

# Santa Barbara Unified School District

## Board Policy

BP 6142.4

### Instruction

#### COMMUNITY SERVICE/SERVICE LEARNING

##### Community Service

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

Sixty hours of community service shall be required for high school graduation. Individual circumstances may be considered in meeting this requirement. Additionally, a number of courses also require service hours. Service hours in excess of the number of hours required as part of normal course work may be applied to the community service graduation requirement.

Parents/guardians shall receive information about the community service 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.

##### Service Learning

The Board recognizes that service learning can enhance academic outcomes, help students develop the skills and knowledge necessary to become informed and responsible citizens, and aid in individual career development. Service learning experiences may also motivate students by providing them the opportunity to apply their studies to school and community needs and showing them that they can make a contribution to their community through involved citizenship.

*(cf. 1020 - Youth Services)*

*(cf. 6000 - Concepts and Roles)*

*(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)*

*(cf. 6142.3 - Civic Education)*

The Board supports service learning instructional strategies as integral components of the district's curriculum. The Board encourages staff to collaborate with local public and nonprofit agencies in order to develop service learning activities that meet educational objectives, align with state and local academic standards, and address current community needs.

*(cf. 1600 - Relations Between other Governmental Agencies and the Schools)*

*(cf. 1700 - Relations Between Private Industry and the Schools)*

The Superintendent or designee shall develop a service learning plan which:

1. Integrates service learning into one or more of the core academic areas of science, English, social science, or mathematics at each grade span (K-5, 6-8, and 9-12) and includes instructional formats planned by teachers and students

2. Ensures that the service learning opportunities offered by the district help meet identified community needs and include a balance of on-campus and off-campus activities
3. Involves administrators, students, teachers, parents/guardians, and community members in the development, implementation, and evaluation of the district's plan, including a determination as to how projects will be evaluated as well as how supervision and transportation issues will be addressed

*(cf. 6143 - Courses of Study)*

The Superintendent or designee shall provide the Board with regular reports on the implementation of the plan and its effectiveness in meeting the district's goals for service learning.

*(cf. 6190 - Evaluation of the Instructional Program)*

*(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)*

Parents/guardians shall receive information about the service learning or community service 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 and provide consent before their child participates in any off-campus service activities.

*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

- 233.5 *Teaching of principles*
- 35160 *Authority of governing boards*
- 35160.1 *Broad authority of school districts*
- 37220.6 *Cesar Chavez Day of Service and Learning*
- 51210 *Areas of study, grades 1-6*
- 51220 *Areas of study, grades 7-12*
- 51745 *Independent study*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

*12501-12682 National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993*

COURT DECISIONS

*Steirer et al v. Bethlehem School District, (1993) 987 F.2d 989*

*Management Resources:*

WEB SITES

- CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>
- California Department of Education, Service Learning: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/cr/sl>
- Learn and Serve America: <http://www.learnandserve.org>
- National Service Learning Clearinghouse: <http://www.servicelearning.org>
- Youth Service California: <http://www.yscal.org>

SANTA BARBARA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Santa Barbara, California May 5, 2009

Technical Revision: February 11, 2010