



## Administrative Regulation 7522 ANIMALS ON PROPERTY AND/OR EVENTS

**Responsible Office:** Office of the Deputy Superintendent

### **PURPOSE**

This administrative regulation establishes the protocols related to animals on the properties and/or activities of the Washoe County School District ("District").

### **REGULATION**

1. Animals on District Property and/or District/School Sponsored Events.
  - a. Dogs and other animals are not permitted on District property with the following exceptions:
    - i. Service animals and service animals in training. See Administrative Regulation 7521.
    - ii. Police dogs that are specifically trained to aid the police in their work. Purposes include detection and search and rescue.
    - iii. Animals which serve an educational purpose, as described below, and for which permission has been granted by the school principal.
    - iv. Therapy or emotional support animals for use during crisis situations, when properly supervised by District staff and approved by the Counseling Department.
2. Animals Within the Classroom
  - a. All animals maintained in a classroom or on school property shall be lawfully procured; and their retention shall be in strict compliance with federal, state, and local laws and regulations.
  - b. Requests to include animals in the instructional program of the classroom or school shall be approved by the principal and shall serve an educational purpose. Students, parents/guardians, and faculty/staff shall not be allowed to bring animals to school (including pets), such as dogs, cats, guinea pigs, mice, etc., which do not fulfill this objective.
  - c. It is the responsibility of the principal to assure a specific and appropriate educational purpose if any animal is housed in a classroom.
  - d. Health issues (e.g. allergies, vaccinated status of the animal) involving students and staff shall be addressed before permission is given to allow

the animal in the school. Special attention shall be given to furred and feathered animals in terms of their effect on allergic children.

e. Selection of Animals

- i. Selection of animals shall be made with regard to available space.
- ii. The selection of any particular animal should be made with a full understanding of the hazards associated with the species as many animals are transmitters of human viral, bacterial, and parasitic diseases.

f. A clean, safe, and appropriate environment shall be maintained, to include but not limited to:

- i. Animals shall be kept in locations with adequate ventilation and light, and reasonable temperature.
- ii. All animals brought to school shall be inoculated for rabies, if applicable.
- iii. Any animal suffering from a skin condition or whose behavior suggests illness is not allowed in the school.
- iv. If appropriate, animals must be kept in their cages and are not allowed to run free. Animal urine and feces stains floors/carpets and create a potential health hazard to students and employees.
- v. Animals shall be handled only when necessary and under strict supervision of the teacher. Anyone handling animals shall wash his/her hands thoroughly, especially after handling animals such as turtles, snakes, fish, frogs, and lizards.

g. Non-School Time Care

- i. The principal or site administrator shall ensure a plan of care for a school/classroom-housed animal(s) is in place, to include designation of staff to care for the animal(s).
  - 1) If the instructional program involving the animal is ongoing and the animal will remain at school outside of school hours, appropriate arrangements for the animal's care shall include designation of staff to care for the animal(s) in the evenings; on weekends, holidays, and extended breaks; and, in the event of an emergency closure of the school.

- 2) When possible, it is recommended animal(s) be removed from school property during extended school closures such as the fall, winter and spring breaks.
- 3) Custodial staff should not be designated to care for animals.

3. Care of Animals on District property

- a. Animals that are part of the instructional program shall be under the control of their adult-owner, the teacher/staff or designated student(s) at all times.
- b. Dogs brought on campus for legitimate and approved purposes must be kept on a leash except during approved events for which it is necessary that the animal not be restrained. A valid dog license must be worn at all times by any dog on District property.
- c. Fecal matter deposited by animals on District property must be removed immediately by the owner of the animal depositing such.
- d. Horses shall not be ridden on any District property, except at Picollo School as part of a student's instructional program.

4. Dangerous, Uncontrolled, and/or Unsupervised Animals

- a. When an uncontrolled dog or other animal is discovered on school property, the principal or designee shall call the appropriate Animal Control Agency. Students shall be kept in a safe area until the animal is removed.
- b. Sighting of injured or potentially dangerous animals (e.g. bears, coyotes) on or near District property should be reported to School Police or the appropriate Animal Control Agency immediately.
- c. Animals considered dangerous to humans, such as wild animals, poisonous reptiles, and poisonous insects, are only allowed in the school if they are there for an educational purpose. The handler of such animals must provide a completed WCSD Independent Contractor Agreement and/or Use of School Facilities Form with appropriate proof of insurance prior to bringing the animal(s) on school property.
- d. Such animals must at all times be under the control of the trainer/owner and in an appropriate enclosure or cage.
- e. Students, faculty and staff are not permitted to handle dangerous animals.
- f. Dangerous animals shall not be left overnight at the school.

**IMPLEMENTATION GUIDELINES & ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS**

1. This regulation reflects the goals of the District’s Strategic Plan and aligns/complies with the governing documents of the District, to include:
  - a. Board Policy 7300, Risk Management
  - b. Administrative Regulation 7521, Service Animals
2. This regulation complies with Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) and Nevada Administrative Code (NAC), to include:
  - a. Chapter 651, Public Accommodations
    - i. NRS 651.075 Rights, duties and liabilities of persons training or accompanied by service animal, service animal in training or police dog; unlawful acts; rights of place of accommodation; unmuzzled animal may not be presumed dangerous; person subject to same conditions and limitations as others; remedies.
3. This regulation complies with federal laws and regulations, to include
  - a. Americans with Disabilities Act, Title II Regs as amended in 2010, 28 C.F.R. Part 35.

**REVIEW AND REPORTING**

1. This administrative regulation will be reviewed and revised in compliance with changes to the Americans with Disabilities Act and the District’s policies with respect to harassment and discrimination.

**REVISION HISTORY**

Date	Revision	Modification
1/11/2018	1.0	Adopted from Administrative Procedure 7330