

Shelby-Rising City Schools

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September 16, 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians:

For the first time Shelby-Rising City Schools will have a student who is being assisted by a Service Animal. The use of a Service Animal is defined and protected by the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and S-RC works very hard to ensure that accommodations are made to meet those needs. The use of a Service Animal during the school day is much different than the use of one while attending an event at our school in the evening.

In all cases a Service Animal used at school is trained and has documentation supporting the necessary training to serve the individual need of the person. When the animal is at school it is working and is wearing an identifiable vest or pack – when this is the case the animal should not be treated or approached like a household pet or therapy animal.

Under ADA guidelines students who have allergies or fears related to the animal working in the building can be placed in different classes if possible, however, the use of a Service Animal will not be denied based on those reasons.

Timber, a trained Service Dog, has begun attending school full-time to serve a student. The cost of Timber and her training was the responsibility of the parent and no school funds were used. A para-educator assigned to the student will assist in the handling of Timber in order for teachers, specialists, and bus drivers to attend to their primary duties when Timber is present.

For additional information you can see School District Policy 607.09 or the ADA's 2010 revised requirements for Service Animals. Further questions can be directed to the Superintendent at 402-527-5946 or ckay@shelby.esu7.org.

Proud to be a Husky,

Chip Kay, Superintendent