DISTRICT PHILOSOPHY DEFINITIONS

Lake Havasu Unified School District #1 will engage each student with a focus on scholarship, character, and humanity - so that all students may graduate with the academic and social skills necessary to become responsible citizens and contributing members of society.

Scholarship –
Knowledge and achievement, including: worldviews (system of truth claims that each individual accepts as truth and determines the values, morals, beliefs, and behaviors for each individual), Logic, Reason.

Character –
We judge the good moral character of each individual based on known performance and personal virtue - i.e., deeds/actions; we judge what measure of reliance can be placed in the individual; how far he/she may be trusted; wherein lies his/her weakness, and wherein his/her greatest strength.

Pursuit of education is, perhaps, the greatest force in the determination of individual character. It overrules the handicaps of environment, poverty, and individual physical handicaps. It asks no favor of race, creed, color, gender.

K-6th
Integrity Perseverance
Honesty Kindness
Loyalty Gratitude
Respectfulness Courage
Responsibility

7-12th
Care in your daily conduct.
Diligence in preparation for your task.
Ability to delay gratification.
Judgment in selection of companions.
Integrity, honor, initiative, self-reliance, self-control.

Humanity –
The kind feelings, dispositions and sympathies of all mankind. Kindness; benevolence; especially, a disposition to relieve persons in distress, and to treat with tenderness those who are helpless and defenseless; opposed to cruelty.
Responsible Citizen –

Citizenship is the most vital of all subjects for a constitutional republic whose system of government was created to “secure the blessings of liberty”. Protection of property rights and the full power to express individual initiative are based upon the intelligence, education, and character of each individual citizen, whether native or foreign.

Liberty requires self-government when taking the opportunity to make a choice, to assume responsibility and accept the consequences. Responsible American Citizens understand their “privilege” of Liberty, Rights, and Responsibilities.

Contributing members of society recognize all of the above. E Pluribus Unum

Rights
Freedom to responsibly express yourself.
Right to freely practice your religion.
Freedom from unwarranted government intrusions
Right to a prompt, fair trial by jury.
Right to vote in elections for public officials.
Right to run for elected office.
Right to “life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.”
Right to the fruits of your labor.

Responsibilities
Comprehend, support and defend the Constitutions (both Federal and state) and The Declaration of Independence
Be informed.
Participate in your government.
Obey federal, state, and local laws.
Respect the rights of others.
Participate in your local community.
Meet obligations to federal, state, and local government.
Serve on a jury when called upon.
Defend the country if the need should arise.

Liberty: You Must Understand It in Order to Value It


Freedom: The state of being free; liberty; self-determination; absence of restraint; the opposite of slavery. The power of acting, in the character of a moral personality, according to the dictates of the will, without other check, hindrance, or prohibition than such as may be imposed by just and necessary laws and the duties of social life. The prevalence, in the government and constitution of a country, of such a system of laws and institutions as secure civil liberty to the individual citizen. Black’s Law Dictionary-Second Edition
Republic: A commonwealth; a form of government which derives all its powers directly or indirectly from the general body of citizens, and in which the executive power is lodged in officers chosen by and representing the people, and holding office for a limited period, or at most during good behavior or at the pleasure of the people, and in which the legislative power may be (and in modern republics is) entrusted to a representative assembly. See Federalist, No. 39; Republic of Mexico v. De Arangoiz, 5 Duer (N.Y.) 636; State v. Harris, 2 Bailey (S.C.) 599. In a wider sense, the state, the common weal, the whole organized political community, without reference to the form of government; as in the maxim interest republicae ut sit finis litium. Co. Litt. 303. *Black’s Law Dictionary*-Second Edition

Democracy: That form of government in which the sovereign power resides in and is exercised by the whole body of free citizens; as distinguished from a monarchy, aristocracy, or oligarch. According to the theory of a pure democracy, every citizen should participate directly in the business of governing, and the legislative assembly should comprise the whole people. But the ultimate lodgment of the sovereignty being the distinguishing feature, the introduction of the representative system does not remove a government from this type. However, a government of the latter kind is sometimes specifically described as a “representative democracy.” *Black’s Law Dictionary*-Second Edition

Socialism: A scheme of government aiming at absolute equality in the distribution of the physical means of life and enjoyment. It is on the continent employed in a larger sense; not necessarily implying communism, or the entire abolition of private property, but applied to any system which requires that the land and the instruments of production should be the property, not of individuals, but of communities or associations or of the government. 1 Mill, Pol. Econ. 248. *Black’s Law Dictionary*-Second Edition

Oligarchy: A form of government wherein the administration of affairs is lodged in the hands of a few persons. *Black’s Law Dictionary*-Second Edition


Pure Capitalism: An economic system that shows little interference from a government body. The system is run by big business and revolves around money and capital assets. TLD Example: The election of a president who is opposed to any form of government regulation of business could mean the voters are ready to embrace pure capitalism. *Black’s Law Dictionary*-Second Edition