
Board of Education

ACTION

TITLE: Consider Adopting Section 7 Policy Related to Therapy Animals for First Reading – Section 7

DATE: Dec 13, 2021

RESPONSIBLE ADMINISTRATOR: Michael Farrell
Supervisor of Student Services

VISION 2023 STRATEGY: 2. Equity

BACKGROUND/CONSIDERATIONS:

The administration desires to update current policies to include this policy involving therapy animals at school. This policy is included in the most recent recommendation provided by Arkansas School Board Association (ASBA). This new policy will have specific references to Arkansas statutes in the policy and can be updated as statutes change. Mr. Ney has reviewed, vetted and approved this policy.

Attached is the proposed ASBA Model Policy 7.19.1 that the administration believes is necessary and appropriate.

RECOMMENDATION:

The administration recommends the board approve on first reading this change to Board Policies, Section 7 – Business and Financial Management, as presented to be effective upon final board approval.

If the Board agrees, the motion would read: ***move to approve on first reading the Board Policies, Policy 7.19.1, Section 7 – Business and Financial Management, as presented to be effective on final board approval.***

VISION 2023 STRATEGIES - **1. Career Planning:** Develop and implement education and career pathways so that each student graduates with a viable plan and relevant skill set for his or her future. **2. Equity:** Develop and implement a system-wide plan to provide all students with the resources they need to optimize their learning. **3. Instruction:** Design, develop and implement programs to promote rigor, relevance, collaboration, critical- thinking skills and learning environments designed to meet each student's unique needs and aspirations. **4. Learning Environment/Facilities:** Align resources, facilities and technology strategically and equitably across the district to maximize security and enhance the learning environment. **5. Staffing:** Recruit and retain highly-qualified faculty, staff and administration. **6. Technology:** Provide appropriate technology that is consistently available, effectively supported and equitably distributed for group and individual instruction. **7. Wellness:** Develop and train empathetic and nurturing employees to be sensitive to and supportive of the needs of all children and families.

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