

### **Animals in District Facilities**

To protect the health and wellness of students, staff and visitors to Scappoose Schools, animals will not be permitted on school grounds or in school facilities without administrative approval. The United State Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has identified feathered and forbearing animals as detrimental to indoor air quality. Feathered and fur-bearing animals are considered potentially harmful to the health and wellness of some persons as reported in the EPA Indoor Air Quality “Tools for Schools”.

Feathered and fur-bearing animals will only be permitted to visit a school for special events on a case by case basis. Permission must be obtained from the building principal prior to bringing animals onto school grounds and into school facilities. Animals must be removed from the facilities immediately upon completion of the event. Animals will not be permitted to reside in the classroom on a regular basis.

Non-feathered or fur-bearing animals are discouraged as classroom pets. These animals pose less risk of reducing indoor air quality but may present a health risk due to diseases that they may carry. It is specifically noted that reptiles carry salmonella and should not be handled without proper care and cleaning instruction.

The following rules shall also apply:

1. Non-feathered and non fur-bearing animals must be adequately housed and cared for in secure cages. Cages must be kept clean at all times to prevent indoor air quality issues as a result of excrement. Only the teacher or students designated by the teacher are to handle the animals.
2. If non-feathered and fur-bearing animals are to be kept in the classroom on days when classes are not in session, arrangements must be made for their care.

To keep grounds clean and healthy for students, animals are not permitted on school property. Where signs are posted, this will be strictly enforced.

Animals may not be transported on a school bus.

Service animals are excluded from this policy.

Animals used for science projects are excluded from this policy.

END OF POLICY

**Legal Reference(s):**

[ORS 659A.400](#)

[OAR 581-053-0230\(9\)\(j\)](#)

[OAR 581-053-0430\(16\)](#)

[OAR 581-053-0010](#)

[OAR 581-053-0330\(1\)\(q\)](#)

[OAR 581-053-0531\(15\)](#)

Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 104 Stat. 327, 42 U.S.C. § 12101 et seq. (2006); 28 CFR §§ 35.104, 35.136 (2006).  
Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008.