



Pre-School through Middle School
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Hermosa Dogs on Campus Policy

Purpose. Hermosa maintains a dog-free campus to support student safety, reduce the risk of injuries, minimize allergic reactions and sanitation concerns, and preserve an orderly learning environment.

General Rule. Dogs are not permitted on Hermosa's campus, including classrooms, offices, playgrounds, athletic areas, sidewalks and other school grounds, unless one of the exceptions below applies. This rule applies whether or not the dog is leashed, carried, restrained, or otherwise under control.

Exception 1: Service Animals. A dog that qualifies as a service animal under applicable federal and Arizona law may accompany an individual with a disability on campus in areas where the individual is permitted to be. A service animal must be individually trained to do work or perform tasks directly related to the person's disability. Emotional support, comfort, companion, and therapy animals are not service animals unless separately approved by the school for a school purpose.

Service Animal Inquiries. When it is not apparent that a dog is a service animal, school staff may ask *only* whether the dog is required because of a disability and what work or task the dog has been trained to perform. Staff may not require certification, registration, identification cards, special vests, medical documentation, or a demonstration of the dog's task as a condition of access.

Exception 2: School-Approved Dogs. Hermosa may permit a non-service dog on campus only when the dog is required or specifically approved as part of a formal school activity, instructional program, presentation, event, safety function, or other school-authorized purpose. Advance written approval from the principal or designee is required before the dog is brought onto campus.

Documentation for School-Approved Non-Service Dogs. Before a non-service dog is permitted on campus, the owner or handler will be required to provide proof of current rabies vaccination, current county license, handler contact information, a description of the school-approved purpose, proof of insurance or a liability waiver if requested, and any program credentials required for therapy, reading, demonstration, or vendor animals.

Handler Responsibilities. Any dog allowed on campus must remain under the handler's control at all times, must be housebroken, must not disrupt school operations, and must not pose a direct threat to the health or safety of students, staff, families, or visitors. The handler is responsible for the dog's care, supervision, behavior, and any damage or injury caused by the dog.

Removal from Campus. Hermosa may require any dog to be removed from campus if the dog is not permitted under this policy, is out of control and the handler does not take effective action to control it, is not housebroken, poses a direct threat, substantially disrupts school activities, or otherwise violates school rules. If a service animal is properly excluded, the school will provide the individual an opportunity to participate in or receive school services without the animal present.

Notice. This policy is intended to be applied consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Arizona service-animal law, applicable local ordinances, and school district policy.

For the Board

Date

Parent Notice: Dogs on Campus

Dear Hermosa Families,

To help keep our students, staff, and visitors safe, Hermosa is a dog-free campus. Dogs are not permitted on school grounds, including classrooms, offices, playgrounds, athletic areas, and other campus spaces, unless an exception has been approved.

Exceptions: Service animals that meet applicable legal requirements are permitted. Hermosa may also allow a non-service dog when the dog is specifically approved in advance as part of a school activity, presentation, instructional program, event, or other school-authorized purpose.

Please do not bring family pets or other non-service dogs onto campus during drop-off, pick-up, school events, classroom visits, or other campus activities unless you have received advance written approval from the principal or school designee.

If a dog is approved for a school purpose, the owner or handler will be asked to provide current vaccination information, licensing information if applicable, contact information, and any other documentation requested by the school. Any dog allowed on campus must remain under the handler's control at all times and may be removed if it creates a safety concern, disruption, or sanitation issue.

Thank you for helping us maintain a safe and welcoming campus for all students.

Sincerely,
Hermosa School Administration