

WINDSOR UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

JOB DESCRIPTION

TITLE: Paraeducator - Service Animal Handler

DEFINITION: Under the general direction of Special Education Director/School Site Administrator and in cooperation with the Classroom Teacher(s) performs the necessary duties to assist with special education students who have moderate to severe disabilities and their service animal.

A service animal is an animal (dog, miniature horse) trained to aid or assist a person with a disability.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The following are typical duties and responsibilities for positions in this classification. Any single position may not perform all of these tasks, and/or may perform similar related tasks not listed below.

- Assists the classroom teacher in student behavior management
- Under the direction of certificated personnel, assists in various aspects of program implementation and classroom work, including working with students in small groups or on a one-to-one basis, to reinforce basic skills
- Assists physically handicapped students with their equipment (wheelchairs, scooters, walkers, etc.)
- Instructs the service animal to perform physical tasks (e.g. tactile stimulation)
- Treats the service animal with appreciation and respect.
- Practices the service animal's skills regularly.
- Maintains the service animal's proper behavior at school and in public.
- Carries proper identification and is aware of applicable laws pertaining to service animals.
- Arranges for the prompt clean up of animal's waste
- Under the direction of the classroom teacher, communicates with parents/guardians
- May be responsible for feeding, toileting, dressing and assisting students in independent skills development
- Reports suspected child abuse or neglect according to established District policies
- Performs related duties as required.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

KNOWLEDGE OF:

- Methods and attitudes required in working with children who have special needs
- Animal handling and care
- Safe work practices and proper lifting techniques

ABILITY TO:

- Facilitate individual student development
- Assist special need students in developing peer relationships
- Successfully perform the physical requirements of the position
- Understand the needs of physically, emotionally and educationally challenges students
- Learn and apply District policies and procedures related to service animals

- Understand and accurately carry out instructions in an independent manner
- Communicate effectively in both oral and written form
- Maintain cooperative relationships with those contacted in the course of work
- Maintain confidentiality of school related information
- Be flexible and receptive to change

REQUIRED EXPERIENCE AND EDUCATION

EXPERIENCE:

- At least 2 years experience working in an educational setting which provides direct instruction to students
- Experience working with children with disabilities
- Experience in working with service animals

EDUCATION:

- High school diploma or equivalent

REQUIRED LICENSES/CERTIFICATES:

- Valid First Aid/ CPR certificate

First Reading: August 20, 2013

Board Approved: August 20, 2013

Reviewed by Classification Study Committee: July 27, 2016

Approved: 6/26/2018