

Service Animals in Schools

The Bellevue Board of Directors acknowledges its responsibility to permit students and/or adults with disabilities to be accompanied by a “service animal” as required by federal laws and Washington State’s law against discrimination. This policy governs the presence of service animals in the schools, on school property, including school buses and at school activities.

A “service animal” means an animal that is trained for the purpose of assisting or accommodating a disabled person’s sensory, mental or physical disability.

The parent/guardian of a student who believes the student needs to bring a service animal to school or an employee who wishes to bring a service animal to school, must submit a written request to the building principal. The building principal, in consultation with the Section 504 coordinator or director of special services, as appropriate, will determine how to accommodate the request for use of a service animal.

The superintendent will develop a procedure for use of service animals.

Cross Reference: Board Policy 2161 Education of Students with Disabilities
2162 Education of Students with Disabilities Under
Section 504
3210 Nondiscrimination
5010 Nondiscrimination and Affirmative Action

Legal References: American Disabilities Act (ADA), Revised Title II Regulations, §35 Service animals
Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
RCW 28A.642 Discrimination Prohibition
RCW 49.60.040 Definitions
WAC 162-26 Public accomodations, disability discrimination
WAC 392-145-021(3) General Operating Requirements
WAC 392-172A-01035 Child with a Disability or Student eligible for Special Education
WAC 392-172A-01155 (3) Related Services
WAC 392-190 Equal Educational Opportunity – unlawful discrimination prohibited

Adoption Date: 2/5/2013
Bellevue School District
Revised: