

## **Basic Principles about the Nature of Human Beings**

1. Each individual has a personality, assets, physical and emotional strengths, and abilities gained from experience, some of which are identified and others unused.
2. Each individual has specific goals and long range objectives which are meaningful to him.
3. All individuals, within themselves, have the desire to change and grow.
4. The opportunity to design one's own learning situation provides additional motivation to develop and change.
5. Group encouragement and reinforcement assists in individual exploration and change.
6. The present can be altered and the future directed without explanation of the negative past.
7. Emotions may be affected by signs and symbols...they will respond to action.
8. Human behavior is strongly influenced by its present environment.
9. Meaningful education is a continuous process. It is, by and large, predicated on need and desire and not order.
10. Peers learn best from peers...when new information and experiences result from the relationship.
11. An individual learns success from those he selects as successful – the association is essential.
12. An individual continues to develop by completing a desired activity and moving to a new experience.
13. Each individual has a purpose within the universe – Identifying and pursuing this purpose is a vital part of fulfillment.
14. Learning occurs when an individual recognizes, and accepts the differences between his failure and another's success and bases his next action on that information.