

**BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT # 097  
POLICY****CODE: D 5****1<sup>ST</sup> READING: 11/8/2023  
2<sup>ND</sup> READING: 11/29/2023  
ADOPTED: 11/29/2023**

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**ANIMAL DISSECTION**

It is the policy of the Barre Unified Union School District (BUUSD) to safeguard a student's right to be excused from participating in any lesson, exercise or assessment requiring the student to dissect, vivisect or otherwise harm or destroy an animal or any part of an animal, or to observe any of these activities, as part of a course of instruction.

**Definition**

1. **Animal** means any organism of the kingdom animalia and includes an animal's cadaver or the severed parts of an animal's cadaver.

**Administrative Responsibilities**

The superintendent, or designee, shall ensure that

- 1) Procedures providing the following are developed.
  - 1) Timely notification to each student enrolled in the course and to the student's parent or guardian of the student's right to be excused from participating in or observing the lesson, and
  - 2) The process by which a student may exercise this right.
- 2) A student who is excused under this policy is provided with alternative methods through which they can learn and be assessed on material required by the course. The alternative methods shall be developed by the teacher of the course, in consultation with the principal if necessary.
- 3) No student is discriminated against based on the decision to exercise the right to be excused afforded by this policy.