POLICY REGARDING STUDENTS AND SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973 AND TITLE II OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITES ACT OF 1990

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 ("Section 504") prohibits discrimination against individuals with a disability in any program receiving Federal financial assistance. Similarly, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("Title II" or "ADA") prohibits discrimination against individuals with a disability by state and local governments. To be protected under Section 504 and the ADA ("collectively, "Section 504/ADA"), an individual must (1) have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities; (2) have a record of such an impairment; or (3) be regarded as having such an impairment.

In order to fulfill its obligation under Section 504/ADA, the Rocky Hill Public Schools (the "District") recognize a responsibility to avoid discrimination in policies and practices regarding its personnel, students, parents/guardians and members of the public who participate in school sponsored programs. In this regard, the District prohibits discrimination against any person with a disability in any of the services, programs or activities of the school system.

The District has specific responsibilities under Section 504 to identify, evaluate and provide an educational placement for students who have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits a major life activity. The District's obligation includes providing access to a free appropriate public education ("FAPE") for students determined to be eligible under Section 504/ADA. Under Section 504, FAPE is defined as the provision of regular or special education and related services that are designed to meet the individual educational needs of a student with a disability as adequately as the needs of students without disabilities are met, and that are provided without cost (except for fees imposed on nondisabled students/parents).

If the parent/guardian of a student disagrees with the decisions made by the professional staff of the District with respect to the identification, evaluation or educational placement of his/her child, the parent/guardian has a right to request an impartial due process hearing.

In addition, a student or parent/guardian of a student may also file an internal grievance/complaint on these issues or any other type of discrimination on the basis of disability by or within the District by utilizing the grievance/complaint procedures outlined in the Administrative Regulations Regarding Students and Section 504 of Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Title II of Americans with Disabilities Act associated with this policy, and/or may file a complaint with the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education ("OCR"):

Office for Civil Rights, Boston Office U.S. Department of Education 8th Floor 5 Post Office Square Boston, MA 02109- 3921 617-289-0111

STUDENTS AND SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973 AND TITLE II OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITES ACT OF 1990 (Continued)

Anyone who wishes to file a grievance/complaint with the district, or who has questions or concerns about this policy, should contact Amy Stevenson, the Section 504/ADA Coordinator for the Rocky Hill Public Schools, at phone number 860-258-7705.

Legal References:

29 U.S.C. §§ 705, 794 34 C.F.R. Part 104 42 U.S.C. § 12101 <u>et seq</u>. 28 C.F.R. Part 35

Protecting Students with Disabilities, Frequently Asked Questions About Section 504 and the Education of Children with Disabilities, Office for Civil Rights (March 17, 2011), available at http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/504faq.html

Dear Colleague Letter, United States Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights (January 19, 2012)

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS REGARDING EMPLOYEES AND SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973 AND TITLE II OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITES ACT OF 1990

Rocky Hill Board of Education Section 504/ADA Grievance/Complaint Procedures Regarding Discrimination Against Students on the Basis of Disability

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 ("Section 504") and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("Title II" or "ADA") (collectively, "Section 504/ADA") prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability. For the purposes of Section 504/ADA, the term "disability" with respect to an individual means: (a) a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities of such individual; (b) a record of such an impairment; or (c) being regarded as having such an impairment.

I. Definitions

Free appropriate public education (FAPE) for purposes of Section 504, refers to the provision of regular or special education and related aids and services that are designed to meet individual educational needs of students with disabilities as adequately as the needs of students without disabilities are met, that are provided without cost (except for fees imposed on nondisabled students/parents), and is based upon adherence to procedures that satisfy the Section 504 requirements pertaining to educational setting, evaluation and placement, and procedural safeguards.

Major life activities include, but are not limited to, caring for oneself, performing manual tasks, seeing, hearing, seeing, sleeping, walking, standing, sitting, reaching, lifting, bending, speaking, breathing, learning, reading, concentrating, thinking, communicating, interacting with others, and working. A major life activity also includes the operation of a major bodily function, such as the functions of the immune system, special sense organs and skin, normal cell growth, and digestive, genitourinary, bowel, bladder, neurological, brain, respiratory, circulatory, cardiovascular, endocrine, hemic, lymphatic, musculoskeletal, and reproductive systems. The operation of a major bodily function includes the operation of an individual organ within a body system.

Mitigating Measures include, but are not limited to, (a) medication, medical supplies, equipment, appliances, low-vision devices (defined as devices that magnify, enhance, or otherwise augment a visual image, but not including ordinary eyeglasses or contact lenses), prosthetics including limbs and devices, hearing aid(s) and cochlear implant(s) or other implantable hearing devices, mobility devices, oxygen therapy equipment and supplies; (b) use of assistive technology; (c) reasonable modifications or auxiliary aids or services; (d) learned behavioral or adaptive neurological modifications; or (e) psychotherapy, behavioral therapy, or physical therapy.

Physical or Mental Impairment is (a) any physiological disorder or condition, cosmetic disfigurement, or anatomical loss affecting one or more of the following body systems, such as: neurological, musculoskeletal, special sense organs, respiratory (including speech organs), cardiovascular, reproductive, digestive, genitourinary, immune, circulatory, hemic, lymphatic, skin, and endocrine or (b) any mental or psychological disorder, such as intellectual disability, organic brain syndrome, emotional or mental illness, and specific learning disability; or

(c) an impairment that is episodic or in remission if it would substantially limit a major life activity when active. Physical or mental impairment includes, but is not limited to, contagious and noncontagious diseases and conditions such as the following: orthopedic, visual, speech, and hearing impairments, and cerebral palsy, epilepsy, muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis, cancer, heart disease, diabetes, intellectual disability, emotional illness, dyslexia and other specific learning disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, Human Immunodeficiency Virus infection (whether symptomatic or asymptomatic), tuberculosis, drug addiction, and alcoholism.

