

# **Columbia Public Schools**

## **SECTION 504 PROCEDURAL SAFEGUARDS**

### **PARENT AND STUDENT RIGHTS UNDER SECTION 504:**

1. Parents and students have the right to be informed by the School District of their rights under Section 504. The purpose of these Procedural Safeguards is to advise you of those rights.
2. A student with a 504 disability has the right to a free appropriate public education. An appropriate education is defined as the provision of regular or special education and related aids and services that are designed to meet the individual educational needs of the disabled person as adequately as the needs of nondisabled persons are met and based upon adherence to 504 regulatory procedures.
3. The provision of a free education is the provision of educational and related services without cost to the disabled person or to his or her parents or guardian, except for those fees that are imposed on nondisabled persons or their parents or guardian. Funds available from any public or private agency may be used to meet this requirement. Under the law, insurers and other third parties are not relieved from an otherwise valid obligation to provide or pay for services for a disabled student.
4. A child with a disability has the right to take part in, and receive benefits from, public education programs without discrimination because of his/her disability.
5. The parent(s)/guardian of a child with a disability have the right to receive notice with respect to the identification, evaluation, or placement of the child.
6. A student with a disability has the right to receive services and be educated in facilities that are comparable to those provided to nondisabled students.
7. A student with a disability has the right to have evaluation, education and placement decisions made based on a variety of information sources, and by persons who know the student and are knowledgeable about the evaluation data and placement options. The student also has the right to be periodically reevaluated.
8. A student with a disability has an equal opportunity to participate in nonacademic and extracurricular activities offered by the District.
9. A student with a disability has the right to have transportation provided to and from an alternative placement setting (if the setting is in a program not operated by the District) at no greater cost to the parent/guardian than would be incurred if the student were placed in a program operated by the District.

10. The parents/guardian of a student with a disability or an eligible student (over the age of 18) have the right to examine all relevant records relating to decisions regarding the student's identification, evaluation and placement.

11. The parents/guardian of a student with a disability or an eligible student and/or the District have the right to request an impartial due process hearing relating to decisions or actions relating to the student's identification, evaluation, program or placement and the parents or guardian have the right to be represented by counsel in such hearings. The parents or guardian or eligible student and/or the District also have the right to a review procedure involving such hearings.

12. The parents/guardian of a student with a disability or an eligible student have the right to file a local grievance with the District for issues unrelated to the identification, evaluation, program or placement of the student. Board policy AC-R describes the procedures for filing a grievance and can be requested by contacting the District's Section 504 Coordinator or by accessing the district's website at [www.cpsk12.org](http://www.cpsk12.org).

Persons who believe that the District is discriminating against eligible persons on the basis of disability may also file complaints with the District's Section 504 Coordinator and/or the Office for Civil Rights at OCR, U.S. Department of Education, 601 E. 12<sup>th</sup> St., Kansas City, Missouri 64106.

The District's Section 504 Coordinator is Shae Collier, and may be reached at 1818 West Worley, Columbia, MO 65203.