

COURSES INCLUDING DISSECTION OF ANIMALS

I. Statement of Policy

- A. Students enrolled in a course that includes the dissection of an animal shall be given reasonable notice of that fact, and information about the student's right under Section 809 of the Education Law and this Policy to be excused from witnessing or conducting animal dissection. This notice shall be distributed at the beginning of the school year, and shall be available upon request at the school office.
- B. Students will be excused from witnessing or conducting animal dissection if the student:
 - 1. provides a written statement from the student's parent or legal guardian substantiating the fact that the student has a moral or religious objection to witnessing or conducting animal dissection, and
 - 2. agrees to undertake and complete an alternative project approved by the student's teacher.
- C. Students who perform alternative projects who do not perform or witness the dissection of animals will not be penalized.

II. Implementation of Policy

The Superintendent of Schools shall prepare a notice that complies with the requirements of Section 809 of the Education Law and insure that teachers are aware of this Policy and that the notice is distributed as required.