

# **Sacramento City USD**

## **Board Policy**

### **Service Learning Project Senior Project**

BP 6142.4

#### **Instruction**

The Governing Board recognizes that service learning can help students develop skills, career awareness and self-esteem. Service experiences also can motivate students by letting them apply what they are studying to local needs and problems and by showing them that they can make a contribution to their community.

Beginning with the graduating Class of 2007, students enrolled in Sacramento City Unified School District must complete a graduation requirement of completing a Service Learning Project or a Senior Project or successfully complete a semester course to prepare and present an acceptable Project. A final decision must be made by the student during the junior year of his/her intent to complete the service learning project or senior project. In this manner, appropriate courses can be scheduled for the completion of the service learning project/senior project graduation requirement.

The Board supports the integration of service learning activities with the curriculum so as to enhance learning in all subject areas. The Board encourages staff to collaborate with local public and nonprofit agencies in order to develop service learning activities that meet educational objectives and also fit in with current community efforts to meet human, educational, environmental or public safety needs. The Service Learning Project/Senior Project, a culminating of student's intellectual, academic, and community activities, is an opportunity for seniors to plan and execute an individual program of study and to experience some of the expectations and rigors of work and/or college.

Students should be offered volunteer opportunities, which support and strengthen their academic achievement and help them recognize the relevance of what they are learning in school. Insofar as possible, such opportunities shall also be designed to help students develop cross-cultural relationships within the community.

(cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements/Standards of Proficiency)

#### **Notifications**

Parents/guardians shall receive information about the service learning opportunities offered by the district and their benefits for both the community and the student. The district shall ask parents/guardians to acknowledge this information before students participate in off-campus service activities.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35160 Authority of governing boards

35160.1 Broad authority of school districts

51210 Areas of study, grades 1 to 6

51220 Areas of study, grades 7 to 12

51745 Independent study

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

12501-12682 National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993

COURT DECISIONS

F.2d 989 (3rd. Cir. 1993), cert. denied, 114 S.Ct. 85 (1993)

Steirer et al v. Bethlehem Area School District, 789 F.Supp. 1337 (E.D. Pa 1992) 987

Policy SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

adopted: November 16, 1998 Sacramento, California

revised: August 4, 2003