

ANIMALS ON DISTRICT PROPERTY

The Board recognizes that there are many occasions when animals are present on District property and many reasons for those animals' presence. Animals are commonly utilized by teachers during classroom presentations and are often housed in classrooms and other locations on campus. Additionally, employees, students, parents, vendors, and other members of the public may be accompanied at school by a service animal in accordance with Federal and State law and this policy.

This policy shall apply to all animals on District property.

Definitions

A. "Animal": Includes any living creature that is not a human being.

B. "Service animal": any guide dog, signal dog, or other animal that is individually trained or being trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability. The work or tasks performed by a service animal must be directly related to the individual's disability. Examples of work or tasks include, but are not limited to, assisting individuals who are blind or have low vision with navigation and other tasks, alerting individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing to the presence of people or sounds, providing non-violent protection or rescue work, pulling a wheelchair, assisting an individual during a seizure, alerting individuals to the presence of allergens, retrieving items such as medicine or the telephone or fallen objects, providing physical support and assistance with balance and stability to individuals with mobility disabilities, and helping persons with psychiatric and neurological disabilities by preventing or interrupting impulsive or destructive behaviors. The crime deterrent effects of an animal's presence and the provision of emotional support, well-being, comfort, or companionship do not constitute work or tasks for the purposes of this definition.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) has also specifically defined a miniature horse as an animal that can serve as a service animal, so long as the miniature horse has been individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of the individual with a disability. To better determine whether the Board must allow for the use of a miniature horse or make modifications to buildings, the Board should refer to Section 35.136 (c) through (h) of the ADA.

GUIDELINES FOR ANIMALS WHICH ARE PERMITTED TO VISIT SCHOOLS

It is important that animals brought into schools be clean and healthy so that the risk of their transmitting diseases to students is minimal. Animals brought to school should be clean and free of external parasites such as fleas, ticks, and mites. Visiting animals should be restricted to an area designated by the teacher.

Verified Rabies Vaccination – A current rabies vaccination is required for all dogs, cats, and ferrets being brought to school. Dogs and cats under three months of age and not vaccinated against rabies should NOT be handled by children.

Proper Restraints of Animals – Because animals may react strangely to classroom situations, it is important to have an effective way to control them.

Collars and Leashes – All dogs, cats, and ferrets should be wearing a proper collar, harness, and/or leash when on school grounds. The owner or person responsible for the animal should be able to restrain the animal at all times during the visit. No animal should be allowed to roam unrestrained in the school.

Pet Birds – Pet birds should not be allowed to fly free in a classroom unless it is a part of their socialization and exercise routine.

Estrus – Dogs and cats should be determined not to be in estrus (heat) at the time of the visit.

Service Animals for Students

The Granton Area School District acknowledges its responsibility to permit students and/or adults with disabilities to be accompanied by a "service animal" in its school buildings, in classrooms, and at school functions, as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act, 28 CFR Part 35, subject to the following: 1. All requests for an individual with a disability to be accompanied by a service animal must be addressed in writing to the District Administrator at 217 N. Main Street, Granton, WI 54436, and must contain required documentation of vaccinations. This written request must be delivered to the District Office at least 10 business days prior to bringing the service animal to school or a school function. 2. Owners of a service dog must provide annual proof of the following vaccinations pursuant to Wisconsin Stat. 95.21(2)(a) and 95.21(2) (f): Rabies. Vaccinations for DHLPPC (Distemper, Hepatitis, Leptospirosis, Parainfluenza, Parvovirus, Corona virus) and Bordetella are highly recommended by the Wisconsin State Veterinarian's Office. 3. The Wisconsin State Veterinarian's Office highly recommends that owners of service miniature horses provide annual proof of the following vaccinations: Equine Infectious Anemia (Coggins Test), Rabies, Tetanus, Encephalomyelitis, Rhinoneumonitis, Influenza, and Strangles. 4. Owners of a service dog must provide annual proof of licensing as required by the local municipality where the dog resides, as well as proof of licensing with the Village of Granton. 5. Owner of service animals must provide proof of insurance against liability for any actions, accident, or property damage caused by the service animal. 6. Owners of a service dog shall remain liable for damage or injury caused by the dog pursuant to Wisconsin Stat. 174.01(1)(a). 7. All service dogs must be spayed or neutered. 8. All service animals must be treated for, and kept free of, fleas and ticks. 9. All service animals must be kept clean and groomed to avoid shedding and dander. 10. Owners of service animals are liable for any harm or injury caused by the animal to other students, staff, visitors, and/or property. 11. The animal must be "required" for the individual with disability. 12. The animal must be "individually trained" to do work or a task for the individual with a disability. 13. Special Provisions/Miniature Horses: Requests to permit a miniature horse to accompany a student or adult with a disability in school buildings, in classroom, or at school functions, will be handled on a case-by-case basis, considering: a. The type, size, and weight of the miniature horse and whether the facility can accommodate

these features. b. Whether the handler has sufficient control of the miniature horse. c. Whether the miniature horse is housebroken. d. Whether the miniature horse's presence in a specific facility compromises legitimate safety requirements that are necessary for safe operation. 14. Removal of a Service Animal: A school administrator may ask an individual with a disability or his parents to remove a service animal from a school building, a classroom, or from a school function if any one of the following circumstances occurs: a. The animal is out of control and the animal's handler does not take effective action to control it. b. The animal is not housebroken c. The animal's presence would "fundamentally alter" the nature of the service, program, or activity. 15. A service animal must have a harness, leash, or other tether, unless either the handler is unable because of a disability to use a harness, leash, or other tether, or the use of a harness, leash or other tether would interfere with the service animal's safe, effective performance of work or tasks, in which case the service animal must be otherwise under the handler's control. 16. The school system is not responsible for the care or supervision of a service animal, including walking the animal or responding to the animal's needs to relieve itself. 17. The school district is not responsible for providing a staff member to walk the service animal or to provide any other care or assistance to the animal. 18. Students with service animals are expected to care and supervise their animal. In the case of a young child or a student with disabilities who is unable to care for or supervise their service animal, the parent is responsible for providing care and supervision of the animal. Issues related to the care and supervision of service animals will be addressed on a case by case basis at the discretion of the District Administrator.

Therapy Dogs

Therapy dogs will be allowed in school per procedures set by the District Administrator.

Adopted:	March 14, 2022
Revised:	

Legal	Administrative Code:
References:	Wisconsin Statutes: 106.52, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 28 C.F.R. 35.104, 28 C.F.R. 35.136 The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)