Service Animals for Students Policy 517



Category: Students

Administered by: Superintendent of Program

First Adopted: May 2018 (Oct 2006 as Protocol for Service Dogs in Schools

for Students with Special Needs)

Revision History: January 2020

Next Review: 2022-23 school year

1. Policy Statement

The Upper Grand District School Board is committed to the learning of all students and provides a range of differentiated placements, programs and interventions to support student success. It is the policy of the Upper Grand District School Board, in accordance with its obligations pursuant to the Ontario *Human Rights Code*, to provide individualized accommodation to students with disabilities to enable them to have meaningful access to education services.

- 1.1 Each request for a student to attend school with their service animal as a learning accommodation shall be reviewed individually by the board, considering the student's dignity, integration, independence and disability-related learning needs, and the range of accommodations available to enable meaningful access to education.
- 1.2 The process of service animal accommodation shall consider the competing human rights of other students and of staff, the impact of the service animal on the learning environment, and the health and safety of all individuals who are or might be in the school, on school grounds, or at a school-related event.

2. Details

- 2.1 It is the responsibility of the superintendent of program to administer this policy.
- 2.2 It is the responsibility of principals to implement this policy and procedures.

January 2020 Page 1 of 2



3. References

This policy operates in conjunction with:

- <u>Education Act</u> and its regulations
- PPM 163: School Board Policies on Service Animals
- Ontario Human Rights Code
- Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act
- Blind Persons' Rights Act
- Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act
- <u>Dog Owners' Liability Act</u>
- <u>Service de transport de Wellington-Dufferin Student Transportation</u> <u>Services (STWDSTS) Policy 040</u>

January 2020 Page 2 of 2