

PORT EDWARDS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Board of Education Policy

Resident Animals in School

Consideration of a Resident Animal

The School Board of Port Edwards School District believes that live animals in the classroom provide opportunities to learn about diversity, habitat, humane care, animal growth and development, reproduction and behavior.

A teacher must have a clear understanding of, and a strong commitment to, the responsible care of living animals before making any decision to use live animals for educational study.

Approval of Resident Animal

Prior approval by the building administrator must be obtained before consideration is given to an animal residing in the school setting. Approval is on an annual basis. Upon the approval of the building administrator, the requesting teacher will review the student allergy information form. Student allergy forms should be kept on file with student classroom information.

Care of Resident Animal

The classroom teacher must assume primary responsibility for the humane treatment of the animal while in the classroom. The classroom teacher is responsible for developing guidelines for student/animal interaction. These guidelines should include student training on how to handle the animal. Education with animals should be used to re-emphasize proper hygiene and hand washing recommendations. All children who handle animals should be instructed to wash their hands immediately after handling them.

Animals should not be allowed to roam free around the classroom or school.

If animals are to be kept in the classroom on days when classes are not in session, the teacher must make arrangements for their care and safety. No animals will be housed in the schools during the summer break or when school is not in session.

Any time a resident animal bites or scratches a person, the classroom teacher will notify the building administrator, parents, and the school nurse. It is the responsibility of the building administrator to determine if additional measures need to be taken.

Transportation of Animals

Animals may not be transported on school buses with the exception of animals certified to assist persons with disabilities.

Animal Visitations to Schools

Animals are not allowed to visit school unless they are part of an educational program approved by the building principal.

Certified Service Dogs

Dogs that are specifically certified to assist individuals with disabilities will be permitted on district property and at district events. For students, the need for a service dog will be documented. This plan will also include any necessary precautions.

LEGAL REFERENCES: Section 121.02(1)(c) Wisconsin Statutes
 PI 8.01(2)(c), Wisconsin Administrative Code

Adopted: 02/09/04
 Reviewed:
 Revised:

Student Allergy Information

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The School Board of Port Edwards School District believes that live animals in the classroom provide opportunities to learn about diversity, habitat, humane care, animal growth and development, reproduction and behavior. It is equally important that safety precautions be an integral part of the proper care and hygiene associated with the housing of an animal at school. The use of live animals in the classroom will be conducted in accordance with Board of Education policy and procedures, including the gathering of information related to student allergies.

In order to ensure the safety of our students, please fill out the information below and return this form to your child's teacher.

Student's Name: _____

Parent's Name: _____

NO, my child does not have any known allergies to animals.

YES, my child does have an animal-related allergy.

IF YES, my child has an allergic reaction to the following animal(s):
(Please be specific as to type of animal which causes the allergic reaction.)

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Resident Animal Request

Teacher's Name: _____ Grade: _____

I am requesting approval to bring a _____
into my classroom to be used for educational purposes. I have read the Port Edwards School
District Policy on Resident Animals in the Classroom and understand it and agree to abide by it.

Teacher Signature

Date

Building Principal Signature

Date