



Cloquet Public Schools Regular Meeting

Monday, August 11, 2025 at 6:00 PM
Garfield Board Room
302 14th Street
Cloquet, MN 55720
302 - 14th Street, Cloquet, MN

5:30 pm Working Session

Discussion regarding Facility & Grounds Director vs. Human Resources Generalist

6:00 pm Regular Meeting

I. Roll Call	
II. Pledge of Allegiance	
III. Consider Approval of Board Agenda	
1. Monday, August 11, 2025, School Board Agenda	4
IV. Consider Approval of School Board Minutes	
1. Monday, July 14, 2025, School Board Meeting Minutes	6
V. Open Forum and Reception of Delegations, Petitions, and Communications	
VI. Claims, Treasurer's Report, Investment Report, Wire Transfers	
1. Claims, July 10, 2025	9
2. Claims, July 17, 2025	13
3. Claims, July 31, 2025	15
4. Treasurer's Report, May 2025	18
5. Investments Report, May 2025	19
6. Wire Transfers, July 16, 2025 (x2) and August 1, 2025	22
VII. Consent Items	
1. Retirement Letters	
a. 5 hrs./day Food Service Worker (Penny Bassett)	
b. 6.5 hrs./day Paraprofessional at Washington Elementary (Patti Anderson)	
2. Resignation Letters	
a. 7 hrs./day AIE Tutor at Cloquet Middle School (Arianna Rabideaux)	
b. 6.75 hrs./day Paraprofessional at NLA (Brittney Kemi)	
c. 25 hrs./week ECSE Paraprofessional (Mariah Flores)	
d. Program Assistant at Kids Corner and Assistant Teacher at Li'l Lumberjacks/ L'l Thunder (Nora Thaler)	26
e. Program Assistant at Li'l Lumberjacks (Cheyenne Curtiss)	27
f. Head Robotic Co-Coach (Michelle Wick)	
g. Head Robotic Co-Coach (Jennifer Mangan)	
h. 3 hrs./day Food Service Staff at CHS (Brittney Autio) Pending Hire	
3. Recommendations for Employment	
a. 1.0 FTE Science Teacher at CAAEP (Paul Maltrud)	28
b. 0.4 FTE Speech Teacher (0.2 FTE Washington Elementary and 0.2 FTE NLA) (Lindsie Biggerstaff)	29
c. 1.0 FTE Float Substitute Teacher at Northern Light Academy (Kristen Rademacher) - pending background check	30
d. 1.0 FTE 4th Grade Teacher at Washington Elementary (Samantha Rupar)	31
e. 1.0 FTE Long-Term Science Teacher at Cloquet Middle School (Roy Rutherford)	32

f. 1.0 FTE Long Term Substitute Special Education Teacher at CAAEP (David Perry)	33
g. Temporary Lead District Custodian (Stephen Martin)	34
h. 6.75 hrs./day Paraprofessional at NLA (Emily Holmes)	35
i. 5 hrs./day Food Service Baker/Cook's Helper at CHS (Brittney Autio)	36
4. Extra Service Contracts	
a. 6th Period Stipends for Cloquet High School (S. Polkowski, J. Kitto)	37
b. 2025-2026 Comprehensive Achievement and Civic Readiness (CACR) Coordinator (Bekki Morrison)	38
c. 2025-2026 Extra Service Contracts at Cloquet High School (see attached)	39
d. 2025-2026 Extra Service and 6th Period Stipends at CAAEP (see attached)	40
e. 2025-2026 Extra Service Contracts at Washington Elementary (Instructional Computer Advisor, & School Patrol)	41
f. MnMTSS School Coordinator (Nicole Vegar)	42
5. Permission to Post	
a. Student Support Personnel (School Psychologist) at Northern Lights Academy	43
VIII. School Board Committee Report	
1. Closed Session Report from July 14, 2025, Regarding Annual Review of Superintendent Cary	
IX. Agenda Addendums	
X. New Business	
1. Consider Approving the Request for Quotes for 2025-2026 Snow Removal Services	44
2. Consider Approving the Updated 2025-2026 School Calendar	53
3. Consider Approving the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 Memorandum of Understanding with Just Kids Dental	55
4. Consider Approving the Cloquet Information Technology Support Association Memorandum of Understanding and Approve Extra Service Contracts for Staff	59
5. Consider Approving the 2025-2026 Pay Increase of 2% for Community Education Staff	62
6. Consider Approving the Rate Changes for Li'l Lumberjacks, Li'l Thunder and Wrap Around Care with Community Education	63
7. Consider Approving the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 Non-Union Rate Sheet	64
8. Consider Approving a One (1) Year Medical Leave for a Middle School Teacher (Angela Beste)	
9. Consider Approving a Part-Time (0.4 FTE) Leave of Absence from CTE Teacher (Michelle Wick)	
10. Consider Approving a 1 year Leave of Absence for Paraprofessional under Contract (Hannah Wilkinson)	
11. Consider Approving and Waiving 2nd and 3rd Readings of Legislative Changes to Policies 414, 418, 501, 503, 515, 516, 534, 621, 707, 709, 802, 806 Annual Policy Reviews 506 and 722	65
XI. Superintendent's Report	
1. Community Memorial Donation	
2. Update Regarding Cloquet Transit Extension	
3. Negotiations	
4. Back to School	
XII. For Your Information	
1. Fulbright U.S. Teacher Award 2025-2026 - Kimberly Broman - Washington Elementary	353
2. Postings for Existing Positions	
a. 7 hrs./day AIE Tutor at Cloquet Middle School	354
b. 6.75 hrs./day Long Term Substitute Paraprofessional at NLA	
c. 4th Grade Teacher at Washington Elementary	
3. Internal Transfer to 6th Grade (Aaron Young)	355
4. Internal Transfer of Paraprofessional from CHS to Washington (Jennifer Engel)	356
XIII. Upcoming Meetings/Events	

1. Monday, August 25, 2025 - School Board Meeting - Boardroom

5:30 p.m. Working Session

6:00 p.m. Regular Meeting

XIV. Adjournment

* If any one board member wishes to remove an item from the consent agenda for discussion, that item should be added to the board meeting agenda prior to its approval.



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1. Monday, July 14, 2025, School Board Meeting Minutes

V. Open Forum and Reception of Delegations, Petitions, and Communications

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4. **Extra Service Contracts**

- a. 6th Period Stipends for Cloquet High School (S. Polkowski, J. Kitto)
- b. 2025-2026 Comprehensive Achievement and Civic Readiness Coordinator (Bekki Morrison)
- c. 2025-2026 Extra Service Contracts at Cloquet High School (see attached)
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- f. MnMTSS School Coordinator (Nicole Vegar)

5. **Permission to Post**

- a. Student Support Personnel (School Psychologist) at Northern Lights Academy

VIII. **School Board Committee Report**

1. Closed Session Report from July 14, 2025, Regarding Annual Review of Superintendent Cary

IX. **Agenda Addendums**

X. **New Business**

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2. Consider Approving the Updated 2025-2026 School Calendar
3. Consider Approving the 2025-26 & 2026-27 Memorandum of Understanding with Just Kids Dental
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Annual Policy Reviews 506 and 722

XI. **Superintendent's Report**

1. Community Memorial Donation
2. Update Regarding Cloquet Transit Extension
3. Negotiations
4. Back to School

XII. **For Your Information**

1. Fulbright U.S. Teacher Award 2025-2026 - Kimberly Broman - Washington Elementary
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XIII. **Upcoming Meetings/Events**

1. Monday, August 25, 2025 - School Board Meeting – Boardroom 5:30 p.m. Working Session, 6:00 p.m. Regular Meeting

XIV. **Adjournment**

* If any one board member wishes to remove an item from the consent agenda for discussion, that item should be added to the board meeting agenda prior to its approval.

July 14, 2025

Board Chair, N. Sandman called the working session to order at 5:30 p.m.

Topics discussed:

Dr. Cary gave an update on adopted schools, committee representation, the agreement with Community Memorial Hospital for the fitness space and the agreement with Northstar Community Services. There being nothing further to discuss, Board Chair, N. Sandman adjourned the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

July 14, 2025

The Regular Meetings of the School Board of Independent School District No. 94, in the City of Cloquet on July 14, 2025, was called to order by Board Chair N. Sandman at 6:41 p.m..

Roll Call – The following members were present on roll call:

- Dave Battaglia
- LeAnn Butler
- Nichole Diver
- Gary Huard
- Melissa Juntunen
- Nate Sandman

Present in Person:

- Dr. Michael Cary, Superintendent
- Kate Olson, Finance Secretary
- Candace Nelis, Business Manager
- Brock Wilton, Building and Grounds Director
- Teresa Angell, AIE Director
- Ashlee Lennartson, EM-C Rep.
- Macklin Caruso, Pine Journal Newspaper Rep.

Building principals, teacher representatives, AIE Director, Community Education Director, District Facilities & Grounds Director will be excused from attending Board meetings until further notice.

APPROVAL OF BOARD AGENDA

- RESOLVED by M. Juntunen to approve July 14, 2025, regular board agenda, as presented. N. Diver seconded the motion, and the resolution was approved by unanimous yea vote of all members present on roll call.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

- RESOLVED by D. Battaglia to approve the June 23, 2025, Regular Meeting, as presented. G. Huard seconded the motion, and the resolution was approved by unanimous yea vote of all members present on roll call.