II. Procedures for Grievances/Complaints Alleging Discrimination on the Basis of Disability

- A. Any eligible person, including any student, parent/guardian, staff member or other employee who feels that he/she has been discriminated against on the basis of disability (including differential treatment, harassment and retaliation) may submit a written complaint to the district's designated Section 504/ADA Coordinator (see contact information below) within thirty (30) school days of the alleged occurrence. Complaints by students and/or parents/guardians alleging discrimination involving students will be investigated under these procedures; complaints by employees or other non-students will be investigated under Administrative Regulation 4030-R Section 504-ADA (Personnel).
- B. Timely reporting of complaints facilitates the prompt investigation and resolution of such complaints. If the complaint is filed relating to alleged discrimination occurring more than thirty (30) school days after the alleged occurrence, the Board's ability to investigate the allegations may be limited by the passage of time. Therefore, complaints received after thirty (30) school days of the alleged occurrence shall be investigated to the extent possible, given the passage of time and the impact on available information, witnesses and memory. If a complaint is made verbally, the individual taking the complaint will reduce the complaint to writing..
- C. At any time, when a complaint involves discrimination that is directly related to a claim regarding the identification, evaluation or educational placement of a student under Section 504, the complainant may request that the Section 504/ADA Coordinator submit the complaint directly to an impartial hearing officer and request a due process hearing in accordance with Section III.D. Complaints regarding a student's rights with respect to his/her identification, evaluation or educational placement shall be addressed in accordance with the procedures set forth below in Section III.
- D. Retaliation against any individual who complains pursuant to the Board's policy and regulations listed herein is strictly prohibited. The district will not tolerate any retaliation that occurs as a result of the good faith reporting or complaint of disability-based discrimination or as a result of an individual's participation or cooperating in the investigation of a complaint. The district will take necessary actions to prevent retaliation as a result of filing a complaint or the participation in an investigation of a complaint.

- E. If the Section 504/ADA Coordinator is the subject of the complaint, the complaint should be submitted directly to the Superintendent who may conduct the investigation or appoint a designee to conduct the investigation in accordance with these procedures. If the Superintendent is the subject of the complaint, the Board shall designate an appropriate party to conduct the investigation in accordance with these procedures.
- F. Complaints will be investigated promptly. Timeframes may be extended as needed given the complexity of the investigation, availability of individuals with relevant information and other extenuating circumstances. Confidentiality will be maintained by all persons involved in the investigation to the extent possible.
- G. If a disability discrimination complaint raises concern about bullying behavior, the Section 504 Coordinator shall notify the Safe School Climate Specialist or designee who shall coordinate any bullying investigation with the Section 504 Coordinator, so as to ensure that any such bullying investigation complies with the requirements of applicable Board policies.
- H. The complaint should contain the following information:
 - 1. The name of the complainant;
 - 2. The date of the complaint;
 - 3. The date(s) of the alleged discrimination;
 - 4. The names of any witnesses or individuals relevant the complaint;
 - 5. A detailed statement describing the circumstances in which the alleged discrimination occurred; and
 - 6. The remedy requested.

However, all complaints will be investigated to the extent possible, even if such information is not included in the complaint. In such circumstances, additional information may be requested by the investigator as part of the investigation process.

- I. Upon receipt of the complaint, the individual investigating the complaint shall:
 - 1. Provide a copy of the written complaint to the Superintendent of Schools;
 - 2. Meet separately with the complainant and the respondent within ten (10) school days to discuss the nature of the complaint, identify individuals the complainant and respondent believe have relevant information, and obtain any relevant documents the complainant may have;
 - 3. Provide the complainant and the respondent with a copy of the applicable Board Section 504/ADA Policy and these administrative regulations;

- 4. Consider whether and which interim measures might be appropriate for an alleged victim and the respondent pending the outcome of the District's investigation;
- 5. Conduct an investigation of the factual basis of the complaint that is adequate, reliable, and impartial, including conducting interviews with individuals with information and review of documents relevant to the complaint;
- 6. Maintain confidentiality to the extent practicable throughout the investigative process in accordance with state and federal law;
- 7. Communicate the outcome of the investigation in writing to the complainant, and to the respondent (to the extent permitted by state and federal confidentiality requirements), within fifteen (15) school days from the date the complaint was received by the Section 504/ADA Coordinator or Superintendent. The written notice shall include a finding whether the complaint was substantiated and if so, shall identify how the district will remedy any identified violations of Section 504/ADA. The investigator may extend this deadline for no more than fifteen (15) additional school days if needed to complete the investigation. The complainant and the respondent shall be notified of any extension.
- 8. If a complaint is made during summer recess, the complaint will be reviewed and addressed as quickly as possible given the availability of staff and/or other individuals who may have information relevant to the complaint, and no later than fifteen (15) school days after the start of the following school year. The complainant and the respondent will receive notice if the investigation has been impeded by the summer recess, and interim measures may be implemented as necessary (see sub-paragraph 4);
- 9. Ensure that appropriate corrective action is taken whenever allegations are verified. When allegations are verified, ensure that measures to remedy the effects of the discrimination and prevent its recurrence are appropriately considered, and offered, when appropriate. Corrective action should include steps to avoid continuing discrimination.
- 10. In the event the investigator concludes that there is no violation of Section 504/ADA, the district may attempt to resolve the complainant's ongoing concerns, if possible.
- J. If the complainant or respondent is not satisfied with the findings and conclusions of the investigation, the appealing party may request review and reconsideration of the conclusion of the complaint within thirty (30) days of receipt of the written outcome. In requesting review, the appealing party must submit the complaint, the written outcome of the complaint, and explain why he/she believes the factual information relied upon by the investigator was incomplete, the analysis of the facts was incorrect, and/or the appropriate legal standard was not applied, *and* how this information would change the investigator's determination in the case. Failure to provide all such information may result in the denial of the review.

