# Animals at School

**Adopted:** 02/07/2012 **| Last Revised:** 02/03/2026 **| Last Reviewed**: 02/03/2026

The Board of Education recognizes that animals can contribute to the district's instructional program by being effective teaching aids to students and by assisting individuals with disabilities to access district programs and activities. In addition, instruction related to the care and treatment of animals teaches students a sense of responsibility and promotes the humane treatment of living creatures.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop rules and procedures to ensure that when animals are brought to school, the health, safety, and welfare of students, staff, and the animals are protected. However, the district assumes no liability for the safety of animals allowed on district property.

**Policy Reference Disclaimer:**
*These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the Board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.*

**Legal References:**

**STATE**
CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATION
13 CCR 1216 Transportation of property
CIVIL CODE
54.1 Access to public places
54.2 Guide, signal, or service dogs; right to accompany
EDUCATION CODE
233.5 Teaching of principles
39839 Transportation of guide dogs, signal dogs, service dogs
51202 Instruction in personal and public health and safety
51540 Humane treatment of animals
GOVERNMENT CODE
810-996.6 Government Claims Act
815 Liability for injuries generally; immunity of public entity
835 Conditions of liability
VEHICAL CODE
21113 Public grounds
**FEDERAL**
UNITED STATES CODES
20 USC 1400-1482 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS
28 CFR 35.104 Definitions, auxiliary aids and services
28 CFR 35.136 Service animals
UNITED STATES CODE
29 USC 794 Rehabilitation Act of 1973; Section 504
**MANAGEMENT RESOURCES**
COURT DECISION
Sullivan v. Vallejo City USD (1990) 731 F.Supp. 947
CSBA PUBLICATION
Indoor Air Quality: Governing Board Actions for Creating Healthy School Environments, Policy Brief, July 2008
Asthma Management in the Schools, Policy Brief, March 2008

FEDERAL REGISTER
Rules and Regulations, September 15, 2010, Vol. 75, Number 178, pages 56164-56236
WEBSITES
CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services https://legalservices.csba.org/#
Humane Society of the United States http://www.hsus.org/
American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals http://www.aspca.org/
CSBA http://www.csba.org/
U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights http://www2.ed.gov/ocr

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