

## **Section 504 and Title III Student and Parent Rights**

**The following is a description of student and parent rights granted by federal law. The intent of the law is to keep you fully informed concerning decisions about your child and to inform you of your rights if you disagree with any of these decisions.**

**YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO:**

1. Have your child take part in, and receive benefits from public education programs without discrimination based on a disability.
2. Have the school advise you as to your rights under federal law.
3. Receive written notice with respect to identification, evaluation, or placement of your child.
4. Have your child receive a free appropriate public education. This includes the right to be educated with other students without disabilities to the maximum extent appropriate. It also includes the right to have the school provide accommodations and services to allow your child an equal opportunity to participate in school and school-related activities.
5. Have your child educated in facilities and receive comparable educational services to those provided to students without disabilities.
6. Have your child receive accommodations and services under Section 504 and Title III of Americans with Disabilities Act of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 if he/she qualifies.
7. Have evaluation, educational, and placement decisions made based upon a variety of information sources, and by individuals who know your child, the evaluation data, and placement options.
8. Have transportation provided to a school placement setting at no greater cost to you than would be incurred if the student were placed in a program operated by the school.
9. Give your child an equal opportunity to participate in non-academic and extracurricular activities offered by the school.
10. Examine all records relating to decisions regarding your child's identification, evaluation, educational program, and placement.
11. Obtain copies of educational records at a reasonable cost unless the fee would effectively deny you access to the records.
12. Receive a response from the school to reasonable requests for explanations and interpretations of your child's records.
13. Request mediation to settle disputes arising out of any decision about your child's identification, evaluation, educational program or placement.

14. Impartial Hearing: Parents or guardians have the right to file a request with the District for an impartial hearing by an objective, neutral hearing officer to challenge any District action with respect to the identification, evaluation, or educational placement of the student. Parents may request an impartial hearing by making a written request to Section 504 and Title III Coordinator. The hearing officer will not be an employee or an independent contractor of the district. Parents or guardians will be provided an opportunity to participate in the impartial hearing and to be represented by counsel. In addition, parents or guardians will have a record of the hearing and will be provided with a written decision, including findings of fact and conclusions of law. If a parent or guardian is dissatisfied with the hearing officer's decision, he or she may appeal the decision to a court of appropriate jurisdiction.

15. Internal Complaint: Parents or guardians may file an internal complaint with the District's Section 504 and Title III Coordinator, using the District's grievance procedures for complaints of discrimination.

District Section 504 and Title III Coordinator:

**Cindy Couchman**

Assistant Superintendent, Learning and Instruction

406 W. 7th

Buhler, KS 67522

Telephone: 620-543-2258

Building Section 504 and Title III Coordinator:

**Building Principal**

16. OCR Complaint: Parents, guardians, or others may file a complaint with the Office for Civil Rights (OCR) in the U.S. Department of Education to address complaints based on disability discrimination.

The contact information for OCR is:

Office for Civil Rights U.S. Department of Education

1010 Walnut Street, Suite 320

Kansas City, MO 64114-3320

Telephone: 816-268-0550

Fax: 816-823-1404; TDD: 877-521-2172

Email: OCR.KansasCtiy@ed.gov