



Central Kitsap High School

P.O. BOX 8

SILVERDALE, WA 98383

“Dedicated to Excellence”

ALEX CHERTOK
PRINCIPAL

EARLE MCWRIGHT
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

KATIE KIYIMBA
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Therapy Dog Contact Opt-Out Form

Central Kitsap School District has a Therapy Dog Program! Our therapy dogs help create a caring, supportive environment for students and staff.

Research has shown that therapy dogs in schools can help build strong social emotional skills in students. A therapy dog's presence has also been shown to reduce anxiety, help students work through anger management concerns, reduce bullying tendencies, and address other personal and social issues that all of our developing students deal with. There are specific goals of the therapy dog program:

Increase empathy and compassion in all students

Help students connect with something in the school setting and reduce anxiety

Improve academic performance, while increasing confidence and self-esteem

Therapy dogs used by CKSD are certified through AKC recognized organizations. To belong to these organizations the dog must be tested and evaluated by a Certified evaluator. A dog must be a minimum of one (1) year old and have a sound temperament. Each dog must pass a Handler's assessment.

Registered Therapy dogs have specific cleanliness and grooming requirements. All certifying therapy dog organizations also require annual veterinarian checks for registered Therapy Dogs along with regular evaluations to maintain certification.

Please complete the form below and return to the main office, within 10 days of receipt, if you do not want your child to have contact with therapy dogs at school.

Therapy Dog Contact Opt-Out Form

Student's Name:

Grade:

☐ No, my child may NOT have contact with a therapy dog.

Parent Signature:

Date:

If you have questions, please contact Katie Kiyimba, Assistant Principal at 360-662-2400.