

School Board Meeting:

August 26, 2013

Subject:

Human Resources

Presenter:

Moreen Martell

SUGGESTED SCHOOL BOARD ACTION:

Board action is not required for the first reading of policies.

DESCRIPTION:

Policy revision and new policy

First Reading of a Revised Policy (No Board Action Required)

The following revised policy is being presented to the School Board for first reading:

- **Policy #640 – Animals in the School Setting**

X District Policy Only

Brief Description:

- The US Department of Justice published amendments to the regulations governing the implementation of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The amendments include changes relating to service animals. The regulations require the school district to modify our policies and procedures to permit the use of service animals by an individual with a disability in accordance with the regulations.

A service animal is defined as “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.” 28 C.F.R. § 35.163. Dogs and miniature horses are the only species of animal that qualify as a “service animal” under the amended regulations. “Emotional support” or therapy animals are not “service animals”.