



**Subject:** Animals at School

**Approved By:** Board of Directors

**Policy:** 5035.1

**EMPIRE SPRINGS CHARTER SCHOOL**

**Effective Date:** June 6, 2024

**Revised Date:**

**INLAND EMPIRE SPRINGS CHARTER SCHOOL**

**Effective Date:** June 6, 2024

**Revised Date:**

The Board recognizes that animals contribute to the Springs Charter Schools instructional program by being effective teaching aids to students and by assisting individuals with disabilities to access school programs and activities. In addition, instruction related to the care and treatment of animals teaches students a sense of responsibility and promotes the humane treatment of living creatures.

The Superintendent or his/her designee shall develop rules and procedures to ensure that when animals are brought to Springs Charter School facilities or school-sponsored events or functions off school facilities, the health, safety, and welfare of students, staff, and the animals are protected. Notwithstanding this policy and the implementing procedures adopted, Springs Charter School assumes no liability for the safety of animals allowed on school facilities or school-sponsored events or functions.

Any owner, sponsor, or responsible parties who do not comply with procedures consistent with this policy are not permitted to bring any animal and/or reptile or insect onto any school facility and/or at any event sponsored by Springs Charter School.

Neither this policy nor any administrative process or procedure created under it shall abridge the rights of any disabled persons to utilize a service animal, such as a guide dog, signal dog or service dog under, nor evade the obligations imposed on Springs Charter School pursuant to, either Section 504 of the United States Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, as amended, the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, as amended, nor the rights bestowed under California Civil Code Section 34.3, Penal Code section 365.5 or similar provisions as may be enacted.