

GOLDEN VALLEY CHARTER SCHOOL OF SACRAMENTO ORANGEVALE, CALIFORNIA

POLICY ON 504 STUDENT ACCOMMODATION

(Approved by the Board of Trustees 4-9-08)

Background

The 504 plan refers to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act, which specifies that no one with a disability can be excluded from participating in federally funded programs or activities, including elementary, secondary or postsecondary schooling.

"Disability" in this context refers to a "physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities." This can include physical impairments; illnesses or injuries; communicable diseases; chronic conditions like asthma, allergies and diabetes; and learning problems. A 504 plan spells out the modifications and accommodations that will be needed for these students to have an opportunity perform at the same level as their peers.

Process

1. The first step in establishing a 504 plan is gathering information. The vehicle that is used for this process at Golden Valley Charter School is the Student Success Team (SST) Meeting. This meeting generally includes the student's parents, teacher(s), and other school faculty and staff. During this meeting information about the student's strengths, known information (classroom and home academic performance and behavior) and concerns are shared.
2. The team then brainstorms strategies they think will address the team's concerns. Based on these strategies, a plan to help the student be more successful in school is developed. This plan may include assessment and/or classroom observations in preparation for writing a 504 plan.
3. After the needed information is gathered, a follow-up SST meeting will be scheduled. During this meeting the team may modify the plan developed during the last SST meeting, develop a new informal behavior or academic plan or write a 504 plan for the student.

Qualifications

In order for a student to qualify for a 504 plan, there must be evidence of a disability provided by a medical doctor. (If a learning disability is suspected, the SST team may refer the student for special educational assessment). Following the identification of a "disability," a 504 plan will be developed as determined by the SST team. If a parent requests in writing that his/her child receive assessment for a 504 plan, a 504 plan meeting (which follows the SST meeting format described above) will be conducted.

This policy supersedes all previous policies related to personnel policies for certificated personnel.

This policy is part of the Employee Handbook, GVCS School Policies & Procedures binder and Personnel Policies & Procedure binder in the business office.

Golden Valley Charter School shall not discriminate against any employee on the basis of actual or perceived sex, sexual orientation, ethnic group identification, race, ancestry, national origin, religion, age, gender, color or physical or mental disability, or any other basis prohibited by law.

