

## EUT POLICY ON ANIMALS IN SCHOOLS

- Permission must be obtained from the building administrator before any person may bring an animal on school property. Whenever pupils bring domesticated pets to school for educational purposes, the pupil shall consult with the teacher who will then request permission from the building administrator. NO ANIMAL MAY BE TRANSPORTED ON A SCHOOL BUS.
- No pet will be allowed in school without proof of current rabies vaccination (if appropriate)
- Wild animals will not be permitted in school unless the animal is under the control of a person trained in the care and management of the animal—i.e., zookeeper, game warden, biologist, etc. Pupils are not permitted to handle wild animals. BATS ARE NOT PERMITTED IN SCHOOL AT ANY TIME.
- All animals brought to school are to be restrained by the owner. The teacher is responsible for the supervision and control of pupils whenever there is an exhibit or activity involving animals in the school.
- If any person is bitten or injured by an animal on school premises, the building administrator or other responsible adult shall notify appropriate authorities (medical and animal control) and the Maine Department of Human Services, Bureau of Health.
- Children shall not be allowed in the area of any stray or wild animal that appears on school grounds until the animal has left the premises or is removed by an animal control officer, game warden, or other appropriate official.
- Animals kept in the classroom shall be housed in appropriate containers and cared for in a safe and humane manner. Arrangements shall be made for the care of animals on those days when school is not in session.
- No animal may be used as part of a scientific experiment when the normal health of the animal is affected, or where pain or distress is caused. Dissection shall be confined to the classroom and shall not be for the purpose of exhibition.

7 MRSA § 3971

22 MRSA § § 801-825

Effective Date: Jan 1, 1998