

# Santa Barbara School Districts

## Board Policy

BP 6173

### Instruction

#### ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES AND EXAMS

The Board of Education is committed to the educational excellence of all its students. Further, the Board believes that a challenging curriculum and high standards will promote educational excellence. One of the programs offered at the high school level that exemplifies this high standard is the Advanced Placement (A.P.) Program. The Board of Education supports the Advanced Placement Program as described by the College Board.

“The Advanced Placement Program is designed to enable motivated college-bound students to challenge themselves to complete college-level courses while still in high school and to obtain college advanced placement or credit, or both, on the basis of rigorous AP Examinations.” (On Behalf of Educational Excellence, The College Boards, 1994)

It is the intent of the Board of Education that rigorous college-level courses be offered at each high school and that these courses meet College Board’s expectations and requirements for Advanced Placement courses. It is also the intent of the Board that students demonstrate mastery of the material in Advanced Placement courses by taking Advanced Placement exams. Advanced Placement exams are given to students participating in the program and are a nationally recognized standard for measuring performance in Advanced Placement courses.

The Board of Education wishes to underline the purpose of Advanced Placement courses/exams. These courses and exams should be taken by students who wish to receive advanced placement in college and are able to complete a rigorous program of study. Advanced Placement courses are designed with the premise that some high school students are capable of completing college-level courses while in high school and by doing so can advance their course of studies at the college level.

The Santa Barbara High School District is unable to cover the cost of Advanced Placement exams, except for students who qualify under free and reduced lunch eligibility criteria. In order to provide that exemption, a \$47 per qualifying student fee reduction will be sought from the California Department of Education.

The district will provide a weighted grade for Advanced Placement courses, regardless of whether students take the exam.

Policy: SANTA BARBARA ELEMENTARY/HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICTS  
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