Upon review of a written request from the appealing party, the Superintendent shall review the investigative results of the investigator and determine if further action and/or investigation is warranted. Such action may include consultation with the investigator and other relevant witnesses, a meeting with appropriate individuals to attempt to resolve the complaint or a decision affirming or overruling the investigator's conclusions or findings. The Superintendent shall provide written notice to the appealing party and the other party of his/her decision within ten (10) school days following the receipt of the written request for review. When a written request for review is received during summer recess, the Superintendent will conduct the review as quickly as possible given the availability of staff and/or other individuals who may have information relevant to the review, and no later than ten (10) school days after the start of the following school year. The Superintendent's decision shall be final.

III. Grievance/Complaint Resolution Procedures for Complaints Involving a Student's Identification, Evaluation or Educational Placement

Complaints regarding a student's <u>identification</u>, <u>evaluation</u> or <u>educational placement</u> shall generally be handled using the procedures described below. However, at any time, the complainant may request that the Section 504/ADA Coordinator submit the complaint directly to an impartial hearing officer, and request a hearing in accordance with the provisions of subsection D (below).

A. Submission of Complaint to Section 504/ADA Coordinator

- 1. In order to facilitate the prompt investigation of complaints, any complaint regarding a student's <u>identification</u>, <u>evaluation or educational placement</u> under Section 504 should be forwarded to the district's Section 504/ADA Coordinator (see contact information below) within thirty (30) school days of the alleged date that the dispute regarding the student's identification, evaluation and/or education placement arose. Timely reporting of complaints facilitates the resolution of potential educational disputes.
- 2. The complaint concerning a student's identification, evaluation or educational placement should contain the following information:
 - a. Full name of the student, age, and grade level;
 - b. Name of parent(s);
 - c. Address and relevant contact information for parent/complainant;
 - d. Date of complaint;
 - e. Specific areas of disagreement relating to the student's identification, evaluation and/or placement; and
 - f. Remedy requested.

However, all complaints will be investigated to the extent possible even if such information is not included in the written complaint. In such circumstances, additional information may be requested by the investigator as part of the investigation process.

- 3. Complaints will be investigated promptly within timeframes identified below. Timeframes may be extended as needed given the complexity of the investigation, availability of individuals with relevant information and other extenuating circumstances.
- 4. Upon receipt of the complaint, the Section 504/ADA Coordinator shall:
 - a. Forward a copy of the complaint to the Superintendent of Schools;
 - b. Meet with the complainant within ten (10) school days to discuss the nature of his/her concerns and determine if an appropriate resolution can be reached, or whether interim measures may be appropriate. If a complaint is made during summer recess, the complaint will be reviewed and addressed as quickly as possible given the availability of staff and other individuals who may have information relevant to the complaint, and no later than ten (10) school days after the start of the following school year;
 - c. If, following such a meeting, further investigation is deemed necessary, the Section 504/ADA Coordinator shall promptly investigate the factual basis for the complaint, consulting with any individuals reasonably believed to have relevant information, including the student and/or complainant; and
 - d. Communicate the results of his/her investigation in writing to the complainant and any persons named as parties to the complaint (to the extent permitted by state and federal confidentiality requirements) within fifteen (15) school days from the date the complaint was received by the Section 504/ADA Coordinator.
 - e. In the event that that the Section 504/ADA Coordinator has a conflict of interest that prevents him/her from serving in this role, the complaint shall be forwarded to the Superintendent who shall appoint an investigator who does not have a conflict of interest.

B. Review by Superintendent of Schools

1. If the complainant is not satisfied with the findings and conclusions of the investigation, the appealing party may present the complaint and written outcome to the Superintendent for review and reconsideration within thirty (30) calendar days of receiving the findings. This process provides an opportunity for the appealing party to bring information to the Superintendent's attention that would change the outcome of the investigation.

In submitting the complaint and written outcome for review, the appealing party must explain why he/she believes the factual information relied upon by the investigator was incomplete, the analysis of the facts was incorrect, and/or the appropriate legal standard was not applied, *and* how this information would change the investigator's determination in the case. Failure to provide all such information may result in the denial of the review.

- 2. Upon review of a written request from the appealing party, the Superintendent shall review the investigative results of the investigator and determine if further action and/or investigation is warranted. Such action may include consultation with the investigator and other relevant witnesses, a meeting with appropriate individuals to attempt to resolve the complaint or a decision affirming or overruling the investigator's conclusions or findings. The Superintendent shall provide written notice to the appealing party of his/her decision within ten (10) school days following the receipt of the written request for review, or if the request is received during summer recess, as quickly as possible but no later than ten (10) school days after the start of the following school year.
- 3. If the complainant is not satisfied with the Superintendent's decision or proposed resolution, he/she may request that the Superintendent submit the matter to a neutral mediator or to an impartial hearing officer. This request for mediation or a hearing should be made within fifteen (15) school days of the Superintendent's decision.

C. Mediation Procedures

- 1. A parent/guardian or student aged 18 or older may request mediation with a neutral mediator to attempt to resolve a disagreement with the decisions made by the professional staff of the school district with respect to the identification, evaluation or educational placement of the student.
- 2. A request for mediation regarding a student's identification, evaluation or educational placement under Section 504 should be forwarded to the district's Section 504/ADA Coordinator within thirty (30) school days of the alleged date that the dispute regarding the student's identification, evaluation, and/or education placement arose or within fifteen (15) school days of the Superintendent's decision in reviewing a complaint handled through the grievance/complaint procedure described in Section III.B, above. Mediation shall occur by mutual agreement of the parties.
- 3. The request for mediation concerning a disagreement relating to a student's identification, evaluation or educational placement should contain the following information:
 - a. Full name of the student, age, and grade level;
 - b. Name of parent(s)

