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## Agora Cyber Charter School

### Board of Trustees Policy

#### RELATED SERVICES POLICY

The Board of Trustees of the Agora Cyber Charter School ("Charter School") recognizes that charter schools must comply with Chapter 711 of Title 22 of the Pennsylvania Code regarding the provision of related services which incorporate the federal regulations at 34 C.F.R. §300.1 et. seq., which implement the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act 2004, ("IDEA").

It is the intent of the Board of Trustees to ensure that all students with disabilities have available to them a free and appropriate public education that emphasizes special education and related services designed to meet their unique needs and to prepare them for further education, employment, and independent living.

Pursuant to 34 CFR § 300.34, related services are transportation and those developmental, corrective and other supportive services that are required to assist a child with a disability to benefit from special education. Such services may include (depending upon the child's need and applicable state regulations):

- (1) speech-language pathology and audiology services,
- (2) interpreting services,
- (3) psychological services,
- (4) physical and occupational therapy,
- (5) recreation, including therapeutic recreation,
- (6) early identification and assessment of disabilities in children,
- (7) counseling services, including rehabilitation counseling,
- (8) orientation and mobility services, and

(9) medical services for diagnostic or evaluation purposes.

Related services may also include school health services and school nurse services, social work services in schools, and parent counseling and training.

Related services do not include a medical device that is surgically implanted, the optimization of that device's functioning (e.g., mapping), maintenance of that device, or the replacement of that device. However, nothing:

- (i) Limits the right of a child with a surgically implanted device (e.g., cochlear implant) to receive related services that are determined by the IEP Team to be necessary for the child to receive FAPE.
- (ii) Limits the responsibility to appropriately monitor and maintain medical devices that are needed to maintain the health and safety of the child, including breathing, nutrition, or operation of other bodily functions, while the child is transported to and from school or is at school; or
- (iii) Prevents the routine checking of an external component of a surgically implanted device to make sure it is functioning properly, as required in Sec. 300.113(b) of Title 34 CFR.

The Charter School will provide related services to include those services which the IEP team determines are necessary for a student after a comprehensive evaluation and the development of an IEP.

The types of services provided by the Charter School include, but are not limited to the following types of services:

- (1) Audiology includes:
  - i. Identification of children with hearing loss;
  - (ii) Determination of the range, nature, and degree of hearing loss, including referral for medical or other professional attention for the habilitation of hearing;
  - (iii) Provision of rehabilitative activities, such as language habilitation, auditory training, speech reading (lip-reading), hearing evaluation, and speech conservation;
  - (iv) Creation and administration of programs for prevention of hearing loss;
  - (v) Counseling and guidance of children, parents, and teachers regarding hearing loss; and
  - (vi) Determination of children's needs for group and individual

amplification, selecting and fitting an appropriate aid, and evaluating the effectiveness of amplification.

- (2) Counseling services mean services provided by qualified social workers, psychologists, guidance counselors, or other qualified personnel.
- (3) Early identification and assessment of disabilities in children means the implementation of a formal plan for identifying a disability as early as possible in a child's life.
- (4) Interpreting services include –
  - (i) The following, when used with respect to children who are deaf or hard of hearing: Oral transliteration services, cued language transliteration services, sign language transliteration and interpreting services, and transcription services, such as communication access real-time translation (CART), C-Print, and TypeWell; and
  - (ii) Special interpreting services for children who are deaf-blind.
- (5) Medical services means services provided by a licensed physician to determine a child's medically related disability that results in the child's need for special education and related services.
- (6) Occupational therapy –
  - (i) Means services provided by a qualified occupational therapist; and
  - (ii) Includes –
    - (A) Improving, developing, or restoring functions impaired or lost through illness, injury, or deprivation;
    - (B) Improving ability to perform tasks for independent functioning if functions are impaired or lost; and
    - (C) Preventing, through early intervention, initial or further impairment or loss of function.
- (7) Orientation and mobility services –
  - (i) Means services provided to blind or visually impaired children by qualified personnel to enable those students to attain systematic orientation to and safe movement within their environments in school, home, and community; and
  - (ii) Includes teaching children the following, as appropriate:

(A) Spatial and environmental concepts and use of information received by the senses (such as sound, temperature and vibrations) to establish, maintain, or regain orientation and line of travel (e.g., using sound at a traffic light to cross the street);

(B) To use the long cane or a service animal to supplement visual travel skills or as a tool for safely negotiating the environment for children with no available travel vision;

(C) To understand and use remaining vision and distance low vision aids; and

(D) Other concepts, techniques, and tools.