OPEN FORUM AND RECEPTION OF DELEGATIONS, PETITIONS, AND COMMUNICATIONS

- Building and Department Reports were reviewed. B. Wilton, T. Angell, A. Lennartson and C. Nelis gave their reports in person.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF CLAIMS, TREASURER’S REPORTS AND INVESTMENT REPORTS

- RESOLVED by N. Sandman to approve Claims, June 26, 2025; Treasurer’s Reports, April 2025, Investment Report, April 2025, as presented. M. Juntunen seconded the motion, and the resolution was approved by unanimous yea vote of all members present on roll call.

CONSENT ITEMS

- RESOLVED by N. Sandman to approve the Consent Items, as presented.

1. **Resignations**

- a. L. Mehelich, Boys Lacrosse Coach
- b. K. Demenge, Lead Teacher at Li'l Thunder
- c. B. Wilton, Director of Building and Grounds

2. **Recommendations of Employment:**

NAME	POSITION/LOCATION	SALARY**	START DATE
a. Madilyn Lamia	1.0 FTE Guidance Counselor at CAAEP	BA+60/Step 5	8/25/25
b. Taylor Thole	1.0 FTE Intervention Teacher at CMS	BA Step 4	8/25/25
c. Anneliese Braaten	0.4 FTE Intervention Teacher at CMS	MA Step 5	8/25/25
d. B. McCarthy	6.5 hrs./day Paraprofessional at Churchill	Step 1	8/25/25
e. D. Wangen	Community Ed Behing the Wheel Instructor		7/15/25
3. Extra Services Contracts			
a. O. Diver	9 th Grade Volleyball Coach	\$3,169.00	8/11-11/8/25

b. Building Leadership Team Members (updated from 6/23/25)

4. **Permission to Post**

a. Boys Lacrosse Coach

- D. Battaglia seconded the motion, and the resolution was approved by unanimous yeas of all members present on roll call.

AGENDA ADDENDUMS

There were none.

NEW BUSINESS

- RESOLVED by G. Huard to approve the designation of official newspaper to the Pine Knot, as presented. L. Butler seconded the motion, and the resolution was approved by unanimous yeas of all members present on roll call.
- RESOLVED by N. Sandman to approve keeping the school board committee representation the same and add L. Butler, G. Huard and N. Sandman to new personnel committee. N. Diver seconded the motion, and the resolution was approved by unanimous yeas of all members present on roll call.
- RESOLVED by M. Juntunen to approve keeping the school board adopted schools the same, as presented. G. Huard seconded the motion, and the resolution was approved by unanimous yeas of all members present on roll call.
- RESOLVED by D. Battaglia to authorize Business Manager, Candace Nelis and District Accountant, Adrienne Strickland, to make electronic fund transfers on behalf of the Cloquet School District during the time period of July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026, as presented. L. Butler seconded the motion, and the resolution was approved by unanimous yeas of all members present on roll call.
- RESOLVED by N. Sandman to approve the 2025-2026 withdrawal approval of securities pledges, as presented. L. Butler seconded the motion, and the resolution was approved by unanimous yeas of all members present on roll call.
- RESOLVED by D. Battaglia to authorize Superintendent Dr. Michael Cary and Business Manager Candace to utilize the services of firms Squires, Waldspurger & Mace P.A., Fryberger Law Firm and other legal firms as deemed necessary during the time period of July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026, as presented. G. Huard seconded the motion, and the resolution was approved by unanimous yeas of all members present on roll call.
- RESOLVED by N. Sandman to approve naming US Bank Cloquet, Associated Bank Corp., MN Trust, Pershing Investments and Minnesota School District Liquid Asset Fund Plus as depositories for funds belonging to Independent School District No. 94 and that all banks be required to furnish a corporate surety bond or acceptable collateral to cover the amount of the school district deposits for the time period July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026, as presented. L. Butler seconded the motion, and the resolution was approved by unanimous yeas of all members present on roll call.
- RESOLVED by D. Battaglia to authorize to draw and sign orders upon the treasurer, to be counter-signed by the board chair for payments of salaries, utility bills and other bills that offer discount for early payment as they become due for the time period July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026, as presented. L. Butler seconded the motion, and the resolution was approved by unanimous yeas of all members present on roll call.
- RESOLVED by N. Sandman to approve granting building administrators the authority to approve contracts in the amount less than \$10,000, including but not limited to, the following: dances, vending machines, plays and royalties, games and officials, class rings, yearbooks, rental of facilities, diplomas, graduation announcements, and fundraising projects as necessary. Superintendent, Dr. Michael Cary and Business Manager, Candace Nelis, are authorized to approve contracts up to the allowed amount of \$175,000 which falls in line with school board policy #721.E.2 "Procurement Methods". This is for the time period of July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026, as presented. L. Butler seconded the motion, and the resolution was approved by unanimous yeas of all members present at roll call.
- RESOLVED by N. Sandman to approve and waive 2nd and 3rd readings of policy #533 District Wellness Policy 2024-2025, as presented. G. Huard seconded the motion, and the resolution was approved by unanimous yeas of all members present at roll call.

- RESOLVED by D. Battaglia to approve the 2025-2028 revised achievement and integration plan, as presented. G. Huard seconded the motion, and the resolution was approved by unanimous yeas of all members present at roll call.
- RESOLVED by L. Butler to approve 2025-2027 contract with Education Minnesota – Cloquet, as presented. D. Battaglia seconded the motion, and the resolution was approved by unanimous yeas of all members present at roll call.
- RESOLVED by M. Juntunen to approve the agreement with Community Memorial Hospital for marketing support, as presented. N. Sandman seconded the motion, and the resolution was approved by unanimous yeas of all members present at roll call.
- RESOLVED by N. Diver to approve the schedule C adjustments to the Education Minnesota contract, as presented. D. Battaglia seconded the motion. Roll call vote: N. Sandman-yea, D. Battaglia-yea, M. Juntunen-yea, L. Butler-nay, N. Diver-yea, G. Huard-yea. Motion passed by a 5-1 vote.
- RESOLVED by N. Sandman to approve the 2025-2028 contract with Northern Lights Academy Assistant Special Education Director, Barbara Mackey, as presented. D. Battaglia seconded the motion, and the resolution was approved by unanimous yeas of all members present at roll call.
- RESOLVED by D. Battaglia to allow families of involuntary transfer students between elementary schools for 2025-2026 to ability to decided to stay at Washington. G. Huard seconded the motion, and the resolution was approved by unanimous yeas of all members present at roll call.
- RESOLVED by L. Butler to approve the memorandum of understanding with NorthStar Services and day treatment and CTSS services at Cloquet Middle School, as presented. N. Diver seconded the motion, and the resolution was approved by unanimous yeas of all members present at roll call.
- RESOLVED by N. Sandman to direct administration to negotiate a memorandum of understanding with the Cloquet Information Technology Support Association (CITSA) with the assistance from the negotiations technology board subcommittee. G. Huard seconded the motion, and the resolution was approved by unanimous yeas of all members present at roll call.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

- Dr. Cary presented the items in the working session.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

- Postings for Existing Positions
 - a. Boys Lacrosse Coach

CLOSED SESSION

- RESOLVED by L. Butler to move to closed session pursuant to MN Statute Section 13D.05 for the annual review of Superintendent Dr. Michael Cary. D. Battaglia seconded the motion, and the resolution was approved by unanimous yeas of all members present at roll call. The meeting was closed at 7:15 p.m. The meeting resumed at 8:29 p.m.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

- Monday, August 11, 2025 - School Board Meeting, 5:30 p.m. Working Session, 6:00 p.m. Reg. Mtg.

ADJOURNMENT

There being nothing further to discuss, Board Chair N. Sandman adjourned the meeting at 8:31 p.m.

ATTEST:

Clerk of the School Board

Chair of the School Board

Cloquet Public Schools
Detail Payment Register By Check
Fund Summary

Fund	Description	Total
01	General	\$294,814.93
02	Food Services	\$14,802.26
03	Transportation	\$34,333.02
04	Community Services	\$6,970.40
05	Capital Expenditure	\$68,443.19
12	Activities	\$170.00
Report Total		\$419,533.80

