

DANBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Danbury, Connecticut

POLICY

ANIMAL CARE AND STUDY

Adopted: 9/13/00

Policy No. 8-140.1*

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The education and science communities have long recognized the value of the presence of living things within the classroom setting; for casual observation of behavioral responses; for limited usage in carefully controlled experiments; for experiencing and assuming responsibility for their care and maintenance; and for increasing the appreciation of the value and wonder of life itself. For this reason, the Board of Education supports the appropriate and controlled use of animals in the classroom after the following prerequisites have been established:

1. The teacher must have a commitment to responsible, compassionate care of living creatures, and be willing to accept responsibility as a humane role model to students.
2. The teacher must have clearly stated educational objectives for the use of live animals in the classroom.
3. The teacher must have a knowledge of the physical and behavioral requirements of the species intended for study.
4. Prior to the animal's arrival, steps must be taken to insure that adequate facilities for its care and housing are available.
5. Arrangements must be made in advance for placement of animals in permanent, suitable environments at completion of the study.