

Grundy County Board of Education

Monitoring: Review: Annually, in October	Descriptor Term: Service Animals in District Facilities	Descriptor Code: 3.218	Issued Date: 06/07/16
		Rescinds: 3.218	Issued: 04/14/11

1 In accordance with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, service dogs and trained
2 miniature horses¹ (hereinafter referred to as service animals) are permitted for use by individuals with
3 disabilities on district property and in district facilities provided the individuals and their animals meet
4 the requirements and responsibilities covered in this policy.

5 When an individual with a disability seeks to bring a service animal into a district facility, the district is
6 entitled to ask the individual if the animal is required because of a disability and what work or task the
7 animal has been trained to perform.² The district is not entitled to ask for documentation that the animal
8 has been properly trained, but the individual bringing the animal into a district facility will be held
9 accountable for the animal's behavior.

10 Any service animal brought into a district facility by an individual with a disability must have been
11 trained to do work or perform tasks for the individual. The work or tasks performed by the service animal
12 must be directly related to the handler's disability. Examples of work or tasks include, but are not limited
13 to, assisting individuals who are blind or have low vision with navigation and other tasks, alerting
14 individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing to the presence of people or sounds, providing non-violent
15 protection, pulling a wheelchair, assisting an individual during a seizure, alerting individuals to the
16 presence of allergens, retrieving items such as medicine, providing physical support and assistance with
17 balance and stability to individuals with mobility disabilities, and helping persons with psychiatric and
18 neurological disabilities by preventing or interrupting impulsive or destructive behaviors.

19 The crime deterrent effects of an animal's presence and the provision of emotional support, well-being,
20 comfort, or companionship do not constitute work or tasks for the purposes of this policy.

21 Individuals with disabilities shall be permitted to be accompanied by their service animals in all areas of
22 a public entity's facilities where members of the public, participants in services, programs or activities,
23 or invitees, as relevant, are allowed to go.

24 A service animal shall be under the control of its handler. A service animal shall have a harness, leash,
25 or other tether, unless either the handler is unable because of a disability to use a harness, leash, or other
26 tether, or the use of a harness, leash, or other tether would interfere with the service animal's safe,
27 effective performance of work or tasks, in which case the service animal must be otherwise under the
28 handler's control by means of voice control, signals, or other effective means.

29 **Screening and Conduct of Parents of Animal Handlers**

30 Parents or animal handlers who will be present in school for the purpose of assisting a student with
31 his/her service animal will be required to submit to a sex offender registry and criminal background

1 check. In addition, parents and handlers must comply with all standards of conduct that apply to school
2 employees and volunteers.

3 **Annual Health Records and Proof of Liability Insurance**

4 Each year, the following documentation must be submitted to the office of the director of schools:

- 5 1. Proof of Liability insurance for the service animal
- 6 2. Annual health records, described below

7 Liability insurance coverage must be in force at all times when the service animal is in use on school
8 property. Proof of continuous liability coverage may be requested by the director of schools at any time.

9 **Annual Health Records for Service Dogs**

10 Service dogs' owners must provide proof to the director of schools of these vaccinations each year:

11 DHLPPC (Distemper, Hepatitis, Leptospirosis, Parainfluenza, Parvovirus, Coronavirus), Bordetella, and
12 Rabies. Documentation for all of these vaccinations must also arrive with the initial request for use of a
13 service animal at the office of the Director of Grundy County Schools at least 10 business days before
14 the animal may begin to be used in school facilities.

15 All service dogs must be spayed or neutered.

16 **Removal of Service Animals**

17 A school administrator may ask an individual with a disability or his/her parents to remove a service
18 animal from a school building, classroom, or school function if anyone of the following occurs.

- 19 1. The animal is out of control and its handler does not take effective action to control it.
- 20 2. The animal is not housebroken.
- 21 3. The animal's presence would "fundamentally alter" the nature of the service, program, or activity.

22 If a service animal is properly excluded under Sec. 35.136(b), the individual with a disability shall be
23 given the opportunity to participate in the service, program, or activity without having the service animal
24 on the premises. [28 C.F.R. Sec. 35.136(c)]

25 The school unit may impose additional conditions on the presence of a service animal, depending upon
26 the circumstances.

Legal References

1. 28 CFR § 35.104
2. 28 CFR § 35.136