

POLICY – ANIMALS as part of INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM**2029**

The Board of directors recognizes that under some circumstances, animals may have an educational value in the school setting. At the same time, adequate provisions must be made for the health, safety, and well-being of students, staff, and the animals. Health issues (allergies, vaccinated status of the animal) involving students and staff shall be addressed before permission is given to allow the animal in school. Animals in schools, or on school district property, shall be planned and approved in accordance with procedures established by the Superintendent or designee and approval must be received from the Principal or Superintendent designee before any animals are brought onto school grounds. Animals that are a part of the educational program shall be under the control of their adult-owner, the teacher or designated students at all times. Animals will not be transported in a school vehicle.

This policy does not apply to service animals for the disabled.

Legal Reference:	RCW 16.08.040	Dog Bites – Liability
	WAC 246-100-191	Animals, Birds, Pets – Measures to prevent human disease
	246-100-201	Birds – Measures to prevent psittacosis
	392-145-021	General Operating Requirements
	OSPI	Health & Safety Guide – for K12 School in Washington, Section 0, Appendix F
Adopted:	December 13, 2011	North Thurston Public Schools Board of Directors
Updated:	October 6, 2020	North Thurston Public Schools Board of Directors