

Administrative Procedure 440

LEARNING ASSISTANTS

Background

The Division recognizes the importance of having qualified learning assistants working with students. Our programs will support the practice of having learning assistants working with students, and as assistants to certified teachers in the classroom. In addition, it is the intention of the Division to provide learning assistants with a secure and stable working environment, as much as possible.

The Division supports the provision of learning assistants to work with special needs students. The interests and welfare of the student shall be paramount in all decisions made in assigning learning assistants.

Procedures

1. Learning assistants are hired to work with designated students and their primary responsibility is to those students.
2. The learning assistant will work in consultation with the classroom teacher and under the supervision and authority of the principal and the Associate Superintendent of Student Services or designate.
3. The learning assistant's primary role will be in the implementation of the program under the direction of the classroom teacher and the principal. The teacher who is evaluating the student may consult with the learning assistant, but is not to request evaluative opinion.
4. The learning assistant must maintain confidentiality with regard to student interests.
5. Learning assistants shall have special training and/or experience acceptable to the school and the Division.
6. When the primary responsibility of the learning assistant is affected by the absence of the student or such similar circumstance, the classroom teacher and/or the principal shall temporarily assign other duties.

Reference: Section 20, 60, 61, 113, 117 School Act

