

~~Mt. Diablo USD~~

~~BP 6158 Instruction~~

~~Independent Study~~

~~The Governing Board recognizes its responsibility for the education of all students in the school system. Therefore the Board authorizes the Superintendent to establish independent study as an optional alternative instructional strategy by which students may reach curriculum objectives and fulfill graduation requirements.~~

~~The primary purpose for independent study, K-Adult, is to offer a means of individualizing the educational program for students whose needs may best be met through study outside of the classroom instructional setting. The Independent Study option is to be substantially equivalent in quality and quantity to classroom based instruction. The district shall provide and ensure independent study students the same access to existing services and resources (including co-curricular and extra-curricular activities) as are available to all other students in the school of enrollment. Independent study may be offered only to students who can achieve in this program as well as or better than they would in the regular classroom. No student shall be required to participate in independent study; all students shall have the alternative of classroom instruction.~~

~~The Superintendent or designee shall encourage parents/guardians desiring to teach their students at home to enroll their students in independent study. Such enrollment allows continued contact and cooperation between the school system and home based student.~~

~~Students enrolled in Horizons School Center for Independent Study (CIS) or Home Study shall have access to existing services and resources (including co-curricular and extra-curricular activities) in their home school of attendance (neighborhood school) if such services and resources are not provided at Horizons. All requirements such as minimum Grade Point Average (GPA) and behavior/citizenship requirements must be met. Students must apply through the Horizons Administrator who initiates requests with the comprehensive school principal.~~

~~Students enrolled in Horizons School CIS or Home Study shall have access to participation in student athletics in their home school of attendance (neighborhood school) if the following conditions are met:~~

- ~~1. The student is concurrently enrolled in home school and their school of attendance.~~
- ~~2. The student can only participate at their school of attendance.~~
- ~~3. The student must be enrolled in a minimum of 240 minutes of instruction daily.~~
- ~~4. The student must take at least two courses in the school of attendance (subject to space and course availability).~~
- ~~5. The student will be subject to the same graduation requirements of the school of attendance if the student competes on an athletic team.~~

~~6. The student must meet all requirements such as minimum GPA and behavior citizenship requirements.~~

~~No individual with exceptional needs, as defined in Education Code [56026](#), may participate in independent study unless his/her individualized education program (IEP) specifically provides for that participation. Where appropriate, the independent study administrator, or designee, should be involved in such IEP meetings as might result in a student's enrollment in independent study. No temporarily disabled student may receive individual instruction pursuant to Education Code [48206.3](#) by means of independent study.~~

~~Students at the elementary level requesting independent study, together with their parents or guardians, should recognize that independent study at the elementary level must emphasize a commitment on the part of the students' parent(s) or guardian. At the secondary level, the student must make the major commitment assisted or supported, as necessary, by parents/guardians and others who may help directly with instruction.~~

~~The Superintendent or designee shall determine that the prospective independent study student understands the district's requirements for independent study and is prepared to meet them. The Superintendent or designee shall guarantee that each participating student has an executed written independent study agreement as prescribed by law. The independent study strategy requires a written agreement with all of the required components, agreed to by the student, parent/guardian/caregiver, certificated employee, and all other persons who have direct assistance to the student. Individual independent study agreements, including any subsidiary contract, must be consistent with the district's adopted courses of study.~~

~~For students, in all types of independent study, the maximum length of time that may elapse between the time an assignment is made and the date by which the student must complete the assigned work shall be as follows:~~

- ~~1. For students in kindergarten and grades one through eight, two weeks~~
- ~~2. For students in grades nine through twelve, four weeks~~
- ~~3. For students in Adult Education, four weeks~~

~~When special or extenuating circumstances justify a longer time for individual students, the Superintendent or designee may approve a period not to exceed one semester, pursuant to a written request with justification.~~

~~When any student fails to complete three consecutive independent study assignments in one attendance period, or misses two appointments without valid reasons, the Superintendent or designee shall conduct an evaluation to determine whether the student should be allowed to continue in independent study. A written record of the findings of any evaluation conducted pursuant to this policy shall be maintained in the student's permanent record.~~

~~The Superintendent or designee shall establish administrative regulations to implement the above policy in accordance with law.~~

~~Legal Reference:~~

~~EDUCATION CODE~~

[17289](#) Exemption for facilities

[41976.2](#) Independent study programs; adult education funding

[42238](#) Revenue limits

[44865](#) Qualifications for home teachers and teachers in special classes and schools

[46300](#) [46307.1](#) Methods of computing average daily attendance

[47612.5](#) Independent study in charter schools

[48204](#) Residency based on parent employment

[48206.3](#) Home or hospital instruction; students with temporary disabilities

[48220](#) Classes of children exempted

[48340](#) Improvement of pupil attendance

[48915](#) Expulsion; particular circumstances

[48916.1](#) Educational program requirements for expelled students

[48917](#) Suspension of expulsion order

[51225.3](#) Requirements for high school graduation

[51745](#) [51749.3](#) Independent study programs

[52206](#) Gifted and talented education; use of independent study to augment program

[52522](#) Adult education alternative instructional delivery

[52523](#) Adult education as supplement to high school curriculum; criteria

[56026](#) Individuals with exceptional needs

[58500](#) [58512](#) Alternative schools and programs of choice

FAMILY CODE

[6550](#) Authorization affidavits

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

[11700](#) [11703](#) Independent study

[19819](#) State audit compliance

COURT DECISIONS

~~Modesto City Schools v. Education Audits Appeal Panel, (2004) 123 Cal.App.4th 1365~~

~~EDUCATION AUDIT APPEALS PANEL DECISIONS~~

~~Lucerne Valley Unified School District, Case No. 03-02 (2005)~~

~~Management Resources:~~

~~CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS~~

~~Independent Study Operations Manual, 2000 Edition~~

~~Elements of Exemplary Independent Study~~

~~Approaches to Satisfying No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 Teacher Requirements for Independent Study in Secondary Schools, January 28, 2010~~

~~WEB SITES~~

~~California Consortium for Independent Study: <http://www.ccis.org>~~

~~California Department of Education, Independent Study: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/ee/is>~~

~~Education Audit Appeals Panel: <http://www.eaap.ca.gov>~~

~~Policy MT. DIABLO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT~~

~~adopted: May 10, 2005 Concord, California~~

~~revised: April 13, 2010~~