their School District**

The public schools belong to the people. The people govern the schools under rights guaranteed to them under the Constitution and statutes of our State. The people elect state and federal representatives who establish, through the legislative process, the framework within which the schools operate. The people also elect a school board to represent them and to determine local educational plans and policies, and to establish educational goals and objectives. M.S.A.D. #49 functions as an agency of the public within this framework.

The board knows that the people are the ultimate governors of public education, and that the board is directly accountable to them. But the board also believes that accountability is a shared responsibility.

Students should be trained at home and by the schools so that they will learn to be accountable for their lives, actions, and decisions as maturing members of a democratic society.

Teachers should hold students accountable for achieving, within the limits of each student's abilities the objectives of each learning experience.

The superintendent should hold teachers and other employees accountable for working to achieve the objectives directly related to their stated job responsibilities.

The board should appoint the most capable person available to hold the position of superintendent of schools, and should hold him/her accountable for providing professional leadership and counsel in all aspects of the school district program.

The board should also hold itself accountable for carrying out its mandate to plan, to make policy, and to lead in the identification of goals and objectives.

Approved: May 1, 2014