

**Lake Oswego  
School District 7J**

Code: **ING**  
Adopted: 5/19/03  
Readopted: 6/08/09; 12/08/14  
Orig. Code(s): 5320R

**Animals in District Facilities**

The Board acknowledges the value of animals in the classroom and at school events as having an integral role in students' academic and emotional growth. Animals in district facilities will be used to serve an educational purpose, which may include, but is not limited to, teaching students the humane treatment of animals.

The Board also recognizes the need for safety and the importance of taking appropriate and reasonable precautions. To ensure student safety in school and on school grounds, an administrator shall be responsible for making decisions about animals on district property. The administrator will notify parents annually of the school's animal practice.

Permission is to be obtained from an administrator or designee before animals are brought into district premises. Animals must be adequately cared for and appropriately secured in school or on school grounds. Animals must be accompanied by an owner or adult designee in a classroom. Students should not handle animals without teacher and owner or designee permission.

Animals may not be transported on school transportation.

Approved assistance service animals<sup>1</sup> for individual students or individual employees needing these services would be an exception to this policy. Additionally, students who have been accepted to train a service animal will be allowed to bring service animals in training to school and to access district transportation. If medical or safety issues occur as a result of the service animal's participation at school, the approval will need to be reconsidered by the administration. Employees will not be allowed to provide service animal training since their key responsibility is to supervise students without distraction.

END OF POLICY

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<sup>1</sup>The Americans with Disabilities Act definition of "service animal" means 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. The work or tasks performed by a service animal must be directly related to the individual's disability. Examples of work or tasks include, but are not limited to, assisting individuals who are blind or have low vision with navigation and other tasks, alerting individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing to the presence of people or sounds, providing non-violent protection or rescue work, pulling a wheelchair, assisting an individual during a seizure, alerting individuals to the presence of allergens, retrieving items such as medicine or the telephone, providing physical support and assistance with balance and stability to individuals with mobility disabilities, and helping persons with psychiatric and neurological disabilities by preventing or interrupting impulsive or destructive behaviors. The crime deterrent effects of an animal's presence and the provision of emotional support, well-being, comfort, or companionship do not constitute work or tasks for the purposes of this definition. The law and its regulations also make an allowance for miniature horses.

**Legal Reference(s):**

[ORS 336.067](#)

[ORS 346.620](#)

[OAR 581-053-0010](#)

[OAR 581-053-0015](#)

[OAR 581-053-0545\(4\)\(c\)\(V\)](#)

[OAR 581-053-0550\(5\)\(u\)](#)