- c. Address and relevant information for parent/complainant;
- d. Date of complaint;
- e. Specific areas of disagreement relating to the student's identification, evaluation and/or placement; and
- f. Remedy requested.
- 4. Upon receipt of a request for mediation,
 - a. The Section 504/ADA Coordinator shall:
 - i. Forward a copy of the request for mediation to the Superintendent of Schools.
 - ii. Inform the parent/guardian or student 18 years old or older as to whether the district agrees to mediation in writing;
 - b. If the district agrees to mediation, the Board shall retain a neutral mediator who is knowledgeable about the requirements of Section 504/ADA and has an understanding of a free appropriate public education ("FAPE") under Section 504 and the distinctions between and among Section 504, the ADA and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act ("IDEA").
 - c. If the district does not agree to mediation, the Section 504/ADA Coordinator shall inform the parent/guardian or student aged 18 or older of their right to request an impartial hearing.
- 5. The mediator shall inform all parties involved of the date, time and place of the mediation and of the right to have legal counsel or other representation at the complainant's own expense, if desired.
- 6. The mediator shall meet with the parties jointly, or separately, as determined by the mediator, and shall facilitate a voluntary settlement of the dispute between the parties, if possible.
- 7. All statements, offers, or discussions and/or information shared during the mediation process, but not available from other means, shall be confidential, and may not be used in a subsequent hearing or other administrative or judicial proceeding related to the disagreement that is the subject of the mediation.
- 8. If the parties are not able to reach a voluntary settlement of the dispute, the complainant may request an impartial hearing, as described below.

D. Impartial Hearing Procedures

An impartial due process hearing is available to a parent/guardian of a student, or a student aged 18 years of age or older who disagrees with the decisions made by the professional staff of the school district with respect to the identification, evaluation or educational placement of the student, or otherwise makes a claim of discrimination relating to the identification, evaluation or educational placement of the student.

- 1. The request for mediation concerning a disagreement relating to a student's identification, evaluation or educational placement should contain the following information:
 - a. Full name of the student, age, and grade level;
 - b. Name of parent(s);
 - c. Address and relevant contact information for parent/complainant;
 - d. Date of complaint;
 - e. Specific areas of disagreement relating to the student's identification, evaluation and/or placement; and
 - f. Remedy requested.
- 2. Upon receipt of a request for an impartial due process hearing, the Board shall retain an impartial hearing officer. The impartial hearing officer must be someone who is knowledgeable about the requirements of Section 504/ADA and has an understanding of a free appropriate public education ("FAPE") under Section 504 and the distinctions between and among Section 504, the ADA and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act ("IDEA").
- 3. The impartial hearing officer shall schedule a pre-hearing conference with the District and the parent(s) or student aged 18 years of age or older (and/or legal counsel for the student) to identify the issue(s) for hearing, set the hearing schedule and address other administrative matters related to the hearing, including the option for mediation.
- 4. The impartial hearing officer shall inform all parties involved of the date, time and place of the hearing and of the right to present witnesses, other evidence and to be represented by legal counsel at each party's own expense, if desired.
- 5. The impartial hearing officer shall hear all aspects of the complainant's complaint concerning the identification, evaluation or educational placement of the student and shall reach a decision within forty-five (45) school days of receipt of the request for hearing. The decision shall be presented in writing to the complainant and to the Section 504/ADA Coordinator. The impartial hearing officer's decision shall be final.

- 6. An impartial hearing officer under Section 504 does not have jurisdiction to hear claims alleging discrimination, harassment or retaliation based on an individual's disability unless such a claim is *directly related* to a claim regarding the identification, evaluation, or educational placement of a student under Section 504.
- 7. The time limits noted herein may be extended for good cause shown for reasons including, but not limited to, permitting more time for thorough review of the record, presentation of evidence or opportunity for resolution.

E. Drug/Alcohol Violations

If a student with a disability violates the Board's policies relative to the use or possession of illegal drugs or alcohol, the Board may take disciplinary action against such student for his/her illegal use or possession of drugs or alcohol to the same extent that the Board would take disciplinary action against nondisabled students. Such disciplinary action is not subject to the complaint or due process procedures outlined above.

IV. The Section 504/ADA Coordinator for this district is:

Ms. Amy Stevenson
Assistant Superintendent for Personnel & Student Services
Rocky Hill Public Schools
761 Old Main St.
Rocky Hill, CT 06067
860-258-7704

V. Complaints to Federal or State Agencies

At any time, the complainant has the right to file a formal complaint with the U.S. Department of Education:

U.S. Department of Education
Office for Civil Rights
8th Floor, 5 Post Office Square, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02109-0111
617-289-0111
http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/howto.html.

ROCKY HILL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

NOTICE OF PARENT/STUDENT RIGHTS UNDER SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973 AND TITLE II OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 ("Section 504") is a non-discrimination statute enacted by the United States Congress. Section 504 prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability by recipients of federal funds. Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act ("ADA" or "Title II") also prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability by state and local governments. To be protected under Section 504 and the ADA ("collectively, "Section 504/ADA") as an individual with a disability, an individual must (1) have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities; (2) have a record of such an impairment; or (3) be regarded as having such an impairment.

Under Section 504, the school district has specific responsibilities to identify, evaluate and provide an educational placement for students with a disability. The school district's obligation includes providing such eligible students a free appropriate public education ("FAPE"). Section 504 defines FAPE as the provision of regular or special education and related services that are designed to meet the individual educational needs of a student with a disability as adequately as the needs of students without disabilities are met, and that are provided without cost (except for fees imposed on nondisabled students/parents).

A student is eligible for regular or special education and related services under Section 504 if it is determined that he/she has a mental or physical disability that substantially limits one or more major life activity such as (but not limited to): caring for oneself, performing manual tasks, seeing, hearing, eating, sleeping, walking, standing, lifting, bending, speaking, breathing, learning, reading, concentrating, thinking, communicating and working. A major life activity may also include the operation of a major bodily function, such as an individual's immune, digestive, respiratory or circulatory systems.

A student can have a disability and be covered by Section 504/ADA even if he/she does not qualify for, or receive, special education services under the IDEA.

The purpose of this notice is to provide parents/guardians and students 18 years of age or older with information regarding their rights under Section 504. Under Section 504, you have the right:

- 1. To be informed of your rights under Section 504;
- 2. To have your child take part in and receive benefits from the Rocky Hill School District's education programs without discrimination based on his/her disability.
- 3. For your child to have equal opportunities to participate in academic, nonacademic and extracurricular activities in your school without discrimination based on his/her disability;
- 4. To be notified of decisions and the basis for decisions regarding the identification, evaluation, and educational placement of your child under Section 504;

NOTICE OF PARENT/STUDENT RIGHTS UNDER SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1972 AND TITLE II OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990 (Continued)

- 5. If you suspect your child may have a disability, to request an evaluation, at no expense to you and to have an eligibility determination under Section 504 (and if eligible, placement decisions made) by a team of persons who are knowledgeable of your child, the assessment data, and any placement options;
- 6. If your child is eligible for services under Section 504, for your child to receive a free appropriate public education (FAPE). This includes the right to receive regular or special education and related services that are designed to meet the individual needs of your child as adequately as the needs of students without disabilities are met;
- 7. For your child to receive reasonable accommodations and services to allow your child an equal opportunity to participate in school, extra-curricular and school-related activities;
- 8. For your child to be educated with peers who do not have disabilities to the maximum extent appropriate;
- 9. To have your child educated in facilities and receive services comparable to those provided to non-disabled students;
- 10. To review all relevant records relating to decisions regarding your child's Section 504 identification, evaluation, and educational placement;
- 11. To examine or obtain copies of your child's educational records at a reasonable cost unless the fee would effectively deny you access to the records;
- 12. To request changes in the educational program of your child, to have your request and related information considered by the team, a decision made by the team, and if denied, an explanation for the team's decision/determination;
- 13. To request an impartial due process hearing if you disagree with the school district's decisions regarding your child's Section 504 identification, evaluation or educational placement. The costs for this hearing are borne by the local school district. You and the student have the right to take part in the hearing and to have an attorney represent you at your expense;
- 14. To file a local grievance/complaint with the district's designated Section 504/ADA Coordinator to resolve complaints of discrimination including, but not limited to, claims of discrimination directly related to the identification, evaluation or placement of your child; and
- 15. To file a formal complaint with the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights.

SERIES 5000 – STUDENTS NOTICE OF PARENT/STUDENT RIGHTS UNDER SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1972 AND TITLE II OF THE **AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990 (Continued)**

The Section 504/ADA Coordinator for this district is:

Ms. Amy Stevenson **Assistant Superintendent for Personnel & Student Services Rocky Hill Public Schools** 761 Old Main St. Rocky Hill, CT 06067 860-258-7704

For additional assistance regarding your rights under Section 504 and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, you may contact:

Office for Civil Rights, Boston Office U.S. Department of Education 8th Floor 5 Post Office Square Boston, MA 02109-0111 617-289-0111.

SECTION 504 REFERRAL FORM

I. Identifying Info	rmation		
Name:		DOB:	Age:
Date of Referral:			
MaleFemale	Primary Language:	English _	Other:
Referring Person:	Re	lationship to S	tudent:
Parent/Guardian:			
Address:			
Home/Cell Phone:		Wo	rk Phone:
Parent/Guardian:			
Address:			
Home/Cell Phone:		Wo	rk Phone:
Current School:		Grade:	
II. Background Info			
A. Reason for Referral: (Identifying Areas of Cor	ŕ	
B. Strategies/Intervention	ns to Data: (attach conjec	of documents	tion)
	is to Date. (attach copies	or documenta	tion)
C. Dawinson F. J. C. F.	2-4 (4- 1	.d., 1	
C. Pertinent Evaluative I	Jata: (e.g. test scores, gra	ides, evaluatioi	1s, etc.)

D. Other Relevant Information:
E. Special Services History
Are you aware of any special services that have been provided to this student in the past? YESNO
If yes, describe the type, location and provider of the service.
III. Parent Notification (if individual other than Parent has made referral):
Has the parent/guardian been notified about your concerns regarding this student?
Yes No
If yes, method of notification:
Date(s) parent/guardian was notified:
Signed: Date: Date:
(Signature of murricular completing this form)

SECTION 504 MEETING NOTICE

Date:			
Parent/Guardi	an:		
Street:			
City, State, Zi	p Code:		
Parent/Guardi	an:		
Street:			
City, State, Zi	p Code:		
Dear (Parent/	Guardian):		
Please be adv	ised that a Section 504 meeting will	be convened on behalf of	your child,
		. The meeting is scheduled	d as follows:
(Chile	d's Name)		
Date:	Time:	Location:	
The purpose of	of this meeting is to:		
Dlan	evaluation/initial evaluation	Determine eligibi	lity
	elop Section 504 Plan	Review re-evalua	tion
Revi	iew new information and/or possibl	e need for re-evaluation	Hon
	er:		
The following Name	g individuals have been invited to at Administration		Title
Name	Instruction	Name	Title
Name	Related Services	Name	Title
Name	Student, if appropriate	Name	Title
The meeting of	every effort to attend this meeting. can be rescheduled at a mutually age D. If you have any questions, or with er/email).	reed upon time and place.	A COPY OF YOUR RIGHTS
(Name and Ti	tle)		
☐ A copy of at age 18.	this notice has been sent to the pare	nt(s), as 504 Rights have b	een transferred to the student

SECTION 504 PLAN

Name:		DOB:	Grade:
School:		Date of Meeting	;:
1.	Describe the nature of the concern:		
2.	Describe all evaluation data gathered: _		
3.	Identify the disability(ies) (i.e., physical or more major life activities):		
4.	Describe the basis for determining the d		
5.	Describe how the disability affects each	of the impacted major life act	ivities:
6.	Please describe the analysis undertaken without consideration of the amelioratin eyeglasses or contact lenses. Mitigating medical supplies, equipment, appliance or otherwise augment a visual image, by prosthetics including limbs and devices hearing devices, mobility devices, oxyg technology; (c) reasonable modification neurological modifications; or (e) psychological modifications; or (e) psychological measures (except for ord is currently using a hearing aid, did the impairment that substantially limits a management of the mana	ng effects of any "mitigating measures may include, but are s, low-vision devices (defined at not including ordinary eyegle, hearing aid(s) and cochlear in the en therapy equipment and suppose or auxiliary aids or services; notherapy, behavioral therapy, disability on a major life activitinary eyeglasses and contact leteam consider whether the studajor life activity if the student	leasures," except for ordinary e not limited to, (a) medication, as devices that magnify, enhance, asses or contact lenses), implant(s) or other implantable plies; (b) use of assistive (d) learned behavioral or adaptive or physical therapy. The without the potential impact of enses)? For example, if the student dent has a physical or mental were not using the hearing aid?
_			

Accommodation/Service	Frequency (time/daily/weekly)	Responsible Staff/implementer	Additional Description
		•	•
t Projected Meeting Date:	Next R	Review/Re-evaluation Dat	te:
st be completed)	_		
ticipants: (Name and Title)			
me	Title	Name	Title
me	Title	Name	Title
ne	Title	Name	Title
me	Title	Name	Title

C: Student's Cumulative File

SECTION 504 STUDENT ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION WORKSHEET

Name:	DOB: Age:	
MaleFemale Current School:	Grade:	
Date of Meeting: Case Mana	ager:	
Parent/Guardian:		
Address:		
Home/Cell Phone:		
Parent/Guardian:		
Address:		
Home/Cell Phone:	Work Phone:	
Reason for Meeting: Initial Re	view Revise Plan	
Describe the nature of the concern:		
Describe any evaluation procedure, tests, reco		
☐ Cognitive (dated)	☐ Soc/Emot/Beh (dated)	
☐ Classroom Observation (dated)	☐ Developmental (dated)	
☐ Health/Med (dated)	☐ Adaptive (dated)	
☐ Communication (dated)	☐ Motor (dated)	
☐ Achievement (dated)	☐ Other (dated)	

	er medical information is needed in order to determine eligibility, please specify be taken to verify and/or obtain additional information.
	Consent to communicate with student's physician/medical provider requested
(specify)	Request for Parent(s)/Guardian(s) to provide additional medical or other information
	Consultation with school district's medical advisor and/or school nurse requested
	Other (please describe)
Specify	the mental or physical impairment(s).
(as recogn	nized in DSM-5 or other respected source if not excluded under 504/ADA, e.g., current illegal drug use)
Indicate	e the Major Life Activity or Activities Substantially Affected by the Disability.
	Does Require a 504 Plan Does NOT Require a 504 Plan

SECTION 504 STUDENT ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION WORKSHEET/MEETING SUMMARY

S	Student's Name	DOB	Grade
S	School	Date of Meeting	
Section 504 Case Manager		Title	
Α.	The purpose of the meeting.		
В.	education, or related aid or sprograms and services or to Re-evaluation to review elige Re-evaluation due to change Review before other significe Review/revise Section 504 p	gibility determination due to new inform e in placement (related to discipline) cant change in placement	ive equal access to school nation
Д.	evaluative data and placement opi	tions)	
		Role	
		Role Role	
C.	Review student's current acader activities. Include and attach refer	mic and overall performance in all scharal information if this is an initial referrability, and impact of suspected disability	hool programs and ral, and describe nature of

D. Eligibility Determination

A student is eligible to receive services and/or accommodations under Section 504 if it is determined that he/she has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities. The team must consider a variety of sources when determining whether a student has such impairment.

1.		ces of information are available at this tirevant dates and names of evaluators, who		* * * * .
	School recor	rds review (dated)		Observations of student (dated)
	Grades & re	port card review (dated)		Teacher reports (dated)
	Parent and/o	or student report (dated)		Informal assessments (dated)
	Medical Info	ormation (dated)		Nursing assessment (dated)
	Standardized	d testing (dated)		Parent/Student Interviews (dated)
	Checklists/b	ehavior rating scales (dated)	_	
	Other (dated)		
2.		vailable information sufficient to make to airment that substantially limits a major		etermination of the presence of a physical or activity?
	YES NO	If "YES," continue to number 3 below. If "NO," specify the type of additional		mation that is needed.
tes received eva tea sta Distinf 3. A disting and disting psy and not implicate the state of th	commended la luation and aluations and aluations and aluations and am meeting, and ards for extrict must of cormation is a Does the standards for extrict must of cormation is a Does the standards for extrict must of cormation is a local and aluation and aluations and aluation and aluations and al	tust obtain parent consent on Consent for by the team shall be conducted at District for testing information from a qualified part of testing shall be at Parent expense. District for testing and evaluations. If it is necessary battering at the profession of the profession of the parent for the p	Sective texprovide strict texprovide striction provide striction striction provide s	t shall consider such outside information at provided by the Parent meets the District's communicate with outside providers, the onals outside of district. Once needed of continue the process of determining eligibility. Inpairments? Inpairments? Inpairments? Inpairments or condition, cosmetic the following body systems, such as: neurological, as speech organs), cardiovascular, reproductive, actic, skin, and endocrine or (b) any mental or the brain syndrome, emotional or mental illness, the includes, but is not limited to, contagious and as: orthopedic, visual, speech, and hearing they, multiple sclerosis, cancer, heart disease, and other specific learning disabilities, Attention
	YES □ N	tuberculosis, drug addiction, and alcoh		

5410 – APPENDIX VI

SERIES 5000 – STUDENTS SECTION 504 STUDENT ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION WORKSHEET/MEETING SUMMARY (Continued)

If <u>"NO"</u> :	If no physical	l or mental ir	npairment exists,	the student is not	t identified as an	individual	with a
	disability. Go	o to Section ?	E of this form.				

If "YES"	: What are the impairments? Please describe as recognized in DSM-5 or other respected
	source, if possible, if not excluded under Section 504/ADA (e.g., illegal drug use).

- Attach all supporting documentation to this form. A statement of "YES" without supporting documentation is insufficient to meet this standard.
- > If the team determines that the student is identified as having one or more physical or mental impairments, continue to the next page to determine whether there is a substantial limitation to one or more major life activities.
- 4. Does the identified impairment substantially limit one or more major life activities? Please describe degree of limitation as compared to other students. (Ask: Is the impairment impacting one or more major life activities? Which ones? How is one or more major life activity impacted? What is the impact at school?)

A "major life activity" includes, but is not limited to, caring for oneself, performing manual tasks, seeing,
hearing, eating, sleeping, walking, standing, sitting, reaching, lifting, bending, speaking, breathing,
learning, reading, concentrating, thinking, communicating, interacting with others, and working. A major
life activity also includes the operation of a major bodily function, such as the functions of the immune
system, special sense organs and skin, normal cell growth, and digestive, genitourinary, bowel, bladder,
neurological, brain, respiratory, circulatory, cardiovascular, endocrine, hemic, lymphatic, musculoskeletal, and reproductive systems. The operation of a major bodily function includes the operation of an individual organ within a body system.

5. Mitigating Measures

In determining eligibility, the team must consider the impact of the disability without consideration of the ameliorative effects of any "mitigating measures" that the student may be using. For example, if the student is currently using a hearing aid, did the team consider whether the student would have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits a major life activity if the student were not using the hearing aid?

Therefore, with respect to this student, did the team consider the impact of the disability on a major life activity without the potential impact of mitigating measures (except eyeglasses or contact lenses)?

\square VES	NO
	 111

Mitigating measures include, but are not limited to, (a) medication, medical supplies, equipment, appliances, low-vision devices (defined as devices that magnify, enhance, or otherwise augment a visual image, but not including ordinary eyeglasses or contact lenses), prosthetics including limbs and devices, hearing aid(s) and cochlear implant(s) or other implantable hearing devices, mobility devices, oxygen therapy equipment and supplies; (b) use of assistive technology; (c) reasonable modifications or auxiliary aids or services; (d) learned behavioral or adaptive neurological modifications; or (e) psychotherapy, behavioral therapy, or physical therapy.

Ple	ease include any information relevant to consideration of mitigating measures.	
E.	Does the student have a disability under Section 504?	
	1. Does the student have one or more physical or mental impairments ? \square NO \square YES	
	 Does the physical or mental impairment substantially limit one or more Major Life Activity? □ NO □ YES 	
	th questions must be answered YES based on the preceding review of evaluative data, in order to termine that the student has a disability under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.	
	3. Based on the answers to #1 and #2 above, does the student have a disability under Section 504? □ NO □ YES	
If t	the answer to #3 is "NO," skip to Section I. If the answer to #3 is "YES," continue to Section F.	
F.	7. Does the student require a Section 504 Accommodation Plan in order to provide the student with a free appropriate public education and access to the school's programs (e.g. curriculum, extra-curricular activities, facilities, etc.)?	
	\square NO \square YES If "YES," the team must develop a Section 504 Plan.	
G.	Is this a re-evaluation (i.e. review of current plan/status) before a significant change in placement (e.g., review of new information)?	
	\square NO \square YES If "NO," skip to Section H.	
	1. What is the anticipated change of placement?	
	 □ New information received about the student, the impairment or current placement □ Graduation □ Change in program due to disciplinary action □ Other (specify) 	

P	lease describe the updated information considered by the team in conducting the re-evaluation.
_	
	additional information, individualized testing and/or evaluations are necessary to determine ontinued eligibility and/or what is needed in the student's plan to provide FAPE, please indicate.
_	
2.	Consider: Is the student still eligible? ☐ NO ☐ YES
3.	If "YES," does the Plan as currently written provide FAPE? ☐ YES ☐ NO
4.	If "NO," what changes to the plan are required? Explain basis for each decision in light of information gathered in re-evaluation.
	her relevant information discussed at meeting, including any requests rejected, and basis for ch rejection.

H.

I. Summary of Actions Taken

Parent/Guardian (or student if age 18 or over) was provided written notice of rights under Section
504 at the meeting.
Insufficient information is available to determine student's eligibility. More evaluative
information will be obtained prior to convening another Section 504 Team Meeting.
Student is identified as a person with a disability under Section 504 and in need of regular or
special education, or related services or aids.
☐ A Section 504 Plan was developed.
Student is NOT identified as a person with a disability under Section 504.
A re-evaluation has been conducted.
 ☐ Additional information and/or evaluations are required.
A re-evaluation prior to significant change in placement has been conducted.
Other (specify)
(Recorder) (Title)

SECTION 504 REQUEST FOR MEDIATION/HEARING

This form is intended to be used if a parent or guardian or student 18 years of age or older wishes to pursue mediation or an impartial hearing with respect to the identification, evaluation, or educational placement of the student.

Name of person requesting mediation	n/hearing:
Relationship to student:	
Address:	
Home/Cell Phone:	Work Phone:
I/we request a MEDIATION / HEA (please circle)	ARING concerning:
	, who resides at
(Name of student)	,, who resides at (Date of birth)
	, and attends
(Address of student)	, and attends (Name of School)
Description of the issues in dispute be educational placement of the student	between the parties regarding the identification, evaluation or :
Proposed resolution or corrective act	ion you wish to see taken with regard to the stated issues:
(Signature of Parent/Guardian)	(Date)

SECTION 504/ADA DISCRIMINATION GRIEVANCE/COMPLAINT FORM FOR ISSUES REGARDING STUDENTS

(This form is intended to be used if an individual has a grievance/complaint under Section 504/ADA alleging discrimination on the basis of a disability, including in the identification, evaluation or educational placement of a student.)

Name of Complainant:	Date:
Contact Information for Complainant:	
Address:	
Home/Cell Phone:	
Name of Student:	
Address of Student (if different from above):	
Age/Grade Level/School (if applicable):	
Please describe the nature of the complaint:	
Proposed resolution or corrective action you wis	h to see taken with regard to the stated issues:
(Signature of Parent/Guardian)	(Date)

ROCKY HILLPUBLIC SCHOOLS AGREEMENT TO CHANGE SECITON 504 PLAN WITHOUT CONVENING A SECTION 504 MEETING

Student:	DOB:	Grade:
School:	504 Plan Being Char	nged:
Parent/Guardian:		
specified below and which are attawere not made at a Section 504 m documents. We understand that the Section 504 meeting at any time to	the student's Section 504 Plan as describated to this agreement. We understand eeting. We agree only to the changes de his agreement is optional and that the part or review the Plan. We understand that the part of an Annual Review of the student	that these changes escribed in the attached rent can request a his agreement can be
(Signature of Parer	nt/Guardian)	(Date)
(Signature of School Di	strict Representative)	(Date)
to sign such a document on behalf	an administrator of the school district of the school district and who is knowled is knowledgeable about the availability	edgeable about the
The following documents are at	acticu to tins agreement.	
Amendments (please spec	1fy)	
Other (please specify)		

ROCKY HILL PUBLIC SCHOOLS NOTICE AND CONSENT TO CONDUCT A SECTION 504 EVALUATION/RE-EVALUATION

Date:			
Dear (Parent/Guardian):			
Your child,			
•	<u> </u>		
The tests/evaluation procedures listed			
Test/Evaluation Procedure	Area of Assessment	Evaluator(s)	
☐ Adaptations/accommodations requ	nired for this evaluation are:		
If the student requires physical adapta adaptations are required:			
If the student's native language is oth	er than English, the following adapt	ations are required:	
☐ No adaptations/accommodations a	re required.		
	PARENTAL CONSENT		
☐ I give my consent for the Rocky H understand that this consent may be re		valuations described above. I	
(Signature of Parent/Guardian)		(Date)	
☐ I do not give my consent for the Funderstand that the school district mu hearing, to ensure that my child receive	st take steps as are necessary, which	n may include requesting an impartial	
(Signature of Parent/Guardian)		(Date)	

ROCKY HILL PUBLIC SCHOOLS NOTICE AND CONSENT FOR PLACEMENT ON SECTION 504 AND FOR THE PROVISION OF SECTION 504 ACCOMMODATIONS/SERVICES

Date:	
Dear (Parent/Guardian):	
Your child,	has been
found eligible under Section 504. Prior to the implementation of Sec provision of accommodation/services under Section 504 (as described attached hereto), the district requires your consent.	tion 504 placement, and the
PARENTAL CONSENT	
☐ I give my consent for the Rocky Hill Public Schools to place my as described in the Section 504 Plan attached hereto. I understand the revoked at any time.	-
(Signature of Parent/Guardian)	(Date)
☐ I do not give my consent for the Rocky Hill Public Schools to pro accommodations/services described in the Section 504 Plan attached	
(Signature of Parent/Guardian)	(Date)
Included with this form are:	
☐ The Section 504 Plan developed at the Section 504 meeting on	(Date)
☐ Your Notice of Rights Under Section 504.	(Date)

WORKSHEET FOR MANIFESTATION DETERMINATION

(For those situations when the expulsion of a 504 student is contemplated; or following a series of suspensions which constitute a change in placement)

Stı	udent:	Grade: Dat	e:
1.	Section 504 Meeting Participants:		
N	IAME	TITLE	
2	Describe Nature of Student's Disability:		
۷.	Describe (value of Student's Disability).		
3.	Description of Misconduct:		
	a. Date of Disciplinary Action:		
	b. Date Parents Notified of Disciplinary Ad	ction:	
	c. 504 of Notice of Rights Given? ☐ YES	□NO	
4.	Information Considered in Conducting a Ma (Each item below must be considered. Chec		sed.)
	☐ Teacher Observations of the Student		
	Relevant Information Supplied by Paren	ts	
	□ Evaluations and Diagnostic Results□ Student's 504 Plan		
	☐ Relevant Information Supplied by School ☐ Other (describe)		
	Other (describe)		

SERIES 5000 – STUDENTS 5410 – APPENDIX XII WORKSHEET FOR MANIFESTATION DETERMINATION (Continued)

5.	Was the misconduct in question caused by the student's disability, or does the misconduct in question have a <u>direct and substantial relationship</u> to the student's disability? \square YES \square NO
	Comments:
6.	Was the misconduct in question a <u>direct result</u> of the district's failure to implement the 504 Plan (in relationship to the misconduct in question)? \square YES \square NO
	Comments:
7	If the answer to either #5 or #6 is "VFS" the behavior under review IS considered a manifestation of

- 7. If the answer to **either** #5 or #6 is "**YES**", the behavior under review **IS** considered a manifestation of the student's disability?
- 8. If the answer to **both** #5 and #6 is "**NO**", the behavior under review <u>IS NOT</u> considered a manifestation of the student's disability.

Procedure if Misconduct is not a Manifestation of the Student's Disability:

If the manifestation determination team determines that the misconduct in question is <u>not</u> a manifestation of the student's disability, school personnel may apply the relevant disciplinary procedures to the student in the same manner and for the same duration as the procedures would be applied to a student without disabilities.

Procedure if Misconduct is a Manifestation of the Student's Disability:

If the manifestation determination team determines that the misconduct in question \underline{is} a manifestation of the student's disability, the 504 Team should:

- 1. Conduct a functional behavioral assessment unless the district had conducted a functional behavioral assessment before the behavior that resulted in the change of placement occurred, and implement a behavioral intervention plan for the student; or
- 2. If a behavioral intervention plan already has been developed, review the behavioral intervention plan, and modify it, as necessary, to address the behavior; **and**
- 3. Return the student to the placement from which the student was removed, unless the parent and the district agree to a change of placement as part of the modification of the behavioral intervention plan.