

Model Policy Updates

MSBA is committed to providing ongoing updates to model policies as state laws and other developments give rise to changes.

MSBA Policy Services Announcements

1. **Model Policy Notes:** Review of MSBA's model policy process and discussions with Model Policy users and attorneys have led MSBA to provide new substantive Notes in the *Policy Services Newsletters* rather than embedding the Notes within the policies. This new approach will help ensure that Notes do not appear in the policies that schools publish online and elsewhere.

MSBA has begun removing substantive Notes from existing policies when the policies are updated.

2. A **Resources section** appears in Model Policies when MSBA identifies useful information. Schools may choose whether to publish the Resources as part of the policy.
3. MSBA will issue *Policy Services Updates* in **October, February, and June** (following the legislative session). If a policy update is needed immediately, MSBA will issue a special update.
4. MSBA adds **yellow highlighting** in Model Policies to places where schools should add contact and other information.

Technical Updates

Technical updates do not change a policy's substantive provisions. MSBA recommends that school boards permit staff to make technical updates. Formal board action to accept technical changes is not necessary under Model Policy 208, though school boards have the authority to require formal board action if they choose.

Model Policy Number	Update
425	Updates Art. VI D. to reflect revision of Minn. Stat. 122A.70
624	Corrects statutory citation in Art. IV
806	Updates Cardiac Emergency Response Plan information; adds MDE plan to Resources

Substantive Updates

These model policy updates should be reviewed and approved by the school board.

Optional revisions are not based upon a recent change to state or federal law. Boards may choose whether to adopt optional revisions.

One-Meeting Adoption: Many of the updates listed below quote directly from new Minnesota laws. As such, a school board may choose to adopt updates in a single meeting pursuant to MSBA Model Policy 208.

Model Policy Number	Update
208 Optional Revision	Adds “technical” to the type of policy revision that may be approved in a single meeting; allows board to choose whether to direct staff to incorporate technical revisions in policies
402	Adds reasonable accommodation process provision enacted by the 2026 Minnesota legislature
423	Adds “grooming” prohibition enacted by the 2026 Minnesota legislature
507.5	Adds provisions on duty to identify and chemical irritants enacted by the 2026 Minnesota legislature
509 (School District Only)	Aligns policy with open enrollment laws Minn. Stat. 142D.08 , Ch. 260A , and Ch. 260C ; format revisions and reference updates are included
521	Adds reasonable accommodation process provision enacted by the 2026 Minnesota legislature
524	Adds new statute regarding nudification enacted by the 2026 Minnesota legislature
613	Adds high school diploma for veterans provision enacted by the 2026 Minnesota legislature
621	Adds Read Act revisions enacted by the 2026 Minnesota legislature
709	Adds first aid kit requirements for buses enacted by the 2026 Minnesota legislature; adds “school bus” definition
721 Optional Revision	Adds provision regarding thresholds for emergency purchases by the superintendent/others
722	Adds Safe at Home participant data protection provision enacted by the 2026 Minnesota legislature

NOTES SECTION

Policy 208 Note: The school board may choose to direct school district staff or the school board’s policy committee to approve technical changes, such as statutory references, grammatical improvements, and similar matters without requiring formal school board approval of the technical change.



Upcoming Policy Updates

Model Policy Number	Update
xxx	Anonymous Threat Policy (see Note below): Fall 2026

Note

The 2026 Minnesota legislature enacted a new law (Minn. Stat. 121A.0361) requiring that Minnesota public schools must adopt an **anonymous threat reporting system policy by June 30, 2027. The system must be implemented by July 1, 2028.** MSBA will publish a policy in the fall 2026.

Instructions to access the entire Policy Manual online:

1. Please visit www.mnmsba.org.
2. Go to the **Resources** tab and select **Policies**
3. Log into the Members area (access is limited to Policy Services subscribers)
4. Click on a desired policy
5. A clean version (e.g., Policy 418) and a redlined version (e.g., Policy 418 Redline) can be found at the bottom of the policy page, below the Legal References and Cross References.

A **.zip file** of the updated policies (clean and redlined versions) can be found on the MSBA website:

1. Click on **Services**
2. Click on **Policy Services**
3. Scroll down to **Policy Services Newsletter**

If you experience trouble viewing the **redlined** version, please go to the **Review** tab on Microsoft Word and ensure that **"All Markup"** is clicked in the Tracking section. If the "Simple Markup" box is checked, one cannot see the redlined changes.

Policy Services Newsletters can be found on the MSBA website under **Services—Policy Services**

If you have questions about Policy Services, how to navigate the online Policy Manual, or the content of the model policies, please contact Terry Morrow at (507) 934-8126 or (800) 324-4459 or by email at tmorrow@mnmsba.org

Jaymyson Sillman (jsillman@mnmsba.org) can assist if technological issues arise related to accessing the model policies or the revisions.

