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IMG-R
IMG-E-1

Animals in Schools

The St. James-Assiniboia School Division recognizes that animals in schools are beneficial for the following purposes:

- Supporting curriculum and education practices.
- As a tool for enriching the learning of students.
- As a service and non-service animal.

The St. James-Assiniboia School Division recognizes research that supports that a service and non-service animals, when well trained and supported, not only demonstrates its trained tasks but can also support increased safety, independence, social bonding, and assistance for individuals with a disability. In Manitoba, a service animal is defined as “an animal that has been trained to provide assistance to a person with a disability that relates to that person’s disability.” (*Manitoba Human Rights Code*)

The St. James-Assiniboia School Division supports the use of service and non-service animals in schools as long as the appropriate planning and preparation has taken place in advance of the service and non-service animal’s entry to the school with approval of the Superintendent/CEO.

Upon approval of the Principal, animals may be permitted in classrooms, in schools, and/or on school grounds for student instruction purposes only, provided adequate precautions are taken to ensure the health and safety of the students, division employees and animals (refer to IMG-R Protocol for Animals in Schools). Particular care should be taken to safeguard students with allergies, asthma and anxieties prior to the animal being brought to the classroom, in school, and/or on school grounds.

Requests for an animal in a school must be undertaken with adherence to the guidelines provided in Regulation IMG-R for staff, students and parent/caregivers.

ADOPTED	REVIEWED	REVISED	PAGE
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Motion 19-02-13		Motion 11-12-24	