

**INTERPRETER SERVICES TO PARENTS WHO ARE HEARING IMPAIRED**

The North Merrick Board of Education assures parents or persons in parental relationship who are hearing impaired the right to meaningful access to school initiated meetings or activities pertaining to the academic and/or disciplinary aspects of their children's education. School initiated meetings or activities are defined to include, but are not limited to, parent-teacher conferences, learning team or building level team meetings, suspension hearings or any conferences with school officials relating to disciplinary actions. The term "hearing impaired" shall include any hearing impairment, whether permanent or fluctuating, which prevents meaningful participation in North Merrick Union Free School District meetings or activities.

Parents or person in parental relationship shall be notified of the availability of interpreter services to be provided at no charge, provided that a written request is made to the School District within fourteen (14) days of the scheduled event. Exceptions to the time frame request may be made for unanticipated circumstances as determined by the principal/designee. The District shall also notify appropriate school personnel as to the terms and implementation of this policy.

If the interpreter services are requested, the North Merrick Union Free School District shall appoint an interpreter for the hearing impaired to interpret during the meeting or activity. The District will arrange for interpreters through a District-created list or through an interpreter referral service. The District shall also develop interagency agreements, as appropriate; to ensure that sign language interpreters are provided for eligible parents or persons in parental relationship when District students attend out-of-District schools or programs.

In the event that an interpreter is unavailable, the North Merrick Union Free School District shall make other reasonable accommodations which are satisfactory to the parents or persons in parental relationship. Examples of what constitutes reasonable accommodations in the event an interpreter cannot be located may include, but are not limited to, the use of:

- a) Written communications, transcripts, note takes, etc.

Education Law Section 3230  
8 New York Code of Rules and Regulations  
(NYCRR) Section 100.2(aa)

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