



**DATE:** June 11, 2025

**TO:** Board of Education

**FROM:** Mrs. Kerstin Kramer, Superintendent Chief Learning Officer

**SUBJECT:** First Read of Proposed New Administrative Regulation 6163.2 Animals at School

**PRESENTED BY:** Dr. Annamarie Cohen, Executive Director of Student Services

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### **ACTION REQUESTED**

First Read of Proposed New Administrative Regulation 6163.2 Animals at School

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Many local education agencies recognize that animals can be an effective teaching aid and can help support the LEA's instructional program. In addition, instruction related to the care and treatment of animals teaches students a sense of responsibility and promotes the humane treatment of living creatures. While such policy is important to be maintained, now schools must address policy, procedural and responsibility/liability issues regarding the use of service animals in schools. The use of service animals must comply with all relevant federal and state laws; pertinent local ordinances, rules and regulations; and the provisions of adopted administrative regulations (AR). Requests for exceptions to any provision set forth may be presented in writing for evaluation and consideration by the LEA on a case-by-case basis. On Sept. 15, 2010, the U.S. Department of Justice published 28 CFR Part 35 in the Federal Register its Final Rules amending Titles II and III of the Americans with Disabilities Act ("ADA") governing the issue of service animals in schools, which became effective on March 15, 2011.

### **RESOURCES REQUIRED:** N/A

**PREPARED BY:** Becca Wing, Administrative Assistant, for Dr. Annamarie Cohen, Executive Director of Student Services