Cloquet Public Schools Check Register by Bank and Check

Check Number: 0-2147483647 Payment Date: 7/10/2025-7/31/2025 Period: 0-99999999

Batch	Bank	Pymt No	Check No	Pay Type	Grp	Code	Rcd	Vendor	Print	Recon	Void	Pmt/Void Date	Amount
2		107815	27629	Check	1	02766		ARCC	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	130.00
		107817	27630	Check	1	1006		ARROWHEAD SPRINGS	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	137.50
		107890	27631	Check	1	9514		ARS	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	220.00
		107848	27632	Check	1	11589		ASCENDANCE TRUCKS CENTRAL LL	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	9,896.38
		107877	27633	Check	1	6134		AT&T MOBILITY	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	505.54
		107816	27634	Check	1	03250		B & B MARKET	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	380.90
		107831	27635	Check	1	10877		BILDEN JOLI	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	158.97
		107855	27636	Check	1	1549		CENGAGE LEARNING INC	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	6,506.50
		107843	27637	Check	1	11453		CHICKADEE CATERING COMPANY	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	1,054.03
		107873	27638	Check	1	55545		CINTAS CORPORATION LOCATION 2	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	491.34
		107833	27639	Check	1	11006		CLOQUET SANITARY	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	754.12
		107835	27640	Check	1	11051		CLOQUET TRANSIT CO	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	35,851.82
		107850	27641	Check	1	11620		COMPENSATION CONSULTANTS, LTI	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	2,080.00
		107865	27642	Check	1	3116		CONTINENTAL CLAY CO	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	842.54
		107882	27643	Check	1	8314		CPM EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	76,050.00
		107853	27644	Check	1	14301		DEMCO INC	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	6,405.00
		107872	27645	Check	1	5509		DOHNANSKY, ELIZABETH	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	53.20
		107878	27646	Check	1	6347		EDUCATORS BENEFIT CONSULTANT	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	283.41
		107881	27647	Check	1	8229		ESSE, DAVID	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	154.00
		107849	27648	Check	1	11590		EVENSON ELLIE	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	99.00
		107889	27649	Check	1	9472		FLAGSHIP RECREATION	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	56,495.14
		107844	27650	Check	1	1148		FLINN SCIENTIFIC INC	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	972.00
		107891	27651	Check	1	9524		FOND DU LAC DEVELOPMENT	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	470.00
		107886	27652	Check	1	8894		FONOTI, MACE	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	255.00
		107869	27653	Check	1	42195		FUN EXPRESS LLC	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	181.32
		107858	27654	Check	1	21460		GOPHER STAGE LIGHTING INC	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	2,800.00
		107851	27655	Check	1	12271		GREAT LAKES OFFICE SOLUTIONS	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	2,480.51
		107839	27656	Check	1	11320		H21 GROUP	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	511.23
		107847	27657	Check	1	11588		HILLS MELISSA	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	200.00
		107875	27658	Check	1	5684		HILLYARD INC MINNEAPOLIS	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	2,236.97
		107837	27659	Check	1	11194		HOLDEN ELECTRIC CO INC	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	2,900.00
		107860	27660	Check	1	24795		HOUGHTON MIFFLIN CO	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	278.23
		107867	27661	Check	1	4002		INFINITE CAMPUS INC	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	52,385.46
		107887	27662	Check	1	9072		INNOVATIVE OFFICE SOLUTIONS LL	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	309.82
		107836	27663	Check	1	11101		INSTRUCTURE	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	11,880.00
		107883	27664	Check	1	8418		KEMPS LLC	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	361.75
		107863	27665	Check	1	28920		KENDAHL AMUSEMENT	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	174.00
		107880	27666	Check	1	8075		KERMEND, CALLISTA	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	1,101.73
		107854	27667	Check	1	14424		LAUER HANNAH	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	223.10

Cloquet Public Schools Check Register by Bank and Check

Check Number: 0-2147483647 Payment Date: 7/10/2025-7/31/2025 Period: 0-99999999

Batch	Bank	Pymt No	Check No	Pay Type	Grp	Code	Rcd	Vendor	Print	Recon	Void	Pmt/Void Date	Amount
2		107826	27668	Check	1	10754		LUND JENNA	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	560.15
		107840	27669	Check	1	1135		MASA	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	1,365.00
		107879	27670	Check	1	6675		MASC	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	170.00
		107861	27671	Check	1	2692		MASSP	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	3,610.00
		107827	27672	Check	1	10755		MCKIBBON KELLY	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	1,155.12
		107856	27673	Check	1	1750		MICHAUD DISTRIBUTING	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	123.00
		107828	27674	Check	1	10765		MINERS INCORPORATED	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	31.95
		107824	27675	Check	1	10715		MOMENTUM ECM LLC	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	2,811.27
		107823	27676	Check	1	10672		MRI SOFTWARE LLC	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	28.00
		107862	27677	Check	1	2714		MSBA	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	11,720.00
		107819	27678	Check	1	10072		MYSTERY SCIENCE INC	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	8,970.00
		107846	27679	Check	1	11576		NATIONAL BUSINESS FURNITURE	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	483.17
		107845	27680	Check	1	11485		NORTHERN LIGHTS ACADEMY #6096	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	8,714.28
		107868	27681	Check	1	41104		NORTHLAND FIRE AND SAFETY	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	3,037.50
		107852	27682	Check	1	1289		PARK AVE FITNESS	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	841.50
		107829	27683	Check	1	10778		PER MAR SECURITY SERVICES	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	300.00
		107838	27684	Check	1	11267		PETERSON LAWN CARE COMPANY	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	4,500.00
		107834	27685	Check	1	11039		PETERSON LINDSEY	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	200.00
		107820	27686	Check	1	10284		POVOLNY KATHLEEN	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	60.80
		107870	27687	Check	1	44930		PREMIERE THEATRES	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	435.00
		107832	27688	Check	1	10952		RW FERN ASSOCIATES INC	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	6,807.05
		107864	27689	Check	1	3066		S&S WORLDWIDE INC	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	448.98
		107830	27690	Check	1	10852		SAVVAS LEARNING COMPANY	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	53,190.00
		107821	27691	Check	1	10472		SCHOLASTIC CLASSROOM MAGAZINE	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	4,404.16
		107818	27692	Check	1	10060		SEESAW	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	5,905.80
		107822	27693	Check	1	10590		SHERWOOD AMBER	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	200.00
		107859	27694	Check	1	2300		SHI INTERNATIONAL CORP	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	1,000.36
		107884	27695	Check	1	8631		SQUIRES, WALDSPURGER & MACE I	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	4,866.98
		107871	27696	Check	1	52404		STATE INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	1,869.24
		107866	27697	Check	1	3523		STUDIES WEEKLY	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	2,145.72
		107825	27698	Check	1	10746		THE SMITH COMPANY	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	1,580.00
		107888	27699	Check	1	9268		UHL COMPANY INC	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	3,102.00
		107874	27700	Check	1	56350		UPPER LAKES FOODS	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	3,276.59
		107842	27701	Check	1	11379		VENTRIS LEARNING LLC	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	531.00
		107841	27702	Check	1	11361		VESTIS	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	150.12
		107876	27703	Check	1	57280		WANGEN, DAVID	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	770.00
		107885	27704	Check	1	8634		WKLK WMOZ 11	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	180.00
		107892	27705	Check	1	9745		YOUNG MUSIC LLC	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	590.00

Cloquet Public Schools Check Register by Bank and Check

Check Number: 0-2147483647 Payment Date: 7/10/2025-7/31/2025 Period: 0-99999999

Batch	Bank	Pymt No	Check No	Pay Type	Grp	Code	Rcd	Vendor	Print	Recon	Void	Pmt/Void Date	Amount
2		107857	27706	Check	1	1978		ZELEZNIKAR, JODY	Yes	No	No	07/10/2025	1,128.55
Bank Total: 2													\$419,533.80
Report Total:													\$419,533.80

Cloquet Public Schools
Detail Payment Register By Check
Fund Summary

Fund	Description	Total
01	General	\$134,119.78
02	Food Services	\$406.51
03	Transportation	\$29.00
04	Community Services	\$4,661.88
05	Capital Expenditure	\$7,234.61
45	OPEB Irrevocable Trust	\$1,121.57
Report Total		\$147,573.35

Cloquet Public Schools Check Register by Bank and Check

Check Number: 0-2147483647 Payment Date: 7/17/2025-7/31/2025 Period: 0-99999999

Batch	Bank	Pymt No	Check No	Pay Type	Grp	Code	Rcd	Vendor	Print	Recon	Void	Pmt/Void Date	Amount
2		107893	27707	Check	1	05200		BEST SERVICE	Yes	No	No	07/17/2025	29.00
		107901	27708	Check	1	11453		CHICKADEE CATERING COMPANY	Yes	No	No	07/17/2025	1,162.42
		107894	27709	Check	1	10401		CITY OF CLOQUET	Yes	No	No	07/17/2025	2,068.35
		107896	27710	Check	1	11006		CLOQUET SANITARY	Yes	No	No	07/17/2025	6,947.55
		107908	27711	Check	1	4073		CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS	Yes	No	No	07/17/2025	3,868.20
		107903	27712	Check	1	11591		DAHL ROSALEE	Yes	No	No	07/17/2025	300.00
		107898	27713	Check	1	11221		DAIRYLAND FENCE CO. INC	Yes	No	No	07/17/2025	3,240.00
		107919	27714	Check	1	8229		ESSE, DAVID	Yes	No	No	07/17/2025	616.00
		107902	27715	Check	1	11588		HILLS MELISSA	Yes	No	No	07/17/2025	35.00
		107914	27716	Check	1	5684		HILLYARD INC MINNEAPOLIS	Yes	No	No	07/17/2025	4,909.80
		107917	27717	Check	1	5992		HORIZON COMMERCIAL POOL SUPP	Yes	No	No	07/17/2025	1,058.42
		107920	27718	Check	1	9072		INNOVATIVE OFFICE SOLUTIONS LL	Yes	No	No	07/17/2025	3,780.61
		107899	27719	Check	1	11347		INTERSTATE ALL BATTERY CENTER	Yes	No	No	07/17/2025	68.68
		107922	27720	Check	1	9465		JOHNSON FITNESS & WELLNESS	Yes	No	No	07/17/2025	214.00
		107906	27721	Check	1	29600		L & M SUPPLY	Yes	No	No	07/17/2025	253.32
		107916	27722	Check	1	5743		MIDAMERICA ADMINISTRATIVE	Yes	No	No	07/17/2025	60.00
		107913	27723	Check	1	5675		MINNESOTA ENERGY RESOURCES	Yes	No	No	07/17/2025	928.36
		107907	27724	Check	1	36651		MINNESOTA POWER	Yes	No	No	07/17/2025	47,593.08
		107918	27725	Check	1	7693		MONDATI, ROBERTA	Yes	No	No	07/17/2025	600.69
		107897	27726	Check	1	11039		PETERSON LINDSEY	Yes	No	No	07/17/2025	50.00
		107911	27727	Check	1	5286		PITNEY BOWES PURCHASE POWER	Yes	No	No	07/17/2025	4,018.75
		107923	27728	Check	1	9882		PMA ASSET MGMT	Yes	No	No	07/17/2025	1,121.57
		107905	27729	Check	1	2300		SHI INTERNATIONAL CORP	Yes	No	No	07/17/2025	33,855.00
		107910	27730	Check	1	52404		STATE INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS	Yes	No	No	07/17/2025	1,132.77
		107904	27731	Check	1	11592		SUPERIOR MASONRY INC	Yes	No	No	07/17/2025	14,755.00
		107909	27732	Check	1	5091		SVL SERVICE CORPORATION	Yes	No	No	07/17/2025	434.00
		107895	27733	Check	1	10802		SWANSON YOUNGDALE	Yes	No	No	07/17/2025	6,275.00
		107921	27734	Check	1	9268		UHL COMPANY INC	Yes	No	No	07/17/2025	6,403.00
		107912	27735	Check	1	56350		UPPER LAKES FOODS	Yes	No	No	07/17/2025	1,302.23
		107900	27736	Check	1	11361		VESTIS	Yes	No	No	07/17/2025	80.95
		107915	27737	Check	1	57280		WANGEN, DAVID	Yes	No	No	07/17/2025	411.60
Bank Total: 2												\$147,573.35	
Report Total:												\$147,573.35	

Cloquet Public Schools
Detail Payment Register By Check
Fund Summary

Fund	Description	Total
01	General	\$258,158.24
02	Food Services	\$90.48
03	Transportation	\$352.98
04	Community Services	\$5,657.73
05	Capital Expenditure	\$31,022.17
12	Activities	\$9,091.89
45	OPEB Irrevocable Trust	\$324.00
Report Total		\$304,697.49

Cloquet Public Schools Check Register by Bank and Check

Check Number: 0-2147483647 Payment Date: 7/31/2025-7/31/2025 Period: 0-99999999

Batch	Bank	Pymt No	Check No	Pay Type	Grp	Code	Rcd	Vendor	Print	Recon	Void	Pmt/Void Date	Amount
2		107943	27738	Check	1	11593		218 DANCE PROJECT	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	170.00
		107926	27739	Check	1	00350		ACTIVITY FUND-MIDDLE SCHOOL	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	85.00
		107928	27740	Check	1	10159		ADVANCED SERVICES, INC	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	80.00
		107969	27741	Check	1	7378		BSN SPORTS LLC	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	29,340.83
		107927	27742	Check	1	08337		CARLTON COUNTY HUMAN SERVICE	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	190.00
		107978	27743	Check	1	9301		CARMENS RESTAURANT	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	770.00
		107940	27744	Check	1	11453		CHICKADEE CATERING COMPANY	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	696.07
		107929	27745	Check	1	10650		CLOQUET INTERIORS	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	7,855.00
		107934	27746	Check	1	11051		CLOQUET TRANSIT CO	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	352.98
		107941	27747	Check	1	11550		COMMUNITY PRINTING	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	991.25
		107979	27748	Check	1	9578		CONSTELLATION NEWENERGY -GA	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	4,995.87
		107968	27749	Check	1	7093		DAUGHERTY APPLIANCE	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	2,116.48
		107960	27750	Check	1	5498		DECKER INC SCHOOL FIX	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	99.04
		107961	27751	Check	1	5509		DOHNANSKY, ELIZABETH	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	53.20
		107981	27752	Check	1	9683		EBA, INC	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	375.00
		107971	27753	Check	1	8229		ESSE, DAVID	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	411.60
		107973	27754	Check	1	8653		EVERGREEN LAWN SERVICE	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	1,189.08
		107951	27755	Check	1	3316		FOLLETT CONTENT SOLUTIONS LLC	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	1,134.25
		107939	27756	Check	1	11404		FREEDOM WRITERS FOUNDATION	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	19,500.00
		107944	27757	Check	1	12271		GREAT LAKES OFFICE SOLUTIONS	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	4,263.17
		107966	27758	Check	1	59450		HAGENS GLASS & PAINT	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	303.88
		107931	27759	Check	1	10767		HEDMAN JOSEPH	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	186.20
		107962	27760	Check	1	5684		HILLYARD INC MINNEAPOLIS	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	1,221.67
		107967	27761	Check	1	5992		HORIZON COMMERCIAL POOL SUPP	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	2,518.16
		107949	27762	Check	1	29600		L & M SUPPLY	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	1,650.94
		107983	27763	Check	1	9792		LEAF	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	8,689.52
		107935	27764	Check	1	11203		LENOVO (UNITED STATES) INC	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	2,254.39
		107952	27765	Check	1	38650		MADISON NATIONAL LIFE INSURANC	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	8,589.38
		107946	27766	Check	1	2176		MASBO	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	290.00
		107974	27767	Check	1	8722		MCDONALD, JAMIE	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	279.30
		107965	27768	Check	1	5736		MEDICAREBLUE RX	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	324.00
		107932	27769	Check	1	11005		MIND INFORMATION INC	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	18,000.00
		107930	27770	Check	1	10765		MINERS INCORPORATED	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	9,018.98
		107980	27771	Check	1	9628		MINNESOTA LIFE INSURANCE COMF	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	15,174.00
		107948	27772	Check	1	2431		MN UI FUND	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	65,195.15
		107933	27773	Check	1	11014		MNVBCA	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	150.00
		107975	27774	Check	1	8996		MSOPA 16	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	100.00
		107938	27775	Check	1	11365		NELSON MARCIA	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	995.07
		107976	27776	Check	1	9158		NEW DOMINION SCHOOL	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	8,829.12

Cloquet Public Schools Check Register by Bank and Check

Check Number: 0-2147483647 Payment Date: 7/31/2025-7/31/2025 Period: 0-99999999

Batch	Bank	Pymt No	Check No	Pay Type	Grp	Code	Rcd	Vendor	Print	Recon	Void	Pmt/Void Date	Amount
2		107942	27777	Check	1	11580		NEXTPATH EDUCATION	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	13,950.00
		107953	27778	Check	1	40801		NORTHEAST SERVICE COOP	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	200.00
		107954	27779	Check	1	41104		NORTHLAND FIRE AND SAFETY	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	594.50
		107950	27780	Check	1	3249		PACK & MAIL STATION	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	70.57
		107937	27781	Check	1	11307		PERTLER JILL	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	825.00
		107945	27782	Check	1	2037		PINE KNOT, LLC	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	422.00
		107936	27783	Check	1	11264		PIONEER ATHLETICS	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	134.95
		107955	27784	Check	1	44751		POSTMASTER	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	1,859.54
		107956	27785	Check	1	45152		PROULX, TOM	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	845.20
		107977	27786	Check	1	9288		RASMUSSEN, BRENDA	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	180.60
		107957	27787	Check	1	47100		RIDDELL/ALL AMERICAN SPORTS CC	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	19,870.90
		107958	27788	Check	1	48801		SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUBS	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	4,404.16
		107947	27789	Check	1	2300		SHI INTERNATIONAL CORP	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	38,403.42
		107972	27790	Check	1	8631		SQUIRES, WALDSPURGER & MACE I	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	224.00
		107959	27791	Check	1	52404		STATE INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	1,487.40
		107970	27792	Check	1	7811		TENNIS WAREHOUSE	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	799.92
		107963	27793	Check	1	5702		ULINE	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	391.75
		107964	27794	Check	1	57280		WANGEN, DAVID	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	770.00
		107982	27795	Check	1	9692		ZIME DEBRA	Yes	No	No	07/31/2025	825.00

Bank Total: 2 \$304,697.49

Report Total: \$304,697.49

Cloquet School District Treasurer's Report 5/31/2025

General Ledger Cash Balance

Beginning Balance	4/30/2025	\$604,515.58
Vouchers Paid:		(\$1,394,636.12) (A)
Deposits:		\$5,769,004.24 (B)
Journal Entries:		(\$700,982.91) (C)
Payroll:		(\$2,754,959.69) (D)
Ending Balance	5/31/2025	\$1,522,941.10

Bank Balances (Accounts that tie to Cash in the GL)

MSDLAF	CHS	\$618,336.80
US Bank Clearing Account	CHS	\$0.00
MSDLAF	CMS	\$114,131.78
US Bank Clearing Account	CMS	\$0.00
MSDLAF	Flex	\$28,764.99
US Bank Clearing Account	Flex	\$0.00
MSDLAF Liquid Asset	General	\$1,740,727.24
US Bank Disbursements	General	\$0.00
US Bank Clearing Account	General	\$1,372.26
Total of Accounts that Close to Cash		\$2,503,333.07

Bank Reconciliation

Bank Balance	\$2,503,333.07
Deposits Outstanding	\$0.00
Accounts Payable Checks Outstanding	(\$395,299.09)
Accounts Payable Wires Outstanding	\$0.00
Payroll Checks Outstanding	(\$415.58)
Third Party Payroll Wires Outstanding	(\$39,005.22)
Adjustments at the Bank but not in SMART	\$2,204.76
Adjustments in SMART but not at the Bank	(\$547,876.84)
Adjustment for Clearing Differences	\$0.00
General Ledger Cash Balance	\$1,522,941.10

**INVESTMENTS: FUND 45 OPEB
2024-2025 - FISCAL YEAR**

DATE: MAY 2025

<u>INVESTMENT</u>	<u>INTEREST RATE</u>	<u>BANK</u>	<u>MATURITY DATE</u>	<u>INTEREST TO BE EARNED</u>	<u>MONTHLY INTEREST</u>
\$ 1,657,738.93	1.76%	MN TRUST CD	6/30/2020	\$ 1,058.13	\$ -
\$ -	1.46%	MN TRUST CD	6/30/2020	\$ 2,030.07	\$ -
\$ 379,016.84	2.74%	MN TRUST CD	9/28/2020	\$ 26,217.16	\$ -
	1.86%	MN TRUST CD	10/16/2020	\$ 13,351.61	\$ -
	3.36%	MN TRUST CD	12/7/2020	\$ 15,762.88	\$ -
	2.83% - 3.04%	MN TRUST CD	1/28/2021	\$ 27,785.51	\$ -
	1.98% - 2.28%	MN TRUST SEC/DTC			
	0.41%	MN TRUST	Dividend Reinvest / Bank Fee	\$ -	\$ -
		MN TRUST	Trade Interest-Security Sale / DTC	\$ -	\$ -
\$ 2,601,789.47		ASSOCIATED BANK	Dividend / BankFee / Interest		\$ 2,957.39
\$ -		MID AMERICA			\$ -
<u>\$ 4,638,545.24</u>	- TOTAL INVESTMENT VALUE				

TOTAL MONTHLY INTEREST \$ 2,957.39

YTD TOTAL INTEREST AS OF 5/31/2025 \$ 128,554.23

\$ 100,000.00 2024-2025 BUDGET

2023-2024 - FISCAL YEAR

\$ 4,336,667.63 - TOTAL INVESTMENT VALUE 5/31/2024	\$ 249,329.08 - TOTAL INTEREST EARNED LAST YEAR THRU THIS MONTH
	\$ 224,305.49 - TOTAL INTEREST EARNED FOR FISCAL YR 2023-2024

INVESTMENTS
2024-2025 - FISCAL YEAR

DATE: **MAY 2025**

<u>INVESTMENT</u>	<u>INTEREST RATE</u>	<u>BANK</u>	<u>MATURITY DATE</u>	<u>INTEREST TO BE EARNED</u>	<u>MONTHLY INTEREST</u>
\$ 8,167,962.84	0.40%	MSDLAF MAX		DAILY	\$ 24,041.18
\$ 722,142.01	1.69%	MN TRUST CD			\$ 7.74
\$ 8,093.93	1.69%	Ehler's Investr SEC/DTC			\$ -
\$ -	0.41%	MN TRUST			\$ -
\$ 1,724,187.89		TD AMERITRADE			\$ (253.75)
<hr/>					
\$ 10,622,386.67	- TOTAL INVESTMENT VALUE				\$ 23,795.17

TOTAL MONTHLY INTEREST \$ 23,795.17

YTD TOTAL INTEREST AS OF 5/31/2025 **\$ 125,603.02**
=====

\$ 75,000.00 2024-2025 BUDGET

2023-2024 - FISCAL YEAR

\$ 11,046,658.42 - TOTAL INVESTMENT VALUE 5/31/2024	\$	179,248.07	- TOTAL INTEREST EARNED LAST YEAR THRU THIS MONTH
	\$	230,846.07	- TOTAL INTEREST EARNED FOR FISCAL YR 2023-2024

- Accounts Dashboard
- Activity History
- Statements & Documents
- Organizational Settings
- CONTACT US
 - Secure Contact
 - FAQ

Transfer Submitted

Transfer Amount

 Print Confirmation

\$500,000.00

Confirmation #

4241308

Transaction Type

Transfer Between Products

Transfer From

600041 - General Fund
MSDLAF+ MAX Class

Transfer To

MSDLAF+ Liquid Class

Date Scheduled

Jul 16, 2025

[Make Another Transaction](#)

[Done](#)



CLOQUET PUBLIC SCHOOLS, ISD# 94

Transfer Submitted

Transfer Amount

[Print Confirmation](#)

\$1,000,000.00

Confirmation #

4240703

Transaction Type

Transfer Between Products

Transfer From

600041 - General Fund
MSDLAF+ MAX Class

Transfer To

MSDLAF+ Liquid Class

Date Scheduled

Jul 16, 2025

[Make Another Transaction](#)

[Done](#)

- Accounts Dashboard
- Activity History
- Statements & Documents
- Organizational Settings
- CONTACT US
- Secure Contact
- FAQ

Transfer Submitted

Transfer Amount

[Print Confirmation](#)

\$1,300,000.00

Confirmation #

4252353

Transaction Type

Transfer Between
Products

Transfer From

600041 - General Fund
MSDLAF+ MAX Class

Transfer To

MSDLAF+ Liquid Class

Date Scheduled


Aug 01, 2025

[Make Another Transaction](#)

[Done](#)



Minnesota School District
Liquid Asset Fund Plus

 Accounts Dashboard

 Activity History

 Statements & Documents

 Organizational Settings

CONTACT US

 Secure Contact

 FAQ

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Michael Cary, Superintendent

FROM: Erin Bates, Community Education Director
Abbie Burley, Kids Corner Coordinator
Darla Pappas, Li'l Lumberjacks Coordinator

DATE: August 15, 2025

RE: Resignation of Nora Thaler from their position as Program Assistant from Kids Corner and Assistant Teacher from Li'l Lumberjacks/Li'l Thunder effective August 15th, 2025

RATE OF PAY: \$17.04 Kids Corner & \$12.78 Li'l Lumberjacks/Li'l Thunder

HOURS WORKED: up to 40hrs/wk

START DATE: 8/26/2024 Kids Corner & 6/24/2025 Li'l Lumberjacks/Lil Thunder

END DATE: 08/15/25

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Michael Cary, Superintendent

FROM: Erin Bates, Community Education Director
Darla Pappas, Li'l Lumberjacks Coordinator

DATE: Aug 5, 2025

RE: Resignation of Cheyenne Curtiss at Li'l Lumberjacks' Learning Center effective August 11, 2025

RATE OF PAY: \$17.95

HOURS WORKED: Up to 40 hrs/wk

START DATE: 10/1/23

END DATE: 8/11/25



Independent School District No. 94
Cloquet, Minnesota 55720

Central Administration
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<http://www.isd94.org>

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Michael Cary, Superintendent

FROM: Dr. Marcia Nelson, Cloquet Area Alternative Education Programs Principal

DATE: July 15, 2025

RE: Recommendation for Employment

I am recommending the employment of Paul Maltrud as a 1.0 FTE Science Teacher at Cloquet Area Alternative Education Programs (CAAEP), to begin in the Fall of 2025.

RATE OF PAY:	MA Step 5
START DATE:	August 18, 2025
LENGTH OF CONTRACT:	ongoing
BUDGETED CURRENT YEAR:	Yes
POSTED:	Posted, internally and externally
RATIONALE FOR HIRE:	Mr. Maltrud is an experienced science teacher who retired from another district, and we are excited to have him join the CAAEP team.
STAR CODE:	130300

(Employment is contingent upon Cloquet School Board approval.)



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Michael Cary, Superintendent

FROM: Robbi Mondati, Washington Elementary Principal

DATE: June 24, 2025

RE: Recommendation for Employment

I am recommending the employment of Lindsie Biggerstaff for the .4 FTE Speech Language Pathologist position. She will be working 0.2 FTE at Washington Elementary, and Cloquet Schools will subcontract 0.2 FTE to Northern Lights Academy, to begin in the Fall of 2025.

RATE OF PAY:	MA Step 5
START DATE:	August 25, 2025
LENGTH OF CONTRACT:	ongoing
BUDGETED CURRENT YEAR:	Yes
POSTED:	Posted, internally and externally
RATIONALE FOR HIRE:	Mrs. Biggerstaff was a part-time SLP in Cloquet two years ago and did a fabulous job! We are thrilled to have her return!
STAR CODE:	940200

(Employment is contingent upon Cloquet School Board approval.)



Northern Lights Academy Cooperative #6096-52
302 14th Street ~ Cloquet MN 55820
Office Phone ~ 218-878-3060
Fax ~ 218-878-3061

Barb Mackey, Asst. Special Education Director
bmackey@nlacoop.org

TO: Dr. Michael Cary, Cloquet Superintendent
FROM: Barb Mackey, Northern Lights Academy Assistant Special Education Director
DATE: July 31, 2025
RE: Recommendation for Employment

I am recommending the employment of Ms. Kristen Rademacher to fill the 1.0 FTE Float Teacher position at Northern Lights Academy Cooperative #6096-52 for the 2025-2026 school year.

RATE OF PAY: BA Step 1 - Per the Teachers' Master Agreement
TOTAL COST: \$48,001 (based on the 25-27 Teachers' Master Agreement)
HOURS TO BE WORKED: 1.0 FTE (Monday-Friday)
START DATE: August 18, 2025
LENGTH OF CONTRACT: 2025-2026
BUDGETED CURRENT YEAR: Yes
POSTED: Yes, internally and externally.

RATIONALE FOR HIRE: NLA is recommending Ms. Kristen Rademacher for the open Float Substitute Teacher position. Ms. Rademacher has excellent references and has a wide range of experience. We are excited to have her join the NLA team for next school year. There were three other applicants for this position and the hiring team felt that Ms. Rademacher is the best candidate for this position. She also has a special education license and 2 of the others did not.

(Employment is contingent upon Cloquet School Board approval.)



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Michael Cary, Superintendent
FROM: Washington Elementary Principal Robbi Mondati
DATE: 8/11/2025
RE: Recommendation for Employment

I am recommending the employment of Samantha Rupar for the 1.0 FTE 4th Grade Teacher position at Washington Elementary School. The position will start in the fall of 2025.

RATE OF PAY:	BA/step 5
HOURS TO BE WORKED:	1.0 FTE
START DATE:	August 18, 2025
LENGTH OF CONTRACT:	Ongoing
BUDGETED CURRENT YEAR:	yes
POSTED:	Posted internally and externally
RATIONALE FOR HIRE:	Samantha Rupar has been subbing in the district for a few years, and has also long-term subbed at Washington multiple times. Prior to moving to the area, she was an elementary teacher in Deer River for three years. She is highly qualified and fits in well with our culture. We are excited to have her on board.
STAR CODE:	180100

(Employment is contingent upon Cloquet School Board approval.)



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Michael Cary, Superintendent
FROM: Thomas Brenner, CMS Principal
DATE: August 5, 2025
RE: Recommendation for Employment for

I am recommending the employment of Roy Rutherford for the 1.0 FTE Long Term Substitute Science Teacher position due to a staff member taking a FMLA. The position will start on approximately August 25, 2025, for approximately 12 weeks. The teacher will be paid at the daily substitute rate for the first thirty (30) days. After working 30 days in the same position for the same teacher, the teacher will start being paid the contracted rate and will receive back pay to first day of the assignment.

RATE OF PAY: First 30 days at daily substitute rate
From 31st day on (with backpay) – MA Step 1

HOURS TO BE WORKED: 8 hours/day (Monday – Friday)

START DATE: Approximately August 25, 2025

LENGTH OF CONTRACT: Through FMLA of staff member, approximately 12 weeks

BUDGETED CURRENT YEAR: yes

POSTED: Posted internally and externally

RATIONALE FOR HIRE: CMS recommends Roy Rutherford for the LTS position for the Science teaching position for the 2025-2026 school year. Roy's employment is contingent on him getting the appropriate licensure.

STAR CODE: 130210, 130412 & 990300

(Employment is contingent upon Cloquet School Board approval.)



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Michael Cary, Superintendent
FROM: Dr. Marcia Nelson, CAAEP Principal
DATE: August 6, 2025
RE: Recommendation for Employment for Dave Perry

I am recommending the employment of Dave Perry for the 1.0 FTE Long Term Substitute Special Education Teacher position due to a staff member taking a FMLA. The position will start on approximately August 25, 2025, for approximately 9 weeks. The teacher will be paid at the daily substitute rate for the first thirty (30) days. After working 30 days in the same position for the same teacher, the teacher will start being paid the contracted rate and will receive back pay to first day of the assignment. Position is pending appropriate licensure.

RATE OF PAY:	First 30 days at daily substitute rate From 31 st day on (with backpay) – BA+40/MA Step 1
HOURS TO BE WORKED:	8 hours/day (Monday – Friday)
START DATE:	August 25, 2025
LENGTH OF CONTRACT:	FMLA of staff member, approximately 9 weeks
BUDGETED CURRENT YEAR:	yes
POSTED:	Posted internally and externally
RATIONALE FOR HIRE:	CAAEP recommends Dave Perry for the LTS position for the Special Education teaching position for the 2025-2026 school year. We are excited to have Dave return this fall!
STAR CODE:	190200, 190201

(Employment is contingent upon Cloquet School Board approval.)



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Cloquet School Board
FROM: Dr. Michael Cary, Superintendent
DATE: 8/11/2025
RE: Recommendation for Employment

I am recommending the employment of Steve Martin for the temporary lead district custodian position at Cloquet Schools.

RATE OF PAY:	\$4.30/hr. above current rate
START DATE:	August 12, 2025
LENGTH OF CONTRACT:	To Be Determined
BUDGETED CURRENT YEAR:	yes
POSTED:	Posted internally
RATIONALE FOR HIRE:	Steve was the most qualified candidate to apply.

(Employment is contingent upon Cloquet School Board approval.)



Northern Lights Academy Cooperative #6096-52
302 14th Street ~ Cloquet MN 55820
Office Phone ~ 218-878-3060
Fax ~ 218-878-3061

Barb Mackey, Asst. Special Education Director
bmackey@nlacoop.org

TO: Dr. Michael Cary, Cloquet Superintendent
FROM: Barb Mackey, Northern Lights Academy Assistant Special Education Director
DATE: July 30, 2025
RE: Recommendation for Employment

I am recommending the employment of Ms. Emily Holmes for one posted paraprofessional positions at Northern Lights Academy Cooperative #6096-52 at the Carlton location for the 2025-2026 school year.

RATE OF PAY: Step 1 of the Master Agreement
TOTAL COST: \$20.01 per hour
HOURS TO BE WORKED: 6.75 hours/day (Monday-Friday)
START DATE: August 25th, 2025
LENGTH OF CONTRACT: On going
BUDGETED CURRENT YEAR: Yes
POSTED: Yes, internally and externally.
RATIONALE FOR HIRE:

NLA is recommending Ms. Emily Holmes to fill one of the open paraprofessional positions at the Northern Lights Academy at the Carlton building. Ms. Holmes has great references, experience and she was highly recommended by Kids Corner for her work this past year. We are excited to have her work with our students!

Ms. Holmes has an AA degree and is considered Highly Qualified.

(Employment is contingent upon Cloquet School Board approval.)



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Michael Cary, Superintendent
FROM: Beth Dohnansky, Food Service Director
DATE: August 7, 2025
RE: Recommendation for Employment

I am recommending the employment of Brittney Autio for the 5.0 hour day Food Service Baker/Cook Helper.

RATE OF PAY: \$19.24 per hour Cook Helper/ \$21.70 per hour Baker
HOURS TO BE WORKED: Split 2.5 hours cook Helper/ 2.5 hours Baker per day (Monday –Friday)
START DATE: August 26, 2025
LENGTH OF CONTRACT: Ongoing
BUDGETED CURRENT YEAR: Yes
POSTED: Posted, internally and externally
RATIONALE FOR HIRE: Brittney has been working for food service and is familiar with the job.

(Employment is contingent upon Cloquet School Board approval.)

BD: mm

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Community Education	2001 Washington Ave	218.879.1261

MEMORANDUM

TO: Michael Cary, Superintendent

FROM: Steve Battaglia, Principal Cloquet High School

DATE: July 28, 2025

RE: **6th Period Stipends for the 2025-2026 School Year**

I am requesting approval for the following 6th period stipends at Cloquet High School for the 2025-2026 school year:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| - Steve Polkowski – Full Year | \$5,435.00** |
| District | |
| - Julian Kitto – Full Year of Ojibwe | \$5,435.00** |

****** Amount based on 2025-2027 Teachers’ Master Agreement

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Cloquet School Board

FROM: Dr. Michael Cary, Superintendent

DATE: July 15, 2025

RE: Recommendation for Extra Service Contract

I'm recommending that Bekki Morrison continue doing the Comprehensive Achievement and Civic Readiness (CACR) work on a 6th period assignment (\$5,435) with an additional 12 days paid at her daily rate (\$477.39) \$5,728.68 for a total of \$11,163.68.

(Employment is contingent upon Cloquet School Board approval.)



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Michael Cary, Superintendent

FROM: Steve Battaglia, Principal Cloquet High School

DATE: August 1, 2025

RE: **RECOMMENDATION FOR CHS 2025-2026 EXTRA SERVICES CONTRACTS**

I am recommending extra services contracts for Cloquet High School be issued for the following positions for the 2025-2026 school year.

Name	Activity	Amount (\$)
Bekki Morrison	Technology Integration/Instructional Computer Coordinator	\$3051.00
Nicole Sandman	Student Council Advisor	\$2,451.00
Kevin Brenner	Math Team Advisor	\$1,692.00
Bret Baker	Knowledge Bowl Advisor	\$2,451.00
Julian Kitto	Ojibwe Quiz Bowl Advisor	\$1,692.00
Sara Prosen	Link Crew Advisor	\$2,451.00
Kevin Huseeth	Pep Band Advisor	\$4,932.00
Rhonda Card	Vocal Group Advisor	\$2,115.00
Corinne Gornick-Heehn	Mock Trial Advisor	\$2,451.00
Cynthia Welsh	Science Fair Advisor	\$4,395.00
William Bauer	Science Fair Assistant Advisor	\$3,078.00
Chandra Allen	NHS Advisor	\$2,451.00
John Justad	Auditorium Manager	\$7,045.00
Chandra Allen	Junior Class Advisor	\$2,461.00
Brenda Gigliotti	Senior Class Advisor	\$2,813.00
Dave Esse	Senior Class Advisor	\$2,813.00
Steve Polkowski	Ripsaw Editor	\$3,523.00

Employment is contingent upon Cloquet School Board approval.)

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To: Dr. Michael Cary
 From: Marcia Nelson, CAAEP Principal
 Date: August 6, 2025
 Reason: Extra Service Contracts for CAAEP for the 2025-2026 School Year

Name	Activity	Amount (\$)
Sue Thomason	Tech Integration/ Instructional Computer Coordinator	\$1,801.00
Madilyn Lamia	Student Council Co-Advisor	\$1,225.50
Erin Tomsche	Student Council Co-Advisor	\$1,225.50
Sue Thomason	Yearbook Advisor	\$2,115.00
Rod Syck	Secondary 6 th Period Stipend (Full year)	\$5,435.00
Jeanna Aldridge	Secondary 6 th Period Stipend (Full year)	\$5,435.00
Rod Syck	Extended Day Services – Not to exceed 160 hrs.	\$38.04/hr.
Nathan Bursch	Extended Day Services – Not to exceed 100 hrs.	\$38.04/hr.
Sue Thomason	Extended Day Services Coordinator – 70 hrs.	Current rate
Elizabeth Tobolaski	Extended Day Services-Paraprofessional --Not to exceed 90 hrs.	Current rate

MN:aj



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To: Dr. Michael Cary
 From: Robbi Mondati, Washington Elementary School Principal
 Date: August 11, 2025
 Reason: Extra Service Contracts for Washington for the 2024-2025 School Year

Name	Activity	Amount (\$)
Tyler Olin	Instructional Computer Coordinator	\$3,051.00
Cassi Abrahamson	Yearbook Advisor	\$848.00
Hailee Meisner	School Patrol Co-Advisor	\$1,057.50
Kandi Chalberg	School Patrol Co-Advisor	\$1,057.50

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To: Dr. Michael Cary

From: Tom Brenner
Cloquet Middle School

Date: August 5, 2025

Reason: Request for 10-Day Extra Service Contract for Nicole Vegar

Dear School Board Members,

I am requesting your approval for a 10-day extension of Nicole Vegar's service contract as our MnMTSS School Coordinator to complete essential grant-related duties before the start of the school year.

Nicole's responsibilities during this time will include planning and coordinating MnMTSS implementation strategies, aligning grant objectives with building-level systems, and preparing necessary documentation for both the MnMTSS and Stronger Connections Grants. These tasks are critical to ensuring we meet grant requirements and are fully prepared to launch the year with a strong and strategic foundation.

The MnMTSS Grant and the Stronger Connections Grant will provide the funding for this extended contract. No general fund dollars will be used. The ten days requested will be paid at her regular rate of pay, and the days will be completed by August 28, 2025.

TB:KP

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Northern Lights Academy Cooperative #6096-52
302 14th Street ~ Cloquet MN 55820
Office Phone ~ 218-878-3060
Fax ~ 218-878-3061

Barb Mackey, Asst. Special Education Director
bmackey@nlacoop.org

To: Dr. Michael Cary, Superintendent for the Cloquet Public Schools

From: Barb Mackey, Assistant Special Education Director for the Northern Lights Academy

Date: August 8, 2025

Re: Permission to Post for a Student Support Personnel - School Psychologist position

The Northern Lights Academy is requesting permission to post for a 1.0 FTE Student Support Personnel - School Psychologist Position. This position is funded by the Student Support Personnel aid that is granted to districts for cooperatives. The person hired in this position would support all districts.

This position is accounted for in the FY 25 NLA planning budget and has been approved by the NLA board at our meeting.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

**REQUEST FOR QUOTES TO PROVIDE
SNOW REMOVAL SERVICES**

**Professional Contracted Snow Removal Services
August 12, 2025**

Cloquet Public Schools
Attention: Candace Nelis, Business Manager

Garfield Building
302 – 14th St.
Cloquet, MN 55720

SNOW PLOWING SERVICES

for the period of July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026
with the option to extend two (2) additional one-year periods by
mutual agreement Independent School District No. 94

1) INFORMATION TO BIDDERS: Sealed bids for Snow Plowing Services for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 will be received at Independent School District No. 94, hereafter called ISD 94, Garfield Administration Building, 302 – 14th St., Cloquet, MN 55720, up to and until August 21st, 2025 at which time they will be publicly opened. Each bid must be addressed to Candace Nelis, Business Manager at ISD 94, at the address aforesaid, and must be in a sealed envelope, clearly marked in the lower left hand corner **“SNOW PLOWING SERVICES”**

2) EXAMINATION OF CONTRACT DOCUMENTS: The bidding documents may be examined and obtained at the office of Central Administration in the Garfield Administration building. The bidders must familiarize themselves with these bidding documents and comply with same. If any inconsistency is discovered in the bidding documents by any bidder, it shall be their duty to advise ISD 94 with respect to the same.

Contractors should visit the sites of the proposed work to investigate the conditions that will be encountered in carrying out the work. Failure to do this will not relieve the contractor from the satisfactory performance of the job. All work shall be completed with good quality workmanship acceptable in the trade.

3) CONTRACT: The successful bidder shall promptly enter into a contract with ISD 94 for the performance of said bid to the satisfaction of ISD 94. No bidder may withdraw their bid for at least forty-five days (45) from the scheduled closing time for receipt of bids.

4) BID RESPONSE FORM: As part of these specifications, there is submitted a Bid Response Form which each bidder must adopt and use. No bid will be considered unless submitted upon said Bid Response Form.

ISD 94 reserves the right to add or delete sites as required throughout the contract. Prices will be adjusted accordingly. ISD 94 reserves the right to award by individual locations or by a "lump sum" award.

5) THE RIGHT TO ACCEPT OR REJECT BIDS: ISD 94 reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids, and the further right to accept or reject any bid item, choose contractors for particular sites and to waive informalities. ISD 94 further reserves the right to limit the number of sites to any single contractor based upon staffing and equipment availability and capabilities. ISD 94 may also ascertain the qualifications of any contractor by requesting information as to the equipment, staffing, insurance and previous experience in work of this type.

6) INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS: The contractor shall carry valid insurance. At all times, contractor shall maintain and pay for the following insurances and name ISD 94 as an additional insured and shall furnish a certificate of insurance carrier acceptable to ISD 94 and with an A.M. Best rating of “A” or better with in ten (10) days of the execution of this agreement.

Commercial general liability, personal injury, “broad form” property damage, contractual liability, extended liability, and completed operations/products insurance in the amounts not less than one million (\$1,000,000) dollars per occurrence. This insurance should cover any and all accident, causalities and occurrences in, on or about, the School Premises which directly or indirectly results from the presence, acts or omissions of contractor, it’s employees, agents or independent contractors, or from the presence of their equipment in, on or around, School Premises. This insurance shall be provided in the form of an “occurrence” policy.

Workers’ compensation or employer’s liability insurance in amounts accordance with applicable law. Such insurance shall cover contractors as well as its agents and employees

Contractor shall also carry comprehensive automobile liability coverage (including contractual liability) in an amount not less than two hundred fifty thousand (\$250,000) dollars per person and five hundred thousand (\$500,000) dollars per accident resulting in bodily injury, and one hundred thousand (\$100,000) dollars property damage.

The insurance certificate furnished to ISD 94 shall provide that no insurance required by the paragraph shall be canceled, terminated, or modified without at least thirty (30) days prior written notice to ISD 94, 302 – 14th St., Cloquet, MN 55720.

7) LICENSE REQUIREMENTS: All equipment utilized by the contractor must be operated by properly licensed drivers as required by State laws. The contractor and equipment shall be properly licensed and registered as required. Contractor is required to submit a current Certificate of Status from the Minnesota Secretary of State's Office or other similar proof that the bidder is licensed to do business in the State of Minnesota and is currently in good standing. All bidders must be current on the payment of all applicable taxes, including Social Security taxes, unemployment taxes, payroll taxes, deductions required by law or Medicare, or other federal or state employment taxes. If requested the contractor shall provide a statement regarding the bidder's compliance with this requirement. In addition to the right to reject the bid for failure to comply with this requirement, the District reserves the right to terminate a subsequent contract with the bidder for the bidder's non-payment of any applicable taxes.

8) VENDOR RESTRICTIONS: No purchase shall be made from an employee of ISD 94, nor from a member of the immediate household of an employee. No purchase shall be made from a member of the School Board, nor from a member of his/her immediate household, nor from any enterprise in which he/she holds a substantial interest, except for public utilities.

9) NONDISCRIMINATION: The contractor agrees to comply with any applicable federal and state laws, rules, regulations, and orders prohibiting discrimination in employment, facilities, and service. Contractor shall not discriminate in employment or in any aspect of the performance of the contract on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, public assistance status, creed, or national origin.

10) AWARD OF CONTRACT: The bid will be awarded to the responsible contractor submitting the low Total Annual Amount of Bid on the attached Bid Comparison Tool Form or may be awarded by site to the bidder submitting the low amount per site. A successful bidder must also fulfill contract and specification requirements. ISD 94 reserves the right to limit the number of sites awarded to any one contractor. Award of contract will be based upon equipment and staffing capabilities as well as cost. The projected number of snowfalls in each snowfall rate is: 1"-3", (8) times per season, 3.01"-6" (8) times per season, 6.01"-9" (2) times a season, 9.01"-12" (1) times a season, above 12.01" (1) time per season. Any intention by awarded contractor to subcontract these services must be disclosed.

