

The Elkin City Schools Board of Education must ensure the health and safety of students and school personnel who may come in contact with animals during school activities. The Board recognizes that there are varied and substantial benefits to having animals in schools as part of the school programs or activities as long as they are properly managed.

The Elkin City Schools Board of Education will follow the Guidelines for Animals in North Carolina Schools as developed by the North Carolina Division of Public Health. Health Certificates shall be issued within the last 90 day period and documentation of handler training or a letter from a licensed veterinarian attesting to a lack of history of aggressive behavior is required before the animals may be included in a school activity. Before presenting animals in classrooms or for instructional activities, the principal will investigate any potential student health issues which may be aggravated by the presence of the animal/animals. Parental notification will be required prior to the presentation of animals for classroom or instructional purposes.

Student, staff, and general public are prohibited from bringing animals on to the school campus at public events, including, but not limited to athletic events. The exceptions to this policy are service animals as authorized.

Cross References: Student Safety 1510/4200,
Guidelines for Animals in North Carolina Schools-North Carolina Division of Public Health
<http://epi.publichealth.nc.gov/cd/vph/AnimalsinNorthCarolinaSchools.pdf>

Adopted: July 23, 2012