

# SUPERIOR-GREENSTONE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Section                      SCHOOLS AND STUDENTS                      546

Policy Name                SERVICE ANIMALS IN SCHOOLS POLICY  
   *Management Guideline Applies*

Board Approved: June 23, 2020

Review Prior To: December ~~2030~~  
2025

## 1.0 Policy

- 1.1 Superior-Greenstone District School Board (referred to as “SGDSB” in this Policy and the Management Guidelines 546) is committed to the learning of all students and provides a range of differentiated placements, programs and interventions to support student success. It is the policy of the Superior-Greenstone District School Board, in accordance with its obligations pursuant to the Ontario *Human Rights Code*, to provide individualized accommodation to students with disabilities to enable them to have meaningful access to education services.
- 1.2 In circumstances where a parent, student, or an employee requests to have the student’s Guide Dog/Service Dog or Service Animal accompany the student, while attending school or a school-related event, each request shall be reviewed individually by Superior-Greenstone District School Board. Each review will take into consideration the student’s dignity, integration, independence and disability-related learning needs, and the accommodations available to enable meaningful access to education.
- 1.3 The process of accommodation shall also consider the competing human rights of other students and staff; the impact of the Guide Dog/Service Dog or Service Animal on the learning environment; and the health and safety of all individuals who are or might be in the school, on school grounds or at a school-related event.
- 1.4 SGDSB shall retain data regarding the requests for Guide Dogs/Service Dogs or Service Animals as outlined in its Service Animals in Schools Management Guideline.
- 1.5 Pursuant to the *Education Act* and regulations, a school building is not a place to which the public is customarily admitted, and pursuant to the Ontario Regulation 474/00 *Access to School Premises*, Superior-Greenstone District School Board requires each school to have a process for visitors

## 2.0 Policy Review

This policy shall be reviewed in accordance with SGDSB’s Policy Development and Review Policy.

### Notes:

For definitions of terms used in this Policy, refer to Service Animals in Schools Procedure. A copy of this Policy shall be available on the Board’s website and can be requested in accessible formats.

### Legal References

*Ontario Human Rights Code, RSO 1990, c.H.19*  
*Education Act, RSO 1990, c.E2, s. 170(1), s.265(1); O. Reg. 298, s.11*  
[PPM 163 – School Board Policies on Service Animals](#)  
[Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005, c.11](#)

*Blind Persons' Rights Act, RSO 1990 c. B.7*  
*Dog Owners' Liability Act, RSO 1990, c. D.16*