

ANIMALS IN SCHOOL

The Board recognizes the benefits of having animals in the classroom as part of the learning process. The study of animals is a legitimate subject area for students to know and understand. Using live animals in the classroom or school is an effective instructional method to increase student awareness and interest in nature and the environment. Animals can also be used to increase students' interest in learning, and to support social and emotional growth.

When using animals as an instructional tool, the educational objectives shall be well planned in advance. When live animals are in the classroom or school, established District guidelines shall be followed for the health, safety and well-being of students, staff members and the animals. The teacher shall assume primary responsibility for ensuring all animals brought into the classroom for educational purposes are humanely treated, properly handled and appropriately restrained or housed.

Animals trained or being trained to assist individuals with disabilities will be allowed on school premises, including school buses, under safe and healthy conditions and in accordance with state and federal laws.

This policy does not pertain to animals under the control of public safety officials for educational, public relations or law enforcement purposes.

LEGAL REF.:           Sections     106.52     Wisconsin Statutes  
  120.13  
  121.02(1) (i)  
  252.21  
  254.56  
                          TRANS 300.16, Wisconsin Administrative Code  
                          PI 8.01(2)(i)

CROSS REF.:     383-Rule, Guidelines for Animals in School  
                          110, Educational Philosophy  
                          330, Curriculum Development and Adoption  
                          453.1, Emergency Nursing Services  
                          453.3, Communicable Disease Control  
                          720, School Safety Program  
                          Emergency Nursing Services Handbook

Approved:            April 7, 1997  
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