



Adopted: January 6, 2015

## 610 ANIMALS IN SCHOOL

### I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide direction for having animals/pets in any school setting.

### II. GENERAL PROCEDURES

All staff need to be aware of the potential for adverse health problems resulting from the presence of or contact with animals in the school setting. Health considerations may include, but are not limited to the following: allergies to animals, illness transmission between animals and people, injuries from animals, indoor air quality with allergens, and animal care recommendations.

- A. Building administration is responsible for approving or denying any “Requests for Animals/Pets in the School Setting” and is also responsible for enforcement of this policy. Administration may require removal of animals/pets from classrooms for any reason deemed appropriate.
- B. If staff members plan to bring an animal/pet into the school, they are responsible for:
  - 1. Completing a “Request for Pets/Animals in the School” form prior to any animals being brought into the district facility for classroom use.
  - 2. Having a completed “Student Rules For Handling Animals In School” form for each student who may have contact with that animal/pet on file.
  - 3. Ensuring the pet/animal will be removed from the classroom when the request has expired.
- C. All staff hold the responsibility for ensuring animals in the school setting are properly cared for and subsequently notifying appropriate staff if compliance with these guidelines is lacking.
- D. Persons/staff members wishing to express concerns with the implementation of this policy are to initially contact the administration. If the concerns are not resolved, said concern will be referred to the Director. The Director will have final jurisdiction.

### III. DISSEMINATION OF POLICY

- A. This policy will be referred to in all school and student handbooks.