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### **GENERAL PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION**

Education is not the piling on of learning, information, data, facts, skills, or abilities - that's training or instruction - but is rather making visible what is hidden as a seed.

-Sir Thomas More

As an educator, I believe that I am preparing students to become effective and thoughtful members of society. My job is to guide the voice of the student while teaching them to discover his or her own voice. This includes developing the reasoning behind the voice. I am teaching students to critically think in all aspects of their life and to evaluate using self-discovery. As we teach the students in academic areas, we are simultaneously fostering self-esteem, self-reflection, and self-awareness.

I feel fortunate to be a language arts teacher as I frequently am afforded the opportunity to guide and witness students growing and changing on their path to finding their own literate voice. My role is to encourage students when they succeed as well as when they fail. I find that teaching is a humbling and rewarding experience and I am honored to be a guide. A literate society is a thoughtful society.