

6163.2 Animals at School

The Governing Board recognizes that animals can contribute to the district's instructional program by being effective teaching aids to students and by assisting individuals with disabilities to access district programs and activities. In addition, instruction related to the care and treatment of animals teaches students a sense of responsibility and promotes the humane treatment of living creatures. The only time animals are allowed on school grounds is when they are being used for educational or service purposes.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop rules and procedures to ensure that when animals are brought to school, the health, safety, and welfare of students, staff, and the animals are protected. However, the district assumes no liability for the safety of animals on district property.

Animals may be brought to school for educational purposes, subject to rules and precautions specified in administrative regulations related to health, safety and sanitation. Teachers shall ensure that these rules and precautions are observed so as to protect both the students and animals.

Seeing-eye dogs and service dogs may accompany students and staff at school as needed.

The district assumes no liability for the safety of animals voluntarily brought to school.

Although it is not possible to entirely avoid stray cats and dogs on our school sites, it is possible to minimize the contact we have with them to ensure student and staff safety.

1. Do not permit staff to feed animals.
2. Do not permit staff to place water out and available for animals.
3. Do not permit staff to bring the animals into classrooms or offices.

Anyone who notices a stray or wild animal should notify the school principal. The principal will take appropriate action including, but not limited to, contacting the maintenance and operations department and the Inland Valley Humane Society.

The principal, along with the maintenance and operations department, will ensure that site custodians are properly trained in safety techniques of animal capture and containment.

When a stray animal has been confined to an enclosed area while awaiting pick up by the owner or animal control, staff shall ensure that the animal has water.

Board Approved:
October 24, 2024
Effective Date: August 19, 2004