



Revision of Board Policy 6158 Independent Study

Board Meeting
April 13, 2023
Agenda Item No. 10.2

Presented by:
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Independent Study

SCUSD CORE VALUE

We recognize that our system is inequitable by design and we vigilantly work to confront and interrupt inequities that exist to level the playing field and provide opportunities for everyone to learn, grow and reach their greatness.

SCUSD GUIDING PRINCIPLE

All students are given an equal opportunity to graduate with the greatest number of postsecondary choices from the widest array of options

Acronyms

AB	Assembly Bill
BOE	Board of Education
IEP	Individualized Education Plan
LEA	Local Education Agency

Agenda

1. Driving Governance
2. Proposed Policy Changes
3. Next Steps
4. Question and Answer

Driving Governance

Assembly Bill 130 and Amendments in Assembly Bill 167 (SY 21-22)

- Extended Independent study to students unable to attend in person learning because of Covid 19 and specified requirements.

Assembly Bill 181

- Districts must offer in person instruction and may offer independent study as an optional service delivery model for instruction
- Covid 19 is no longer allowed as a reason for independent Study

Proposed Policy Revision - *Overarching*

Removed obsolete language related to requirements for the 2021-2022 school year that are no longer applicable (COVID 19-related)

Proposed Policy Revision - *Introductory Paragraph*

Additional language regarding emergency closures.

- Independent study will be offered to students within 10 days of a school closure

Proposed Policy Revision - *General Requirements*

Additional language in a new second paragraph regarding minimum instructional minutes.

- The same as required for their peers at the school who are receiving in-person instruction, except as otherwise permitted by law. (Education Code 46100)

General Requirements

Assembly Bill 181 Requirements:

- **For TK – Grade 3:** Students will receive an opportunity for daily synchronous instruction with a credentialed teacher.
- **For Grades 4-8:** Students will interact daily with school staff, and will receive synchronous instruction from a credentialed teacher at least once per week
- **For Grades 9-12:** Students will receive synchronous instruction from a credentialed teacher at least weekly

Proposed Policy Revision - *General Requirements*

Additional language outlining that students are exempted from subdivision d) tiered re-engagement procedures, e) opportunities for synchronous instruction and live interaction and f) transition plan to in-person instruction of EC sections 51747 if the following conditions are met:

1. The student participates in independent study for fewer than 15 cumulative school days in a school year, or
2. The student is enrolled in a comprehensive school for classroom-based instruction and under the care of appropriately licensed professionals, participating in independent study due to necessary medical treatments or inpatient treatment for mental health care or substance abuse.

Proposed Policy Revision - *General Requirements*

Added language to modify thresholds that trigger when a student enrolled in traditional independent study is subject to tiered re-engagement activities

- Students who:
 - Are not generating attendance for...10 percent of required minimum instructional time over four continuous weeks of the district's approved instructional calendar.
 - Are found to be not participatory pursuant to Section 51747.5 for more than the greater of three school days or 60 percent of the scheduled days of synchronous instruction in a school month as applicable by grade span.

Proposed Policy Revision - *General Requirements*

- Requires notification to parents/guardians of lack of participation within one school day of the recording of a non-attendance day or lack of participation
- Specifies when a transition plan is needed
 - For students participating in independent study for 15 days or more, the Superintendent or designee shall develop a plan to transition students whose families wish to return to in-person instruction from independent study expeditiously, and, in no case later than five instructional days

Proposed Policy Revision - Master Agreement and Learning Agreement for Course-Based Independent Study

Addition of language regarding students with an IEP

- A student with an active IEP will require the review and signature of a certificated or licensed member of their Special Education Individual Education Plan (IEP) team on the written agreement.

Proposed Policy Revision - Student Parent Educator Conferences

Revised language to clarify and emphasize when parent/guardian conferencing occurs before an independent study assignment

- Upon the request of a student's parent/guardian, and before signing a written agreement as described above, the district shall conduct a telephone, videoconference, or in-person student-parent-educator conference, or other meeting during which the student, parent/guardian, or their advocate may ask questions about the educational options, including which curriculum offerings and nonacademic supports will be available to the student in independent study. (Education Code 51749.6)

Proposed Policy Revision - Records

A newly developed section on the need to retain a physical or electronic copy of the signed Independent Study Learning Agreement for at least three years and as appropriate for auditing purposes.

Next Steps

- Update the Administrative Regulations

Questions & Answers