

INDEPENDENT STUDY

Students have different learning patterns, interests and needs. Therefore, it is necessary for the schools to develop a variety of learning opportunities or strategies which a teacher may use.

One goal of the Board is the development of self-directed learners. A modern school program should provide students with an opportunity to learn to become sufficiently independent of school and teacher so that he/she can and will carry on his/her own learning enterprises successfully after his/her formal schooling is ended.

Independent study may take any of several patterns:

- A. As a substitute for organized instruction;
- B. As honors work;
- C. As a culminating activity;
- D. As corresponding study;
- E. As programmed instruction;
- F. As a supplement to group instruction;
- G. As individualized instruction.

Independent study in this District may fit any of these patterns. It is a plan of instruction which deliberately aims to guide the learner in his/her own independent work. It is a separate phase of instruction tailor-made for the individual student and guided by his/her teacher to build on the student's own unique needs and interests and to develop his/her abilities as an independent learner. Under independent study the teacher's role shifts from a director of learning to a resource for the learner.

Independent study for individual students should be upon the recommendation of a faculty member and approval of the Principal. Such study would be pursued on school premises during the school day. Study undertaken off school premises must have the consent and approval of the Superintendent.

Legal References: N.J.S.A. 18A:11-1 General mandatory powers and duties

Cross References: *6141 Curriculum design/development
 6141.1 Experimental/innovative programs

Key Words

Independent Study, Honors Work

Approved: June 9, 2008
Revised: