

POLICY #8901

STUDENT FIELD STUDIES

1.0 PHILOSOPHY

- 1.1 The Surrey Board of Education believes that while the curriculum does not generally require students to participate in field studies, there are many field studies which can serve to enhance and add value to the learning experience.
- 1.2 The board views a field study to be an outgrowth of a school program that involves a clearly defined class or group, such as, but not limited to: a Grade 7 division, second language learners, band or athletic team.
- 1.3 The board believes it is of paramount importance that student field studies are selected, planned, organized and conducted in the context of:
 - a) Age appropriateness;
 - b) The safety and security of all participants;
 - c) Risk assessment and management of off-site activities;
 - d) Protection of students, staff, volunteers and the school district; and
 - e) Informed consent being provided by parents/guardians.
- 1.4 The board believes that student field studies should generally involve low risk activities. Students and parents can choose to access higher risk activities directly from outside organizations independently offering such services.
- 1.5 The board believes that, when field studies are planned, consideration should be given to accessibility for all students.
- 1.6 The board believes that there should be a full disclosure of any and all financial requirements and statements connected to field studies.

2.0 AUTHORITY

- 2.1 The board assigns each principal primary responsibility and authority to oversee student field studies. The principal may delegate this responsibility to a vice-principal as appropriate.

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- 2.2 The board assigns the superintendent or designate responsibility and authority to:
- a) Establish district practices and standards for the conduct of students during field studies; and
 - b) Specify types of field studies which require district level approval in addition to the approval of principal.
- 2.3 The board authorizes the superintendent or designates to approve extended field studies recommended by the principal.

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