

BP 6158
Independent Study

The Governing Board authorizes independent study as an optional alternative instructional strategy by which students in grades K-8 may reach curriculum objectives. Independent study shall offer a means of individualizing the educational plan for students whose needs may be met best through this means on a short term basis.

The RCS Independent Study option shall be substantially equivalent in quality and quantity to classroom instruction, thus enabling students enrolled in independent study to complete the district's adopted course of study within the customary time frame.

The Director or designee shall determine that the prospective independent study student understands and is prepared to meet the requirements for independent study. Independent study entails a commitment by both the parent/guardian and the student.

The Director or designee shall ensure that a written independent study agreement, as prescribed by law, exists for each participating student. (Education Code [51747](#))

The Board recognizes that independent study may be used as an option. If parents know that their student(s) will be away for three (3) or more consecutive days, an Independent Study Contract may be requested. Parents must allow at least 48 hours for teachers to be notified and assignments collected. Any school work completed by students during Independent Study Contract MUST be returned to the classroom teacher on the student's first day back in class, or the contract will be void and the days the student was out will be changed to unexcused absences with zero marks for the work.

When any student fails to complete two consecutive independent study assignments, the Director or designee shall conduct an evaluation to determine whether it is in the student's best interest to remain in independent study. Evaluation findings shall be kept in the student's permanent record.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

[46300-46300.6](#) Methods of computing ADA

[48340](#) Improvement of pupil attendance

[51745-51749.3](#) Independent study programs