

Alexandria Township Career Education and Consumer, Family and Life Skills Philosophy Statement

The vision for the Alexandria Township School curriculum in Career Education and Consumer, Family and Life Skills is for all students to develop the necessary life skills to become effective, informed, productive and positive members of their family, school, community and workforce.

To achieve this vision the curriculum must adhere to the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards for Career Education and Consumer, Family, and Life Skills. This includes standard 9.2: "All Students Will Demonstrate Critical Life Skills in Order To Be Functional Members of Society and standard 9.1: "All Students Will Develop Career Awareness and Planning, Employability Skills, and Functional Knowledge Necessary for Success In The Workplace.

We will know we have achieved this vision for Curriculum in Career Education and Consumer, Family and Life Skills when the students' demonstrate

- * critical thinking skills
- * problem-solving skills
- * positive attitudes when working with others
- * how to work cooperatively and collaboratively within the work environment
- * developmentally appropriate social skills
- * communicating effectively with others
- * character skills such as fairness and respect of others
- * responsibility
- * coping skills and self-management skills
- * how to effectively deal with criticism or discord and develop skills for conflict resolution
- * an understanding of various careers and employment opportunities

- * self-awareness and vocationally relevant strengths and weaknesses
- * appropriate work habits
- * consumer awareness
- * an understanding of math in its practical form of daily living (finances, money,etc)

To achieve these goals students from preschool to eighth grade will be involved in learning expectations based on an eclectic organizational approach which will include vertical alignment (where content and skills are arranged so that they build sequentially on each other), and an integration approach (where some of the core strands will be taught in other curricular areas).

We will know we have achieved this vision for our curriculum when students have demonstrated proficiency according to the New Jersey Core Standards, in each of the grades from preschool to eighth grade. As stated in the NJ academic and Professional standards "Building upon the knowledge and skills gained in the preceding grades, by the end of Grade 8, students will...." demonstrate specific mastery of skills in critical thinking, self-management, interpersonal communication, character development and ethics, career awareness and planning, employability skills, consumer and personal finance skills and safety.