

BEAR GRASS CHARTER SCHOOL

Section 504 Education Policy Statement of Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability

It is the policy of Bear Grass Charter School to provide a free and appropriate public education to each student with a disability within its jurisdiction, regardless of the nature or severity of the disability.

It is the intent of the district to ensure that students who are disabled within the definition of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are identified, assessed, and provided with appropriate educational services.

Under this policy, a student with a disability is one who (a) has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, (b) has a record of such impairment, or (c) is regarded as having such an impairment. Students may be disabled under Section 504 even though they do not require services pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Due process rights of students with disabilities and their parents under Section 504 will be enforced.

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PROCEDURAL SAFEGUARDS - SECTION 504

The following is a description of the rights granted by federal law to students with disabilities. 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. Receive all information in your native language and primary mode of communication.
2. Have your child take part in, and receive benefits from public education programs without discrimination because of his/her disabling condition.
3. Receive notice with respect to identification, assessment, or provision of instructional services for your child under a 504 Accommodation Plan.
4. Have your child receive a free appropriate public education. This includes the right to be educated with non-disabled students to the maximum extent appropriate. It also includes the right to have the school district make reasonable accommodations to allow your child an equal opportunity to participate in school and school-related activities.
5. Have your child educated in facilities and receive services comparable to those provided non-disabled students.
6. Have assessment and educational decisions and decisions regarding services be based upon a variety of information sources, and by persons who know your child, the assessment data, and service options.
7. Have an assessment and/or periodic reassessment before any significant change in programs/services.
8. Have your child be given an equal opportunity to participate in non-academic and extracurricular activities offered by the district.
9. Examine all relevant records relating to decisions regarding your child's identification, assessment, educational program and services.
10. Obtain copies of educational records at a reasonable cost unless the fee would effectively deny you access to the records.
11. Receive a response from the school district to reasonable requests for explanations and interpretations of your child's record.
12. Request amendment of your child's educational records if there is a reasonable cause to believe that they are inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the privacy rights of your child. If the school district refuses this request it will notify you within a reasonable time, and advise you of the right to a hearing.
13. Have reasonable accommodations made to provide equal access for you or your child to effectively participate in meetings, activities or events sponsored by the school/district or provided in district facilities.
14. File a local grievance with the principal of your child's school.

15. Request an impartial due process hearing related to decisions or actions regarding your child's identification, assessment, educational program or services. You and your child may take part in the hearing and have an attorney represent you. Hearing requests must also be made to the district's Section 504 Compliance Officer.
16. File a complaint with the Office for Civil Rights. The address of the Regional Office which covers North Carolina:

District of Columbia Office
Office for Civil Rights
US Department of Education
1100 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Room 316
PO Box 14620
Washington, DC20044-4620

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Notice of Receipt of Parent and Student Rights under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

On this date, I received a copy of the Bear Grass Charter School's Section 504 Education Policy Statement and the 504 Procedural Safeguards. These documents contain an explanation of parents' and students' rights under Section 504. I understand that if I have questions concerning the information in these documents I may contact the Section 504 School Coordinator, at Bear Grass Charter School.

(Signature)

(Date)

Please return to:

