

West Hartford Public School District

**Agenda Item:** Motion by Lib Brassil Spinella, Bruce Putterman, and Terry Schmitt to Accept Revised Policy 6290--**First Reading**

**Meeting Date:** February 29, 2012

**From:** Lib Brassil Spinella, Bruce Putterman, and Terry Schmitt

**Through:** Karen L. List, Superintendent of Schools

**Recommendation:**

THAT the Board of Education accept as a First Reading the following policy which was revised by the Board Policy Subcommittee:

6290 Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

Note: Words in (*italics*) within parentheses are being removed from the current policy and words in **Bold** are being added to the current policy.

**Background:**

Since these revisions constitute substantial change, they are being brought to the Board as a First Reading.

The Board is in the process of reviewing and revising, where appropriate, all of its policies, section by section. Board Policy Books are divided into 8 sections or series: 1000s Community Relations, 2000s Administration, 3000s Business, 4000s Personnel, 5000s Students, 6000s Instruction, 7000s Board Operations, 8000s Bylaws.

The Board has appointed a sub-committee comprised of Lib Brassil Spinella, Bruce Putterman, and Terry Schmitt to meet regularly with Kimberly Boneham, Assistant Corporation Counsel, and Tom Moore, Assistant Superintendent for Administration. The Policy Subcommittee has spent many hours considering its own recommendations, input from Corporation Counsel and the administration, and reviewing certain policies from other districts.

As reviewed and revised policies are approved by the full Board, they are put on the West Hartford Public Schools website.

Lib Brassil Spinella, Bruce Putterman, Terry Schmitt, Tom Moore, Eileen Howley, and Kimberly Boneham will be available to answer any questions.

**Agenda Item:  
V.C.**

WEST HARTFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

POLICY 6290

**Instruction**

**Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973**

*(In compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the West Hartford Board of Education does not discriminate against persons with disabilities in establishing and implementing hiring and employment practices and establishing and providing school activities and educational programs. A person with a disability is defined under Section 504 as a person who:*

- 1. Has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities such as caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, breathing, learning and working; or*
- 2. Has a record of such impairment; or*
- 3. Is regarded as having such an impairment.*

*Under Section 504, the Board has the responsibility to identify, evaluate, and if a student is determined eligible under Section 504, to afford access to appropriate educational services. The Administration shall establish regulations to ensure compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.*

*Legal Reference: Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973  
29 U.S.C. 794*

*Policy adopted: December 15, 1998)*

**The West Hartford Board of Education is committed to providing students eligible under Section 504 with appropriate accommodations and services to afford them access to educational opportunities equivalent to their non-disabled peers. The Superintendent of Schools and/or his/her designee will establish and provide educational programs/services and school activities that do not discriminate against any person identified as disabled. Under Section 504, a disability with respect to an individual means:**

- 1. A physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities such as, but not limited to, caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, eating, breathing, sleeping, walking, standing, lifting, bending, speaking, learning, reading, concentrating, thinking, communicating, and working.**
- 2. A record of such impairment; or**
- 3. Being regarded as having such an impairment.**

## POLICY 6290

Under Section 504, the Board has the responsibility to identify, evaluate, and if a student is determined eligible under Section 504, to afford access to appropriate educational services. The Administration shall establish regulations to ensure compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

The District's 504 Coordinator is available to address any person who feels they may have been discriminated against on the basis of their disability or have questions regarding Section 504.

**Legal Reference:** Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973  
29 U.S.C. 7934 C.F.R. §104 et seq.  
42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.  
ADA Amendments of 2008, Public Law 110-325

Adopted: December 15, 1998

**Revised:**