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**PROVISION OF A FREE APPROPRIATE PUBLIC EDUCATION TO STUDENTS  
PURSUANT TO SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973**

The Board of Education shall ensure that no student is discriminated against in programs or activities receiving federal financial assistance. Students protected by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are those individuals who have a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities; both those who have a record of such impairment; or are regarded as having such impairment.

The Board has appointed the Superintendent to serve as the District's Student Section 504 coordinator and directs said individual to:

1. Establish a team, comprised of a group of persons knowledgeable about the child and person(s) familiar with the meaning of the evaluative data and program access options. This team shall consider students eligibility for and recommend the provision of regular education and/or related aids and services and/or other accommodations, as appropriate to provide a student with a disability, a free appropriate public education. This team shall also determine whether disciplinary conduct which may result in a change in placement is a manifestation of a student's disability in order to enable non-discriminatory discipline to be meted out in accordance with the District's Code of Conduct.
2. Implement procedures to ensure the dissemination of the contents of each student's 504 Plan to the persons on the District's staff, who will be charged with implementing the program, accommodations, related services and/or aids recommended.
3. To implement procedures and efforts to identify all school-age residents of the District who are not receiving a public education, who have or are suspected to have, a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities.
4. To provide a copy of this policy, together with the attached "Notice of Student Rights," at least annually to all families of students residing in the District, at the time of a student's referral, prior to the student's evaluation or reevaluation and prior to actions involving the education placement of a student.
5. Create procedures to insure that each student who is believed to have such a disability shall be evaluated prior to the provision of special education and/or related services and/or other reasonable accommodations and prior to any subsequent significant change in placement.
6. Students who receive related services and/or other reasonable accommodations pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, shall be reevaluated at least once every three years.

# POLICY

2007

Students

7. Students who have a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities shall be placed and provided services, reasonable accommodations and transportation necessary to afford each student a free appropriate public education.
8. Students who have a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities shall be afforded an equal opportunity to participate in non-academic and extracurricular services, pre-school and adult education to the extent offered to non-disabled person, to the maximum extent appropriate.
9. Parents shall have the right to inspect relevant student records.
10. Disputes by parents or students relating to decisions of the Section 504 team, shall be made in writing within thirty days of the decision complained of. A written description of the dispute should be sent by the parent, guardian or student to the District's Section 504 Coordinator at the Catskill Central School District 343 West Main Street Catskill, New York 12414.
11. Disputes between a student and/or the parent or guardian of a student, regarding whether the recipient has made a free appropriate education available, shall be heard by an impartial hearing officer. Parents shall have an opportunity to participate in the hearing and be represented by counsel.
12. The impartial hearing officer shall be directed to issue a written decision following the close of the hearing. A copy of the decision shall be sent to the Section 504 Coordinator and the Parent(s)/Guardian and/or Student.
13. A parent may appeal the hearing officer's decision within thirty days following the parent's receipt of the hearing officer's decision to the Board of Education.
14. Complaints may also be made to the United States Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights, Washington, D.C. 20201.

Adoption date: September 26, 2007