



Policy Section: School Administration

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Policy Name: **Student Use of Service Animals**

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Policy Statement

It is the policy of the Keewatin-Patricia District School Board (KPDSB) to be committed to the learning of all students and provide supports to facilitate student success. It is the policy of the KPDSB, in accordance with its obligations pursuant to the Ontario Human Rights Code, to provide individualized accommodations to students with disabilities to enable them to have meaningful access to education services. The KPDSB recognizes that for some students, attending school with a trained service/support animal is an accommodation that can assist the student to access the curriculum, integrate more fully into the school community and build independence.

Rationale

When planning for a Guide Dog, Service Dog or Service Animal to support a student, the KPDSB considers the student's dignity, integration, independence and disability-related learning needs and the accommodations available to enable meaningful access to education.

The process of accommodation shall also consider the competing human rights of other students and of staff; the impact of the Guide Dog, Service Dog or 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.

Cross Reference:

Education Act paragraph 29.5 of subsection 8(1)
Policy on Accessible Education for Students with Disabilities-Ontario Human Rights Commission, 2018
Ontario Human Rights Code
The Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005

Policies:

329 Progressive Discipline & Promoting a Positive School Climate
503, Equity and Inclusive Education

Procedures:

323, Student Use of Service Animals
321, Safe and Supportive Schools
503, Equity and Inclusive Education

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