

**INTERNATIONAL FALLS PUBLIC SCHOOLS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL  
DISTRICT #361**

**BOARD POLICY 607  
Organization of Grade Levels**

**Adopted**\_\_\_\_**By Reference**\_\_\_\_\_

*Revised* **December 2022**

**607 ORGANIZATION OF GRADE LEVELS**

**I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to address the grade level organization of schools within the school district.

**II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

- A. The policy of the school district is to address the groupings of grade levels as recognized in Minnesota Statutes section 120A.05, as follows:

**[NOTE: Each school district should identify within the groupings as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 120A.05, how grade levels shall be organized within the school district from the options listed below:**

<b>Elementary:</b>	<b>Grades prekindergarten through 6</b>
<b>Middle:</b>	<b>Minimum of two consecutive grades above 4th but below 10th</b>
<b>Secondary:</b>	<b>(Grades 7 through 12)</b>
<b>Junior High</b>	<b>Grades ____ through ____</b>
<b>Senior High</b>	<b>Grades ____ through ____</b>
<b>Vocational</b>	<b>[Grades 7 through 12]</b>

- B. The superintendent may seek school board approval to administer certain programs on a nongraded basis or a design different from that indicated. Program proposals that seek school board approval must meet all state requirements and reflect the rationale for the modification.
- C. The school district may request documentation that verifies a student falls within the school's minimum and maximum age requirements for admission to publicly funded prekindergarten, preschool, kindergarten, or grades 1 through 12. Documentation may include a passport, a hospital birth record or physician's certificate, a baptismal or religious certificate, an adoption record, health records, immunization records, immigration records, previously verified school records, early childhood screening records, Minnesota Immunization Information Connection records, or an affidavit from a parent.

**III. DEFINITIONS**

- A. "Kindergarten" means a program designed for students five years of age on September 1 of the calendar year in which the school year commences that prepares students to enter first grade the following school year.
- B. "Prekindergarten" means a program designed for students younger than five years of age on September 1 of the calendar year in which the school year commences that prepares students to enter kindergarten the following school year.

**[NOTE: School districts with a voluntary prekindergarten program may choose to add a provision in line with Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.1, which was updated in 2024. The statute states that a school district may establish a voluntary prekindergarten program *for eligible four-year-old children* (the italicized language is new.)]**

**Legal References:** Minn. Stat. § 120A.05, Subds. 9, 10a, 11, 13, 17 (Definitions)  
Minn. Stat. § 120A.20, Subd. 4 (Admission to Public School)  
Minn. Stat. § 123B.02, Subd. 2 (General Powers of Independent School Districts)

**Cross References:** None