

SERVICE LEARNING

The Board of Education recognizes that service-learning is a powerful learning experience for students with potential to improve academic and participatory citizenship outcomes for students. Through participation in service learning, students gain academic skills and demonstrate the competence they need to function as citizens and future leaders.

In order to continue the development of Service-Learning at each of the three levels (elementary, middle, high school) of the organization, the Board authorizes the Superintendent of Schools and his/her designees to develop Service Learning programs which will:

- provide at least one formal experience at elementary, middle and high school levels;
- connect participatory citizenship experiences with academic learning to promote and encourage lifelong habits of learning and public service;
- be integrated into the students' academic curricula and provide structured time for student reflection;
- require students to identify, plan, and participate in the development and implementation of programs to ensure the emergence of youth responsibility and leadership;
- enhance what is taught in schools by extending student learning beyond the classroom and into the school, neighborhood, and the community-at-large;
- provide students with opportunities to use newly acquired skills and knowledge in real-life situations in their own communities; and
- meet actual community needs through the collaboration of schools and the community as partners.

Service Learning guidelines shall be annually reviewed over the next 4 years by the Superintendent as we work for full implementation. His/Her review shall be publicly reported to the Board so that Service-Learning's effectiveness and implementation throughout the district may be assessed.

Motion passed on May 7, 2007 by unanimous ballot.