INSTRUCTION

Animals as Part of the Instructional Program

Requests to include animals in the instructional program of the classroom or school shall be approved by the principal. Health issues (allergies and vaccination status of the animal) involving students and staff shall be addressed before permission is given to allow the animal in the school.

If the instructional program involving the animal is ongoing and the animal will remain at school when school is not in session, appropriate arrangements for the animal's care must be made by the teacher. Animals will always be considered personal property, and as such, the teacher will be responsible for any expense for the animal. Animals that are part of the instructional program shall be under the control of their adult-owner, the teacher, or designated students at all times. Animals shall not be transported in a school vehicle.

This policy does not apply to service animals for the disabled or police dogs. Service animals must be on a leash at all times and the owner/handler must be in full control of the service animal at all times. Service animals may be prohibited from being on school grounds if the animal is deemed to pose a direct threat to the health and safety of others or disrupts the educational process.

Legal Reference:	RCW 16.08.040	Dog bites – Liability.
	WAC 246-100-191	Animals – General measures to prevent human disease.

Adopted: December 15, 2010
Amended: June 21, 2023