

**CLOVIS UNIFIED  
SCHOOL DISTRICT****INSTRUCTION  
ANIMALS AT SCHOOL**

**PURPOSE:** To establish policy and procedure regarding use of animals at school sites for instructional purposes.

The Board 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.

**A. Service Animals**

The District allows services animals that assist individuals with disabilities consistent with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) regulations and California Civil Code section 54.2. A “service animal” is defined as “any dog that is individually 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. Other species of animals, whether wild or domestic, trained or untrained, are not service animals for the purposes of this definition.” (28 CFR 35.104)

**B. Therapy Dogs**

The Board also recognizes that therapy dogs (or comfort dogs) used on campus can provide physical, social, and emotional benefits to students and employees. 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. Therapy dogs must be approved by the Area Assistant Superintendent before they can be permitted on campus. Other animals intended to provide emotional or other support (emotional support animals) are not permitted on campus.

**C. Animals at School**

The Superintendent or designee shall develop rules and procedures to approve therapy dogs on campus and 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.

Adopted: 10/10/2018

Amended: 11/18/2020 (BP 4104 renumbered as BP 6163.2)

**EDUCATION CODE**

233.5 Instruction in kindness to pets and humane treatment of living creatures

39839 Transportation of guide dogs, signal dogs, service dogs

51202 Instruction in personal and public health and safety

51540 Safe and humane treatment of animals at school

## CLOVIS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

### CIVIL CODE

54.1 Access to public places

54.2 Guide, signal, or service dogs, right to accompany

### GOVERNMENT CODE

810-996.6 California Tort Claims Act, especially:

815 Liability for injuries generally; immunity of public entity

835 Conditions of liability

### VEHICLE CODE

21113 Public grounds

### CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 13

1216 Transportation of property

### UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1400-1482 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

### UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29

794 Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504

### CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 28

35.104 Definitions

35.136 Service animals

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