

Instruction

SUBJECT: THERAPY DOGS

The South Lewis Central School District supports the implementation of a Therapy Dog program for the academic, social, and emotional benefits of its students.

A therapy dog is a dog trained to provide affection and comfort to students in the South Lewis Central School District. The most important characteristic of a therapy dog is its temperament. A good therapy dog must be friendly, patient, confident, at ease in all situations, and gentle. Therapy dogs must enjoy human contact and be content to be petted and handled, sometimes clumsily. A therapy dog's primary job is to allow unfamiliar people to make physical contact with it and to enjoy that contact. Therapy dogs are not considered trained service dogs as described by the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The following minimal standards must be satisfied and shall be in effect for all therapy dogs before they are approved to serve in the South Lewis Central School District:

1. A therapy dog must be clean, well-groomed, and not have an offensive odor.
2. A therapy dog must not urinate or defecate in inappropriate locations.
3. A therapy dog must not annoy any member of the student body or school personnel by seeking attention.
4. A therapy dog must not vocalize unnecessarily.
5. A therapy dog must not show aggression towards people or other animals.
6. A therapy dog must not solicit or steal food or other items from the student body or school personnel.
7. A therapy dog must not interfere in any way with the educational process.
8. A therapy dog must not pose a health or safety threat to any student, school personnel, or other persons.

Therapy dogs are independently owned by school employees and must meet the standards of health as prescribed by veterinarians at the owner's expense. With the potential exception of required training for accreditation, the South Lewis Central School District bears no financial responsibility for the care or feeding of the animal.

(Continued)

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SUBJECT: THERAPY DOGS (Cont'd.)

Therapy dogs in the school setting shall be recommended by the Superintendent and approved by the Board of Education. Prior to approval the owners shall provide:

1. Current proof of required inoculations, vaccination and/or immunizations from a licensed veterinarian.
2. Proof of health (such as a current certificate of health from a veterinarian)
3. Visible cleanliness of the dog with no sign of fleas/ticks or other health hazards such as intestinal parasites.
4. A visually healthy, alert, happy and not grossly over or under weight dog.
5. Proof of a physical and stool sample.
6. A copy of the owner's current homeowner's policy, renter's policy, or policy from an organization with appropriate liability coverage relating to animal/pet ownership.

These requirements must be met and minimally provided on an annual basis and at the request of the District.

All therapy dogs and owners shall be tested and accredited by Therapy Dogs International (TDI), American Kennel's Club (AKC) or a comparable authority as determined by the Superintendent. With a valid certificate and while "working" at the school under the owner's supervision, the District's liability insurance shall serve as secondary coverage.

The owner of the dog is solely responsible for the supervision and care of the therapy dog, including any feeding, exercising, and clean up while the animal is in the school building, on school property or acting as a representative of the school in any location. The District is not responsible for providing any care, supervision, or assistance for the therapy dog.

The owner of the therapy dog is solely responsible and liable for any damage to school property or injury to students, personnel, or other persons caused by the therapy dog. The owner indemnifies the school against all losses, claims, damages, liabilities, causes of action and expenses (including attorney fees) related to personal injuries to any person or pet or property damage resulting directly or indirectly from having the therapy dog at school.

If any student or school employee assigned to the location in which the therapy dog is permitted suffers an allergic reaction to the therapy dog, the owner of the animal will be required to remove the animal to a different and appropriate location.

(Continued)

Instruction

SUBJECT: THERAPY DOGS (Cont'd.)

The owner shall provide a plan to be approved by district administration for:

- Restrictions on the length of time a dog can “work”
- Length and number of needed outdoor breaks
- Access to water and food
- Clean-up and disposal of waste
- Designated “home area” for the therapy dog with proper ventilation, space where stress and disturbance are minimized
- Cleaning and disinfection schedule of the “home area”
- A plan of action for fire drills and emergency events
- Use and sign-out of the therapy dog for use by other staff members
- Basic training for other staff members who sign-out and utilize the therapy dog. This “Basic Training” course must be completed by all staff members before they are able to utilize the therapy dog without the owner present.

At any time and for any reason the District Administration can suspend the use of the therapy dog on school property especially if it is determined that:

1. The owner does not have control of the therapy dog
2. The therapy dog presents a direct and immediate danger to others in the school
3. The animal’s presence interferes with any aspect of the educational process or operations of the District.
4. The BOE policy is not being adhered to.

Upon notification the owner will be required to immediately remove the therapy dog from school premises.

Adoption Date:



Madison-Oneida

Board of Cooperative Educational Services

Lead ♦ Partner ♦ Innovate ♦ Excel

BUSINESS OFFICE
Phone: 315.361.5514 ♦ Fax: 315.361.5595

TARA PAWLOWSKI, Director of Business Services



December 17, 2021

Douglas Premo, Superintendent
South Lewis Central School District
4264 County Road 43
Turin, NY 13473

Dear Mr. Premo:

Per your request, below is the estimate for CoSer 602-7710 Administrative Computer Services you are exploring with the RIC (does not include related annual RIC services):

Down Payment	2021-22	\$ 17,000
1 st Year Payment	2022-23	\$ 17,743
2 nd Year Payment	2023-24	\$ 17,743
3 rd Year Payment	2024-25	\$ 17,743

If you wish to proceed, please have your board pass the motion enclosed and return it.

Please call if you have a question or need further help. The RIC looks forward to helping you achieve your district's technology plan.

Sincerely,

Tara Paulowski

Tara Pawlowski
Director of Business Services

Enc.

CC: Barry Yette
Heather Mahoney
Amanda Palmer
Andrea Kinney
Martha Tornabene
Giovana Annatone

South Lewis Agriculture Department

East Road
Turin, NY 13473
(315)348-2520
rhoward@southlewis.org



January 6th, 2022

Dear Mr. Premo;

The South Lewis FFA would once again like to “unplug” and attend the FFA Winter Weekend which will be held at the Oswegatchie Educational Center in Croghan. This year’s event will be March 4th, 5th & 6th. 20 South Lewis FFA members will be attending camp and participating in many leadership development activities such as survival training and snowshoeing.

Attached you will find a tentative schedule for the weekend. Please contact me with any questions.

Thank you,

Mrs. Rachael Howard
South Lewis FFA Advisor

Oswegatchie Education Center

Long Pond Road - Croghan
Winter Weekend 2022

Friday

8:30 am – depart from school
Welcome & Rules
Ice Breaker Activity
Lunch
Oswegatchie History
Tree & Wildlife Identification
Dinner
Outdoor/Indoor Team Challenges
Scavenger Hunt
Nocturnal Nature Hike

Saturday

Breakfast
Snowshoe Hike
Lunch
Survival Training
Sled Races
Dinner
Skit Night
Movie

Sunday

Breakfast
Clean lodge
Depart for home by 9:30 AM