

504 Parent Rights/Procedural Safeguards

Under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and its regulations, students with disabilities are entitled to be free from discrimination solely on the basis of their disabilities. In addition, they have the right to equal access to their educational environment and receive a free appropriate public education that meets their educational needs as adequately as the needs of nondisabled students are met.

Under Section 504 and with respect to educational actions taken by the School District regarding the identification, evaluation, or educational placement of your child, you have the right to receive:

- Notice;
- An opportunity to examine relevant records;
- An impartial hearing with opportunity for your participation and representation by counsel; and
- A review procedure

Should you wish to challenge the educational actions of the School District concerning the identification, evaluation, or educational placement of your child by initiating an impartial 504 hearing, please contact the District's Section 504 Coordinator (see contact information below) within 30 calendar days from the date you received notice of the District's action(s). An impartial 504 hearing will be scheduled before an impartial hearing officer, who will notify you of the date, time, and location of the hearing. If you choose, you have the right to be represented by counsel at the hearing. If you disagree with the decision of the impartial hearing office, you have the right to request a review of the decision in a court of competent jurisdiction.

You may also file a grievance with the District 504 Coordinator concerning the above-referenced actions on the part of the District or for matters of disability discrimination that do not pertain to your child's educational identification, evaluation, and/or placement. The Coordinator will investigate the allegations to the extent warranted by the nature of the grievance in an effort to reach a prompt and equitable resolution.

You also have the right to file a complaint with the Office of Civil Rights (OCR) if you believe that the District has discriminated against your child on the basis of disability or has denied your child a free appropriate public education under Section 504. Information about filing an OCR complaint can be found online. OCR's contact information is as follows:

Kansas City Office for Civil Rights U.S. Department of Education One Petticoat Lane 1010 Walnut Street, 3rd floor, Suite 320 Kansas City, MO 64106 Telephone: 816-268-0550 FAX: 816-268-0599; TDD: 800-877-8339 Email: OCR.KansasCity@ed.gov	Ozark R-VI Designated 504 Coordinator Dr. Anna Thurman Executive Director of Student Services 1600 W. Jackson St. Ozark, MO 65721
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