

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
School District #33 (Chilliwack)**

**608
POLICY
Assistance Dogs**

The Board of Education supports the use of Assistance Dogs for students with special needs who require this support to have equal access to the services, programs or activities offered by the school. Use of an Assistance Dog by a student with special needs will be allowed in a school or on District property when the School District's requirements have been met to the satisfaction of the Board of Education.

“Assistance Dog” means a working dog specifically trained to undertake more than one task to mitigate an individual's disabilities, and which has the qualifications prescribed by Assistance Dogs International or the International Guide Dog Federation. Assistance Dogs include, but are not limited to:

- “Autism Service Dogs” which are dogs trained as assistants for persons with autism and which have the qualifications prescribed by Assistance Dogs International.
- “Hearing Dogs” which are dogs that alert individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing to specific sounds.
- “Seizure Response Dogs” which are dogs trained to provide emergency response for individuals with epilepsy.
- “Service Dogs” which are dogs trained to assist individuals who utilize a wheelchair.
- “Guide Dogs” which are dogs trained to guide individuals who are blind or visually impaired.

Cross Refs: Assistance Dogs International www.assistancedogsinternational.org/ International Guide Dog Federation www.igdf.org.uk BC & Alberta Guide Dogs <http://bcandalbertaguideds.com/>

Adopted: March 8, 2016
Reviewed:
Revised: