



**NOTICE OF PARENT and STUDENT RIGHTS and PROCEDURAL SAFEGUARDS
Section 504 The Rehabilitation Act of 1973**

The Rehabilitation Act of 1973, commonly referred to as Section 504, is a federal nondiscrimination statute. The purpose of the Act is to prohibit discrimination and to assure that disabled students have educational opportunities and benefits equal to those provided to nondisabled students. An eligible student under Section 504 is a student who (a) has, (b) has a record of having, or (c) is regarded as having, a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits a major life activity such as learning, self-care, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, working and performing manual tasks. The purpose of this Notice is to delineate the rights assured by Section 504. The enabling regulations for Section 504 at 34 Code of Federal Regulations Part 104, entitle students to the following rights:

1. To have your child take part in, and receive benefits from, public education programs without discrimination because of his/her disability;
2. To have the school district advise you of your rights under federal law;
3. To receive notice from the school with respect to identification, evaluation, educational program or placement of your child;
4. According to the Department of Education's 504 Regulations, to have your child receive a free appropriate public education. This includes the right to be educated with non-disabled students to the maximum extent appropriate. It also includes the right to reasonable accommodations, modifications, and related aids and services necessary for your child to benefit from his or her educational program;
5. To have your child educated in comparable facilities and receive comparable services to those provided non-disabled students;
6. To have decisions regarding your child's evaluation, program and placement based upon a variety of information resources, and made by persons familiar with the student, the evaluation data, and the placement options;
7. To have your child reevaluated periodically, to the extent necessary, including before any significant changes are made to your child's educational program and placement options;
8. To have your child receive an equal opportunity to participate in extra-curricular school activities;
9. To examine all relevant educational records relating to decisions regarding your child's identification, evaluation, education program and placement;
10. To obtain copies of educational records at a reasonable cost unless the fee would effectively deny you access to the records;
11. To receive a response from the school district to reasonable requests for explanations and interpretations of your child's records;
12. To request amendment of your child's educational records if there is reasonable cause to believe that they are inaccurate, misleading or otherwise are in violation of the privacy rights of your child. If the school district refuses this request for amendment, it shall notify you within a reasonable time, and advise you of the right to a hearing;
13. To file a grievance through local grievance procedures regarding any alleged violation of the Rehabilitation Act; - See Policy HUM-P010: Discrimination Complaints Procedure or contact the district's compliance officer listed below.



14. To request an impartial hearing, to be conducted by a person who is not an employee of the district, to dispute decisions or actions regarding your child's identification, evaluation, educational program or placement as a student with a disability. You and your child may take part in the hearing and have an attorney represent you at your expense. Questions about how to request a hearing may be forwarded to the person responsible for the district's compliance with Section 504 listed below;
15. To have the decisions made by hearing officers or others reviewed in state or federal court.

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District Section 504 Coordinator
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16. If you disagree with the decision of the impartial hearing officer, you have a right to a review of that decision by a court of competent jurisdiction. 34 CFR 104.36.
17. You also have a right to file a complaint with the Office of Civil Rights. The address of the Regional Office, which covers Tennessee, is:

Office for Civil Rights
U.S. Department of Education
61 Forsyth St. S.W., Suite 19T10
Atlanta, GA 30303-8927
www.ed.gov/OCR
email address: OCR.Atlanta@ed.gov
telephone: 404-974-9406; TDD: 877-521-2172