

SOUTHERN COLUMBIA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PROGRAMS

TITLE: ANIMAL DISSECTION

ADOPTED: March 8, 1999

REVISED:

105.3. ANIMAL DISSECTION	
1. Authority Act 88 of 1992	Southern Columbia Area School District pupils from kindergarten through grade twelve (K-12) may refuse to dissect, vivisect, incubate, capture, or otherwise harm or destroy animals (or any parts thereof) as part of their course of instruction.
2. Guidelines	<p>District officials shall notify incoming pupils and their parents/guardians of the right to decline participation in an education project that involves harmful or destructive use of animals and authorize parents/guardians to assert the right of their children to refuse to participate in those projects. This notification shall be given, not less than three (3) weeks prior to the scheduled course exercise involving the use of animals.</p> <p>A pupil who chooses to refrain from participation or observation of a portion of a course of instruction in accordance with this policy shall be offered an alternative education project in order to obtain the factual knowledge, information, or experience required by the course of study. If tests require harmful or destructive use of animals, pupils shall be offered alternative tests. A pupil who exercises the right afforded by this policy shall not be discriminated against because of it. Further, lowering a grade because a student has chosen an alternative education project or test is strictly prohibited.</p>
3. Definitions	<p>Definitions include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. "Alternative Education Project" shall include (but is not limited to) the use of videotapes, models, films, books obtaining the knowledge, information or experience required by the course of study. 2. "Animal" shall mean any living organism of the kingdom animalia in the phylum chordata, organisms which have a notochord. The term also includes an animal's cadaver or severed parts of any animal's cadaver.

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| | <p>3. "Pupil" shall mean a person twenty-one (21) years of age or under who is matriculated in a course of instruction in the school district from kindergarten through grade twelve (K-12). For the purpose of asserting the pupil's rights and receiving any notice or response pursuant to the policy, the term also includes the parents/guardians of the matriculated minor.</p> |
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