



DRAFT POLICY – ANIMALS IN SCHOOLS

The Board of Education believes that animals may be necessary in school facilities for educational purposes.

The Board of Education also believes that access to an effective educational program is a basic right of each student. Assistance dogs perform tasks that an individual is unable to perform independently by assisting persons with day-to-day activities and by providing physical safety and emotional support. It is recognized that an assistance dog may be key in the development of an environment that is conducive to equal access to services, programs and activities offered within the school district. Creating a supportive and caring environment for all students and staff is a top priority of the board.

Animals in schools will be governed by DRAFT AP – Animals in Schools for Educational Purposes and DRAFT AP – Support Dogs.

In its consideration of this policy, the Board has been guided by its responsibility to allow students to have access to animals for the purposes of educational programs. The Board of Education have also been guided by their respect for students to have access to support dogs.