



BELLEVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Office of the Superintendent

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Richard D. Tomko, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools

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Dear Parents/Guardians:

Please be informed that the State of New Jersey Department of Education has enacted legislation affording public school students the opportunity to choose whether or not they wish to participate in certain experiments which involve animals. Public school pupils from kindergarten through Grade 12 may refuse to dissect, vivisection, incubate, capture, or otherwise harm or destroy animals or any parts thereof as course of instruction.

Parents/Guardians who choose to have their children not participate in these science experiments will be provided with alternate science projects as replacement for these activities. If you decide not to have your child(ren) participate in science experiments involving animals you must notify your school within two weeks of receipt of this notice in order to exempt your child(ren) from participation so that appropriate alternative educational projects be assigned.

Should you have any questions regarding the Dissection Opt Out Law, please contact the Curriculum Office at 973-450-3500 x1024. You may also secure a copy of this law which is available on line at <http://www.nj.gov/education/aps/cccs/science/dissection>.

I look forward to working with you and your child(ren) in various curriculum areas throughout the year.

Sincerely,

Richard D. Tomko, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools

RDT/dd

c: District Administrators