

SECTION 504 PARENT PROCEDURAL SAFEGUARDS

The purpose of this notice is to describe the procedural safeguards provided to the parents of students with disabilities under Section 504. The intent of the law is to keep parents fully informed concerning the District's decisions to identify, evaluate, and/or provide accommodations/services for their children. The District encourages and facilitates informal complaint resolutions of the same.

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 is a federal law prohibiting discrimination against disabled persons who may participate in, or receive benefits from programs receiving federal financial assistance. Under Section 504 (§504), eligible students with disabilities are provided with educational benefits and opportunities equal to those provided to nondisabled students. Students with disabilities have the right to receive a free appropriate public education (FAPE) and to be educated with nondisabled students to the maximum extent appropriate.

Under §504, students are considered disabled if they suffer from a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or major life activities. Section 504 also protects students with a record of impairment or, who are regarded as impaired, from discrimination on the basis of disability. Students can be considered disabled, and may receive protections/accommodations under §504, even if they do not qualify for, or receive special education and related services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Parents of students with disabilities eligible under §504 have the following rights:

1. To receive written notice of the District's intent to identify, evaluate, and/or to provide a §504 Plan for their child
2. To review all relevant records regarding their child and obtain copies at reasonable cost
3. To appeal/disagree with the District's decisions with regard to the identification, evaluation, or §504 Plan accommodations/services, or file a complaint concerning allegations of a violation of §504 policy/procedures, or disability-based discrimination/harassment
4. To request an informal mediation or an impartial hearing if they disagree with their child's identification, evaluation, or §504 Plan, with an opportunity to participate and be represented by an attorney at the parent's expense
5. To review the decision of the impartial hearing officer

Upon request, the District will provide an oral interpreter at §504 Plan meetings for those whose primary language is not English. Upon request, the District will also provide translated versions of §504 related documents. A complaint investigation may be initiated by contacting the District Compliance Officer if there is an assertion that adequate interpretation was not provided at a §504 Plan meeting. For further information regarding complaint investigations, refer to the District's policy, Uniform Complaint Procedures (UCP),

For further information, you may contact:

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