

Center School District #58

8701 Holmes Road

Kansas City, Mo 64131

SURROGATE PARENT PROGRAM AVAILABLE

Pursuant to the requirement of state law 162.997-999 R.S.Mo., the Board of Education is required to appoint a surrogate parent at such time as it becomes evident that a child with a disability does not have a parent or person acting as a parent to participate in matters dealing with the provision of special education. For purposes of surrogate parent's appointment, "parent" is defined as biological parent, a guardian, or a person acting as a parent of a child including, but not limited to, a grandparent, a step-parent, or a foster parent with whom the child lives. The term does not include a person whose parental rights have been terminated.

The local school district is given the responsibility to determine when a child with a disability who requires special education and who resides in the district is without a parent. To help make that determination, the Need for an Educational Surrogate: Decision Making Flow Chart can be accessed at <https://dese.mo.gov/sites/default/files/Educational%20Surrogate%20Decision%20Making%20Flowchart%207.14.17%20.pdf>. When appropriate, the district must notify the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education of the need to appoint a surrogate parent. Training for persons serving as surrogate parents will be provided by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

If you are interested in volunteering to serve as a surrogate parent, more information may be obtained by contacting Meagan Patterson, Director of Special Services, 8701 Holmes Road, Kansas City, MO 64131; (816) 349-3300 or by accessing the Educational Surrogate Training and Online Application at <http://www.moedu-sail.org/educational-surrogate-training/>.