

SHALER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

POLICY 118

SECTION: PROGRAMS
TITLE: INDEPENDENT STUDY
ADOPTED: April 15, 1998
REVISED: June 16, 1999; November 15, 2000

118. INDEPENDENT STUDY

1. Purpose
SC 1512
Title 22
Sec. 5.222

The Board will consider the approval of a course of independent study for a properly-qualified student, as recommended by the Superintendent, in order that such students shall demonstrate achievement of established academic standards as a result of participation in independent study and may extend the learning experience begun in the classroom, and identify and explore an area of particular interest.

2. Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent or his designee shall approve each course of independent study and may designate the number of credits toward graduation to be awarded upon successful completion of each such course, except that the Superintendent reserves the right to assign reduced credit or no credit for such an approved course. Each such course of study must meet the requirements set down in applicable codes and regulations.

The Superintendent shall develop procedures for the implementation of independent study which:

1. Develop specified, measurable, instructional objectives and standards for each individually planned course of independent study.
2. Assure that each student conducts his/her study under appropriate staff guidance and supervision.
3. Monitor the progress of each student.
4. Certify the completion of each course of independent study based upon the original specified objective.

5. Letter grades issued will be according to the approved district grading scale.
6. Courses completed will not factor into the overall G.P.A. but rather be listed on the transcript as an independent study course completed.
7. Independent study courses successfully completed will count toward the credits required for graduation.

The Superintendent

or his designee directs that only those students shall be admitted to courses of independent study who have demonstrated academic proficiency, maturity of judgment, a strong motivation to learn, and self-reliance.

The Superintendent also directs that students receiving special education services can be admitted to courses of independent study when recommended by the student's Individual Education Plan (IEP).