

**PUBLIC NOTICE: SECTION 504 OF THE
REHABILITATION ACT
OF 1973/AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT**

Section 504 and ADA is an Act which prohibits discrimination against persons with a disability by any institution receiving federal financial assistance. These Acts define a person with a disability as anyone whom:

1. has a mental or physical impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities (major life activities include activities such as caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, and working, etc.);
2. has a record of such impairment; or
3. is regarded as having such an impairment.

In order to fulfill obligations under Section 504, the Cedar Rapids Community School District has the responsibility to avoid discrimination in policies and practices regarding its personnel and students. No discrimination against any person with a disability should knowingly be permitted in any of the programs and/or practices of the school system.

The school district has responsibilities under Section 504, which include the obligation to identify, evaluate, and if the student is determined to be eligible under Section 504, to afford access to appropriate educational services.

A parent may request a form to initiate a referral for any student by contacting the principal or Section 504 Coordinator (typically the school counselor) of any school.

If the parent or guardian disagrees with the determination made by the professional staff of the school district, he/she has a right to a hearing with an impartial hearing officer.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) also specifies rights related to educational records. This Act gives the parent or guardian the right to:

1. inspect and review his/her child's educational records;
2. make copies of these records;
3. receive a list of all individuals having access to those records;
4. ask for an explanation of any item in the records;
5. ask for an amendment to any report on the grounds that it is inaccurate, misleading, or violates the child's rights; and
6. a hearing on the issue if the school refuses to make the amendment.

If there are any questions, please feel free to contact the Cedar Rapids Community School District Section 504 Compliance Officer (319-558-3094).