

<b>WARREN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT</b>	<b>SECTION</b>
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10950 USE OF SERVICE ANIMALS

In accordance with this Policy, the District shall permit students and other individual with disabilities to use service animals in District buildings; on District property; and on vehicles that are owned, leased or controlled by the District, upon request and submission of required documentation. "Service animal" as used herein shall mean any guide dog, signal dog, or other animal individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability.

Use of Service Animal for Educational or Employment Purposes

An individual with a disability must submit a request to bring a service animal to school for educational or employment purposes. However, there is no automatic right to be accompanied by a service animal in the school setting.

Before a service animal shall be allowed in a District building, or on District property or vehicles, the owner or handler of the animal shall submit to the building principal a written request and the following documentation from a certified professional:

1. Diagnosis of the specific disability.
2. Verification of the need for a service animal.
3. Description of the function(s) the service animal is expected to perform in relation to the individual's disability.
4. Current license.
5. Current veterinary health certificate.
6. Proof of current vaccinations and immunizations of the service animal.

Use of Service Animal for Non-Educational and Non- Employment Purposes and for Public Events

Individuals with disabilities may be accompanied by their service animals while on District property for non-educational and non-employment purposes (e.g. while visiting a school) and for events that are open to the general public. In these instances, which are more likely to be temporary in nature, a written request (as outlined above) shall not be required. However, District personnel may inquire of the owner or handler of an animal whether the animal is a trained service animal and the specific tasks that the animal has been trained to perform. District personnel shall not ask questions about an individual's

1 disability, and the District shall not require an owner or handler of a service animal to pay  
2 an extra charge for the animal to attend events for which a fee is charged.

### 3 4 Responsibilities of Owner or Handler of Service Animal

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6 The owner or handler of a service animal shall be solely responsible for:

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- 8 1. Supervision and care of the animal, including any feeding, exercising, clean  
9 up and stain removal.
  - 10 2. Leashing and properly restraining the animal at all times.
  - 11 3. Damages to District buildings, property and vehicles caused by the animal.
  - 12 4. Injuries to students, employees, volunteers and visitors caused by the animal.
  - 13 5. Submission of appropriate documentation to the District in accordance with  
14 this Policy

### 15 16 17 18 19 20 Procedure for Service Animal Written Requests

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22 When a written request is required, the Superintendent or his/her designee shall receive  
23 each completed written request by an individual with a disability to be accompanied by a  
24 service animal and respond to the request. With the exception of requiring  
25 documentation from a certified professional as indicated above, the District personnel  
26 shall not ask questions about an individual's disability.

### 27 28 Exclusion of Service Animals

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30 The District may exclude a service animal from District buildings, property and vehicles  
31 under the following circumstances:

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- 33 1. Presence of the animal poses a direct threat to the health and safety of others.
  - 34 2. Owner or handler is unable to control the animal.
  - 35 3. Presence of the animal significantly disrupts or interferes with the educational  
36 process.
  - 37 4. Presence of the animal would require a fundamental alteration to the program.

### 38 39 40 41 42 Implementation

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44 The Superintendent or his/her designee shall develop a model written request form to be  
45 used in those instances when an employee or student desires to bring a service animal to  
46 school for educational or employment purposes. Additionally, the Superintendent or

1 his/her designee shall develop administrative regulations to implement this Policy and to  
2 ensure that all individuals involved in a situation where a service animal will regularly  
3 accompany an owner or handler in District buildings or on District property or vehicles  
4 are informed of this Policy and the administrative regulations governing this issue.  
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6 Adoption Date -

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8 Revised -

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10 Practice -

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12 Legal Reference - Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act – 29 U.S.C. Sec. 794  
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14 Americans With Disabilities Act – 42 U.S.C. Sec. 12101 et  
15 seq.

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17 Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability, Title 28,  
18 Code of Federal Regulations – 28 CFR Part 35, Part 36

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20 Federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission  
21 Regulations, Title 29, Code of Federal Regulations – 29  
22 CFR Part 1630

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24 Pennsylvania Human Relations Act – 43 P.S. Sec. 953