

## LEARNING THROUGH 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 to local needs and problems and by showing them that they can make a contribution to their community.

### Integrated Community Service

The Board supports the integration of community service 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.

### Community Service Classes

Community service learning experience shall be required for high school graduation.

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

The Superintendent or designee may limit the number of units of community service which may be applied towards high school graduation.

On a case-by-case basis, the Superintendent or designee may allow students to fulfill the community service graduation requirement by performing alternative academic tasks.

### Notifications

Parents/guardians shall receive information about the community service learning requirements and opportunities offered by the District and their benefits for both the community and the student.

#### *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

##### UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

12501-12682 National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993

##### COURT DECISIONS

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