

## **Animals At School**

BP 6163.2(a)

### **Instruction**

The Governing Board recognizes that animals can contribute to the district's instructional program by being effective teaching aids to students and by assisting individuals with disabilities to access district programs and activities. In addition, instruction related to the care and treatment of animals teaches students a sense of responsibility and promotes the humane treatment of living creatures.

- (cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)
- (cf. 6142.4 - Service Learning/Community Service Classes)
- (cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)
- (cf. 6164.4 - Identification and Evaluation of Individuals for Special Education)
- (cf. 6164.6 - Identification and Education Under Section 504)

The Superintendent or designee shall develop rules and procedures to ensure that when animals are brought to school, the health, safety, and welfare of students, staff, and the animals are protected. However, the district assumes no liability for the safety of animals allowed on district property.

- (cf. 3320 - Claims and Actions Against the District)
- (cf. 3530 - Risk Management/Insurance)
- (cf. 5141.21 - Administering Medication and Monitoring Health Conditions)
- (cf. 5141.23 - Asthma Management)

#### Legal Reference:

##### EDUCATION CODE

233.5 Instruction in kindness to pets and humane treatment of living creatures

39839 Transportation of guide dogs, signal dogs, service dogs

51202 Instruction in personal and public health and safety

51540 Safe and humane treatment of animals at school

##### CIVIL CODE

54.1 Access to public places

54.2 Guide, signal, or service dogs, right to accompany

##### GOVERNMENT CODE

810-996.6 California Tort Claims Act, especially:

815 Liability for injuries generally; immunity of public entity

835 Conditions of liability

##### VEHICLE CODE

21113 Public grounds

##### CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 13

1216 Transportation of property

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20  
1400-1482 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act  
UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29  
794 Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504  
CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 28  
35.104 Definitions  
35.136 Service animals  
COURT DECISIONS  
Sullivan v. Vallejo City USD, (1990) 731 F.Supp. 947

Management Resources:

FEDERAL REGISTER

Rules and Regulations, September 15, 2010, Vol. 75, Number 178, pages 56164-56236

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Indoor Air Quality: Governing Board Actions for Creating Healthy School Environments, Policy Brief, July 2008

Asthma Management in the Schools, Policy Brief, March 2008

WEB SITES:

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals: <http://www.asPCA.org>

Humane Society of the United States: <http://www.hsus.org>

U.S. Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights: <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr>