

Service Animals

The Board of Education adopts this policy to ensure that individuals with disabilities are able to participate in and benefit from district services, programs and activities, to ensure that the district does not discriminate against individuals on the basis of disability, and to otherwise comply with applicable state and federal laws.

“Service animal” means any dog that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability. The work or tasks performed by a service animal must be directly related to the employee or student’s disability.

“Service animal-in-training” means a dog that is being trained as a service animal. In accordance with federal law, a miniature horse may be treated the same as or similar to a service animal. However, under no circumstances, may a miniature horse be considered to be or treated the same as or similar to a service animal-in-training.

In accordance with law, individuals with disabilities may be accompanied by service animals in district facilities and vehicles, on district grounds and at district functions.

In accordance with law, trainers of service animals may also be accompanied by a dog that the trainer is in the process of training. Such trainer may be accompanied in district facilities and vehicles, on district grounds and at district functions.

If, in the judgment of the building principal or authorized designee, the service animal is not under the control of its handler while on district property, during district transportation or at a district function, the matter may be reported to local law enforcement and the permission granted pursuant to this policy may be revoked. The employee or parent/guardian of the student having custody and control of the service animal will be required to remove the service animal from district premises immediately.

If the animal is not housebroken, it shall also be excluded from district property and transportation.

The superintendent will develop regulations to implement this policy.

Adopted: January 28, 2015

Revised: November 11, 2015

LEGAL REFS.: 20 U.S.C. §1400, *et seq.*
29 U.S.C. §794
42 U.S.C. §12101, *et seq.*
28 C.F.R. §35.104, 35.136 (*Americans with Disabilities Act*)
34 C.F.R. part 104 (*Section 504 of Rehabilitation Act of 1973*)
34 C.F.R. part 300 (*Individuals with Disabilities Education Act*)
C.R.S. §24-34-803 (*Rights of Persons with Assistance Dogs*)

CROSS REF.: AC, Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity

St. Vrain Valley School District RE-1J, Longmont, Colorado