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**ELK ISLAND CATHOLIC S.R.D. NO. 41**

**LEGAL REFERENCES:** *School Act, Sec. 44*

**CROSS REFERENCE:**

**CODE: HNG - Policy**

**TITLE:** Animals in Schools

**ADOPTION DATE: April 11/02**

**REVISION DATE:**

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**The Board acknowledges that work with animals in the school may give students a better understanding of life processes and a greater respect for life. Students should also acquire appropriate techniques in the care and handling of live, captive animals.**

**The Board requires that projects and activities that involve any species of animal be planned in a manner which protects the health, safety and well-being of the students involved. Humane treatment of the animals shall prevail at all times.**

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**ELK ISLAND CATHOLIC S.R.D. NO. 41**

**LEGAL REFERENCES:** *School Act, Sec. 44*

**CROSS REFERENCE:**

**CODE: HNG - Guidelines**

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Teacher shall adhere to the following guidelines in using live animals:

1. Determine if any students involved are allergic to or have a phobia in relation to the animal;
2. Ensure that use of the animals is consistent with the objectives of the relevant curriculum;
3. Ensure that the animals receive routine care on holidays and weekends with humane care being a requirement;

4. Refrain from experiments involving food deprivation, discomfort, pain, exposure to noxious or toxic substances, carcinogens or pathogens;
5. Involve a knowledgeable person whenever the teacher is not aware of special requirements of the animal;
6. Dissect animals only when the animals are dead and that the teacher is reasonably sure will not affect any of the students negatively; and
7. Consult appropriate authorities to determine if the animal may be used legally in the classroom.