

Sample Letter to School Community

(School Letterhead)

Date:

Dear Parent/Guardian:

This letter is to inform you that there will be a Guide Dog/Service Dog/Service Animal in our school to assist one of our students. This dog/animal is a highly trained companion for our student and can assist him/her in many routine activities, which may pose challenges for him/her. Guide Dogs/Service Dogs are comparable to “Seeing Eye Dogs,” and are included in every aspect of life for the handler. The animal is protected under the *Ontario Human Rights Code*, and as such, it has the right to be with the handler wherever he/she goes (e.g., public buildings, transportation).

There will be information sessions planned at school to integrate the Guide Dog/Service Dog/Service Animal into our school routines, and all students and staff will be instructed as to the proper procedure around the dog/animal.

Already, the Guide Dog/Service Dog/Service Animal has been a benefit to the student, and we look forward to a lot of growth and learning together.

If you have any specific concerns regarding the presence of the Guide Dog/Service Dog/Service Animal in the school, please contact me. As always, we respect the interests of all our students in providing a safe and effective learning environment here at (*name of school*).

Thank you for your understanding, support, and interest.

Sincerely,

Principal

cc: Superintendent of Education
Coordinator – Student Services
Classroom Teacher
OSR