

- (1) School principal or designate will assess the educational merit of having a live animal in the classroom/school. They must consider items such as:
 - (a) student safety
 - (b) impact on students, class, and learning environment
 - (c) purpose of having the animal
 - (d) well-being of the animal
 - (e) allergies
 - (f) fears and phobias
 - (g) animal waste
 - (h) proven control of the animal
 - (i) health of the animal
 - (j) cats/dogs – proof of vaccinations
 - (k) safety precautions when food is being consumed near the animal
 - (l) regular maintenance of the animal enclosure
 - (m) which adults will be in care and control of the animal (leashed or kenneled)
 - (n) only small animals that are confined/caged easily may be kept in the classroom overnight for no longer than three nights, unless otherwise approved (e.g. fish or small mammals)
 - (o) larger animals only are allowed for day visits
 - (p) if the presence of an animal will cause conflict with other animals already in the school
 - (q) if the animal is poisonous, non-domesticated, or prohibited
- (2) Approval of the animal can be withdrawn at any time by the principal or designate.
- (3) When it is decided that an animal will be allowed in the classroom/school on a one-time basis, the control of the animal is the responsibility of the owner/handler.
- (4) When it is decided that an animal will be allowed in the classroom/school on a regular basis, the following planning items need to be considered:
 - (a) Parent(s)/legal guardian(s) of students who may be negatively affected by an animal in the school must be notified.

- (b) Students and adults are to be educated in the importance of hand washing after handling animals.
 - (c) Ill or injured animals must be removed from the classroom/school to be given proper care.
 - (d) If an animal exhibits any sign of aggression, it will be removed and not be allowed to return.
 - (e) Storage of animal food needs to be in rigid containers to avoid pests.
- (5) School principal or designate:
- (a) must authorize any animal that comes into the school.
 - (b) will notify the assistant superintendent of student services.
 - (c) will submit supporting documentation, which is located in the student services section of The HUB.

Effective Date: November 19, 2019 Review Date:
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IMG-R2 Protocol for
Service and Non-
Service Animals in
Schools for Students
with Additional
Needs