

Policy 605.6 Use of Service Dogs

The Board recognizes that the diverse needs of some students may require accommodations including the use of service dogs.

The Board believes that service dogs in school can provide educational value; however, this value must be balanced against the impact the service dog has on the educational environment and the health and safety of the school community.

Regulations:

1. Parents or guardians wishing to use a service dog to support their child's program must conform to the expectations in Procedure 605.6.
2. The principal will work with the parents and the Director, Student Services and the Associate Superintendent, Instructional Services to ensure that appropriate programming is supplied to the student, while ensuring the health and safety of the school community.
3. A decision on the admittance of the service dog into the learning environment rests with the Associate Superintendent, Instructional Services.
4. An appeal to the decision made concerning the use of a service dog in the school shall be made first to the principal, then to the Superintendent, if necessary.

The Board delegates to the Superintendent the authority to develop the procedures necessary to implement this policy.

References

Alberta School Act: Section 47

Legal references: Human Rights Act:
http://www.qp.alberta.ca/570.cfm?frm_isbn=9780779752904&search_by=link

Alberta Service Dogs Act:
<http://humanservices.alberta.ca/disability-services/service-dogs.html>.

Division Policies: Policy 605.1 Inclusive Learning Supports