

BOARD POLICY

IIA

INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM TESTING PROGRAMS

JUNE 20, 1988

The Board of Education expects the staff to select and administer a series of mental capacity tests and standardized achievement tests, particularly in the areas of the so-called basic skills and study skills, as one source of data indicating the nature of the students' potential and of their longitudinal achievement as they progress through the schools. Other appropriate tests may be used on an optional basis for diagnostic purposes.

Although it is the general attitude of this Board that reasonable limits should be placed on the administering of tests to students, it is permissible to administer selected so-called external tests to those students desiring to take the same for college entrance, scholarships, academic competition, and college placement.

The Board of Education encourages the staff to examine continually the values which reflect the objectives of the School System, the needs of students, and the circumstances in society which indicate the necessity for new or different educational experiences. As a result of such study and reexamination, the staff is further encouraged to seek better means for assessing learning in such areas as the cognitive abilities including inductive thinking, the process of inquiry, critical thinking, and the process of problem-solving. Also, it is expected that assessment means should be found or devised through which data may be gathered regarding learning in the so-called "affective domain," including such factors as feelings, attitudes, and appreciations.