

SPRINGFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Springfield, New Jersey 07081

POLICY: INDEPENDENT STUDY

The Board of Education encourages the establishment of independent study programs to the extent that staffing allocations and program development will permit. The Superintendent is directed to develop guidelines for the implementation and evaluation of such independent study programs and to inform pupils and faculties of the Board's position and policy.

The purpose of the independent study program is to provide additional meaningful, individual educational experiences for pupils in which they have the opportunity to advance their learning in a specific discipline that is not offered in the existing curriculum or because a conflict in scheduling occurs.

Independent study may vary in length of time from a semester to a year-long duration. These experiences will make available personnel resources, content and materials not available or practical in regular classroom study. Although guidance, contractual procedures, and assessment will be under the leadership of professional personnel at the school, independent study may take the pupil into the greater school community for experiences under the co-sponsorship of people in other professional and university, business, government, or industrial settings.

The range of opportunities for independent study and eligibility is established by an independent advisory board composed of the professional staff, supervisory personnel, and the Assistant Superintendent. Information pertaining to independent study will be provide in the JDHS Program of Studies and Student Handbook, and information will be thoroughly discussed with pupils to ensure their awareness of such programs.

Approved: January 25, 1999

Revised: August 18, 2008