ANIMALS IN SCHOOL

Live animals may be brought into the classroom for educational purposes directly related to an instructional program. They must be appropriately housed, humanely cared for, and properly handled. Persons bringing animals into a school should receive prior permission from the classroom teacher. In most instances, the classroom teacher may wish to discuss with the building administrator the purpose of bringing animals into the school and the arrangements to be undertaken for the care of the animal and for the safety of individuals.

1. Prior to giving permission for an animal to enter the classroom, the teacher shall check with the school nurse to determine if there are any known allergies existing among students that will use the classroom.

2. The teacher shall assume primary responsibility for obtaining appropriate housing and for the humane and proper treatment of animal in the classroom.

3. Only the teacher, or students designated by the teacher, shall handle the animals.

4. If animals are to be kept in a classroom on days when classes are not in session, the teacher must make the necessary arrangements for their care and safety.

5. Animals are not to be transported on school buses.

6. All experiments using live animals shall have prior approval of the building principal.

7. If a teacher or student is bitten by an animal where the skin is pierced, the incident shall be immediately reported to the school nurse. The school nurse shall advise the building administrator, who is responsible to notify the public health authorities and to impound the animal for observation. The advice and direction of the public health authorities shall determine appropriate further action.