

AFSA High School

Adopted: August 23, 2011

District 4074

Revised:

761 SERVICE ANIMALS IN THE SCHOOLS

AFSA Charter School #4074 will follow all state and federal laws, regulations and rules. Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) service animals, under appropriate circumstances, must be allowed to be used by students or staff in public schools. The following procedures must be followed for a service animal in our schools:

1. The parent or staff members will provide the district administration a letter from their health care provider regarding the need for a service animal.
2. The district will receive sufficient notice of a service animal being placed with a student or staff members. Sufficient notice will be not less than three weeks prior to placement of the service animal in order to plan for placement.
3. The district will be provided a letter indicating that the service animal has been trained and certified by a reputable agency prior to placement in a school building.
4. A plan will be developed with the staff person(s) and/or parent and will minimally include the following:
 - Identification of who is the certified handler
 - In the case that the certified handler will not be with their service animal at the school, identify who at the school will be trained to give commands to the service animal.
 - Any specific needs and/or issues related to having a service animal in the school and how each will be addressed (allergies to staff or students, extreme fear by a staff or student)
 - A communication plan to inform students, parents and others in the school community including an opportunity to identify issues or needs that must be addressed on the implementation plan.
 - A plan to introduce the service animal into the school environment including training for staff and students about how to interact with a service animal.

Liability:

The staff person or family who own the service animal and who are the certified handlers will provide the district evidence of liability insurance for the service animal. When school staff provides services to the child and, as part of this service, give commands to the child's service animal, these staff are acting as employees and will be covered for liability through the School District.