

ALTERNATIVES TO DISSECTION

Background

The District acknowledges that learning about animal systems is among the learning outcomes of several years of the provincial science curriculum and that animal dissection is one valuable and effective teaching strategy for learning about animal systems. At the same time, the District affirms the right of students to choose not to participate in animal dissections because of religious or ethical objections to animal dissections.

Procedures

1. The District directs schools, within the resources available to them, to provide alternatives to dissection when students exercise this choice.
2. All science teachers must be informed by the Superintendent of this Administrative Procedure regarding alternatives to animal dissection.
3. Science teachers will inform students of their right to choose an alternative to animal dissection in advance of the activity.
4. The teacher, along with the Principal, is responsible for providing comparable and viable alternatives when a student chooses not to participate in a dissection for religious or ethical reasons. Alternatives may include the use of books, videotapes, models, films, and computers.

Reference: Sections 8, 17, 20, 22, 65, 85, 177 School Act

Adopted: April 18, 2005

Revised: September 24, 2018