

RELATIONS WITH PARENTS WITH DISABILITIES

The Board of Education recognizes that those resident parents with disabilities which would preclude them from taking part in the development of their children's educational program must be afforded an opportunity equal to that afforded other parents to participate in school-initiated activities which are designed for parental involvement and are directly related to their child's academic and/or disciplinary progress (e.g., parent-teacher conferences, and/or meetings with other district personnel).

The Board therefore directs the Superintendent of Schools to develop a plan and procedures for accommodating the special needs of parents with disabilities. Such plan must include the following:

1. a channel for parents with disabilities to present a self-assessment of their special needs and the desired means of accommodating such needs;
2. a formal communication of the district's intent to accommodate such needs, with reference to the specific means the district intends to utilize (e.g., sign-language interpreters); and
3. a channel for parental appeal, should the district's proposal not satisfy the parent's request for accommodation.

During the hearing of such appeal, if the district has denied accommodation, or has proposed an alternative plan for accommodating a parent's request, the district will explain the reasons it believes that such denial or alternative plan is equally effective in ensuring parental access to the school activities described above.

These provisions do not extend to parental involvement in extra-curricular activities, including graduation ceremonies.

Ref: Rehabilitation Act of 1973, ' 504; 29 USCA ' 794
34 CFR ' 104
Education Law ' 310
Rothschild v. Grottenthaler, 907 F2d 286 (2nd Cir., 1990)
Rothschild v. Grottenthaler, 716 F Supp 796 (SDNY, 1989)

Adoption date: December 1, 1995