

FRESNO COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
FRESNO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Instruction**SERVICE LEARNING/COMMUNITY SERVICE CLASSES**

The County Superintendent and County Board recognize that service learning can enhance academic outcomes, help students develop the skills and knowledge necessary to become informed and responsible citizens, and aid in individual career development. Service learning experiences may also motivate students by providing them the opportunity to apply their studies to school and community needs and showing them that they can make a contribution to their community through involved citizenship.

Service Learning

The County Superintendent and County Board support service learning instructional strategies and encourage County Superintendent staff to collaborate with local public agencies and nonprofit organizations in order to identify and develop service learning opportunities that meet educational objectives, align with state and local academic standards, and address current community needs.

County Superintendent staff shall provide the County Superintendent or designee with regular reports on the progress in meeting goals for service learning.

Community Service Classes

The County Superintendent may offer community service classes in grades 7-12 designed to:

1. Acquaint students with the historical basis for volunteer service, its importance and relevance, and its connection to a wide range of identified school and community needs
2. Include volunteer opportunities that support and strengthen students' understanding of academic instruction and how it relates to their community
3. Contribute to the physical, mental, moral, economic, and/or civic development of students
4. Provide students with an awareness of potential careers

The County Superintendent or designee shall determine how credits shall be awarded and how students will be evaluated, supervised, and, if off-campus activities are included, transported to the off-campus location.

Notifications

Parents/guardians shall receive information about the service learning or community service opportunities offered by the County Superintendent and the benefits of such activities to the community and the student. The County Superintendent shall ask parents/guardians to acknowledge this information and provide consent before their child participates in any off-campus service activities.

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Adopted: 10/20/2011

Amended: 06/15/2023

Legal References

Education Code

233.5 Teaching of principles

35160 Authority of governing boards

35160.1 Broad authority of school districts

37220.6 Cesar Chavez Day of Service and Learning

51210 Areas of study, grades 1-6

51220 Areas of study, grades 7-12

51745 Independent study

51810-51815 Community service classes

United States Code, Title 42

12501-12682 National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993

Court Decisions

Steirer et al v. Bethlehem School District, (1993) 987 F.2d 989

6142.4, 10/2016; Doc# 15132-2