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Revised: _____

Rev. 2012

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to prohibit discrimination against students with disabilities and students who need regular or special education and related aids and services in order to receive a free appropriate public education as required by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

Section 504 prohibits discrimination based on an individual's disability in any program receiving federal financial assistance. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 provides that "no qualified person with a disability shall, on the basis of a disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity which receives or benefits from federal financial assistance".

A student is disabled under the definition of Section 504 if he or she:

1. has a physical or mental impairment, which substantially limits one or more of such person's major life activities (Examples of "major life activities" include, but are not limited to, functions such as caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, working, eating, sleeping, standing, lifting, bending, reading, concentrating, and thinking. "Major life activities also includes the operation of major bodily functions, including but not limited to, functions of the immune system, normal cell growth, digestive, bowel, bladder, neurological, brain, respiratory, circulatory, endocrine, or reproductive functions.)
2. has a record of such an impairment; or
3. Is regarded as having such an impairment.

The District recognizes its responsibility to identify and evaluate learners who, within the intent of Section 504, need special accommodations or program change to ensure that the student is provided a free appropriate public education.

The District will provide notice to parents, employees, bargaining organizations, and community members that it does not discriminate on the basis of disability.

The District will make facilities, programs, and activities accessible, usable, and open to persons with disabilities.

The District will develop and publish grievance procedures that provide prompt resolution of complaints of discrimination based on disability.

The District will designate an employee who will have the responsibility to coordinate the District's efforts under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act and to give overall direction in adhering to this Policy.

Every employee of the School District will be expected to support the implementation of this Policy.

Legal References: Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, 29 §794; 34 C.F.R, §104.3(j)(disability defined); 34 C.F.R.§ 104(a)(designation of responsible authority), 34 CFR §104 (b)(grievance provisions)
The American's with Disabilities Amendments Act as Amended
The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C.§1401 *et seq*