- (8)
  - (i) Parent counseling and training means assisting parents in understanding the special needs of their child;
  - (ii) Providing parents with information about child development; and
  - (iii) Helping parents to acquire the necessary skills that will allow them to support the implementation of their child's IEP or IFSP.
- (9) Physical therapy means services provided by a qualified physical therapist.
- (10) Psychological services include—
  - (i) Administering psychological and educational tests, and other assessment procedures;
  - (ii) Interpreting assessment results;
  - (iii) Obtaining, integrating, and interpreting information about child behavior and conditions relating to learning;
  - (iv) Consulting with other staff members in planning school programs to meet the special educational needs of children as indicated by psychological tests, interviews, direct observation, and behavioral evaluations;
  - (v) Planning and managing a program of psychological services, including psychological counseling for children and parents; and
  - (vi) Assisting in developing positive behavioral intervention strategies.
- (11) Recreation includes—
  - (i) Assessment of leisure function;
  - (ii) Therapeutic recreation services;
  - (iii) Recreation programs in schools and community agencies; and

- (iv) Leisure education.
- (12) Rehabilitation counseling services mean services provided by qualified personnel in individual or group sessions that focus specifically on career development, employment preparation, achieving independence, and integration in the workplace and community of a student with a disability. The term also includes vocational rehabilitation services provided to a student with a disability by vocational rehabilitation programs funded under the Rehabilitation Act.
- (13) School health services and school nurse services mean health services that are designed to enable a child with a disability to receive FAPE as described in the child's IEP. School nurse services are services provided by a qualified school nurse. School health services are services that may be provided by either a qualified school nurse or other qualified person.
- (14) Social work services in schools include —
- (i) Preparing a social or developmental history on a child with a disability;
  - (ii) Group and individual counseling with the child and family;
  - (iii) Working in partnership with parents and others on those problems in a child's living situation (home, school, and community) that affect the child's adjustment in school;
  - (iv) Mobilizing school and community resources to enable the child to learn as effectively as possible in his or her educational program; and
  - (v) Assisting in developing positive behavioral intervention strategies.
- (15) Speech-language pathology services include —
- (i) Identification of children with speech or language impairments;
  - (ii) Diagnosis and appraisal of specific speech or language impairments;
  - (iii) Referral for medical or other professional attention necessary for the habilitation of speech or language impairments;
  - (iv) Provision of speech and language services for the habilitation or prevention of communicative impairments; and
  - (v) Counseling and guidance of parents, children, and teachers regarding speech and language impairments.

(16) Transportation includes —

- (i) Travel to and from school and between schools;
- (ii) Travel in and around school buildings; and
- (iii) Specialized equipment (such as special or adapted buses, lifts, and ramps), if required to provide special transportation for a child with a disability.

Related services are provided to students during normal school hours during the Charter School's regular school year as dictated by the student's IEP or during times and hours as otherwise agreed upon by the student's IEP team and written in the IEP. Related services are provided during the extended school year to the extent extended school year services are applicable for a particular student pursuant to state regulations and the student's IEP. The Charter School may provide related services in the home for students who require related services in the home as part of their IEP. When related services are not provided in the Charter School setting, the Charter School arranges transportation to and from the location of related services in accordance with applicable state and federal regulations.

**TO THE EXTENT THAT ANYTHING IN THIS POLICY COULD BE CONSTRUED TO CONFLICT WITH THE SCHOOL'S CHARTER OR APPLICABLE STATE AND/OR FEDERAL LAWS, THE APPLICABLE STATE AND/OR FEDERAL LAWS AND/OR CHARTER CONTROL.**