11) SCOPE OF WORK: The contractor shall provide all labor, material, equipment, and services necessary for the clearing of snow and sanding and/or salting of parking lots, roadways, and sidewalks at district wide sites listed on Bid Response Form. Services include but are not limited to the following:

One inch (1") or more of snow shall be plowed at each district site as indicated in the Bid Response Form. **No snowfall under one inch (1") will be plowed without explicit instructions from ISD 94 designated representative.**

Accumulated snowfalls that are in excess of one inch (1") will be plowed and will be paid at the applicable rate one time.

Snowfalls that equal less than one (1"), and accumulate to greater than one (1") over

several days and are removed/plowed as stated above will only be paid at the applicable rate one time.

Contractor shall apply sand and/or salt after each time a site is plowed. The cost of this application shall be included in the Bid Response Form for each site. Contractor shall also apply sand and/or salt upon request of ISD 94 at any time. Call outs for sand and/or salt applications when plowing service is not needed shall be billed to the District separate from this agreement.

Snow cannot be piled next to buildings, on walks, or public roadways. Doorways and garages must be kept free of snow piles. All areas indicated, including designated sidewalks must be completed on time as specified to allow payment. Work shall be scheduled for all sites to be completed by 7:00 a.m. The contractor must have available resources to complete the awarded sites within an approximate timeframe of three (3) hours (4:00 AM to 7:00 AM). This will prevent immediate rework in the case of continuing snowfall.

The following website <https://w2.weather.gov/climate/> will be utilized to determine amount of daily snowfall and to determine payment. The contractor shall review this web site to familiarize and prepare to utilize information provided.

The contractor is responsible to monitor weather conditions personally, and not rely on media predictions regarding forecasted snowfall. **If the contractor fails to perform awarded work on required days by 7:00 AM, ISD 94 reserves the right to invoice the contractor for snow removal work incurred by other resources, either in house or contracted.**

Weekends and Holidays: ISD 94 will inform the contractor of sites in which snow removal is required for Saturday or weekend activities. This schedule will be given once the work is awarded. Snowfalls that occur after 9:00 PM on Friday USUALLY will not need immediate snow removal until the 7:00 AM completion deadline Monday morning. Middle and high schools do often have weekend activities, which plowing will be required on weekends as directed by ISD 94. The contractor will be given this information in advance.

The contractor must provide ISD 94 a phone number that is answered 24 hours a day.

All areas to be widened as much as possible so return trips to widen will not be necessary.

As stated above, it is the contractor's responsibility to be aware of snowfall amounts and perform snow plowing as required by weather conditions and as specified in the general conditions.

The contractor shall perform all work in the early morning hours between 4:00 AM with completion prior to 7:00 AM unless otherwise directed by ISD 94.

Contractor shall inform ISD 94 when in their judgment snow should be removed from site. ISD 94 will determine if snow removal shall be done, and this removal will be provided by the contractor and billed separately from this agreement.

ISD 94 may add or delete sites and/or add or remove areas to be plowed, cost shall be negotiated between contractor and ISD 94.

12) EQUIPMENT: The successful contractor(s) shall have sufficient heavy equipment available to complete snow plowing within the specified time frame. Contractor shall list equipment on Bid Response Form.

All equipment furnished under this agreement must be in good operating condition. No pay will be allowed for inability to operate because of mechanical failure.

13) CONTRACT PERIOD: The contract shall be for a period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026.

The contract will be renewable for two (2) additional one-year periods by mutual agreement, subject to the agreement of both parties. The Consumer Price Index, Midwest Urban will be used as the basis for increases in the renewal years with increases calculated from the previous year data.

16) INVOICING & PAYMENT: Invoices received by the district that accurately reflect services rendered will be paid within thirty (30) days from the receipt of an invoice.

Contractor shall submit invoices the beginning of each month for work completed the previous month. Invoices should reflect only work performed.

Contractor shall follow reporting requirements as listed in Section 17.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

17) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS: After completion of each site, the vendor is required to email Candace Nelis within 24 hours indicating the time of completion and site locations. Candace's email: cnelis@isd94.org
This call is required to facilitate site inspection by ISD 94, and to document the basis for contractor's invoices. If any items indicated in the "Scope of Work" have not been completed, a call will be made to the contractor.

Once the call is made by ISD 94, the contractor will have four (4) hours to complete the work as required. If the deficiencies are not completed, payment for that site will be adjusted as determined by the School District.

18) DAMAGES: Contractor shall take precautions to prevent any damage to fencing, concrete curb, light poles, signs, trees, etc.

Contractor shall be responsible to identify any damage to above noted items and notify the District prior to snowfall. Any damage discovered during the season or once snow melts will be repaired at the snow removal contractor's expense.

19) TERMINATION: The agreement between the parties may be terminated by either party any time by providing a thirty (30) day written notice. However, ISD 94 may cancel at any time during the contract period for unsatisfactory performance by the contractor.

20) SITE INSPECTION: The contractor shall meet with the representative of ISD 94 prior to beginning work to review the individual sites, establish the condition of the grounds and locate any obstacles.

21) HAZARDOUS MATERIALS: If the contractor should spill any hazardous material on ISD 94 property, ISD 94 Central Administration office shall be notified immediately of the spill. ISD 94 will facilitate the clean-up of any materials, and the contractor will be invoiced for all time, materials, and labor required to conform to EPA guidelines.

22) ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: For additional information, contact Candace Nelis, Business Manager, direct office line: 218-879-6721 ext. 6213 and cell: 218-355-8214

Snow Plowing Services
CONTRACTOR CALL OUT PROCEDURES
Independent School District No. 94

Please adhere to the following procedure when determining whether or not snow plowing services are required.

- 1) Contractor is required to keep in contact with the National Weather Service and when it reports an accumulation of one inch (1") of snow during a snowfall, snow plowing services will be provided prior to the start of the next school day. (see General Conditions)
- 2) When poor weather (snow) conditions exist and the National Weather Service is not recording one inch (1") or more of snow accumulation, it shall be the responsibility of the contractor to call Candace Nelis and they will advise if ISD 94 is requiring snow plowing services.
- 3) When poor weather (snow) conditions exist and either one inch (1") of snowfall has not been recorded by the National Weather Service or Candace Nelis is not requesting plowing services, and the contractor believes snow plowing services would be advisable, it shall be the responsibility of the contractor to contact Candace Nelis for further instruction.

PHONE NUMBERS

Candace Nelis **218-355-8214**
Business Manager

Dr. Michael Cary **218-310-1547**
Superintendent

BID RESPONSE FORM SNOW PLOWING SERVICES

for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026

Independent School District No. 94

Cloquet, Minnesota 55720

Date: _____

The undersigned, having personally and carefully examined the bidding documents for Snow Plowing Services for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026, for ISD 94, Cloquet, Minnesota, filed in the office of the Business Manager for the School District, hereby proposes to provide all labor, material, equipment, and services necessary to complete the work, all in strict accordance with said bidding documents.

	1" - 3"	3.01" - 6"	6.01" - 9"	9.01" - 12"	Above 12"
1 Cloquet HS , 1000 18 th St.	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
2 Cloquet MS , 2001 Washington Ave.	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
3 Churchill EI , 515 Granite St.	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
4 Washington EI , 801 12 th St.	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
5 Garfield Admin , 302 14 th St.	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____

Bid Comparison Tool SNOW PLOWING SERVICES

1" - 3" total x (8) snowfalls = \$ _____ per annual snowfall rate

3.01" - 6" total x (8) snowfalls = \$ _____ per annual snowfall rate

6.01" - 9" total x (2) snowfalls = \$ _____ per annual snowfall rate

9.01" - 12" total x (1) snowfalls = \$ _____ per annual snowfall rate

above 12" total x (1) snowfalls = \$ _____ per annual snowfall rate

(total of five line amounts) \$ _____ **Total Annual Amount of Bid**

Total Annual Amount of Bid is based on an estimated number of snowfalls, ISD 94 does not guarantee the minimum or maximum number of snowfalls.

Bidder: _____

List all equipment to be used in performing snow plowing services:

This equipment will be subject to inspection prior to accepting bid

Equipment (type)	Make	Model/Size	Year
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

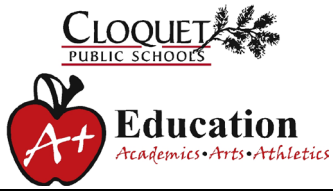
List a minimum of four (4) previous projects:

Project/Location	Years	Contact/Phone
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Addendum Received: No. 1 _____ No. 2 _____ No. 3 _____

Authorized Representative Signature _____
Print Name _____
Title _____
Telephone Number _____
Primary Contact _____
Emergency Contact and Phone Number _____

Company Name _____
Company Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Fax Number _____
Primary Contact Phone Number _____
Correspondence Email Address _____



Cloquet Public Schools

2025-2026 School Year Calendar

Where caring for students is not just an idea, it's tradition!

COLOR INFORMATION KEY	
Professional Days/No School for Students	
No School for Students and Staff	
(K-4) Conferences	
(5-6) Conferences	
(7-12) & CAAEP Conferences	
Kindergarten Round-Up-(3/10 @ Churchill)	
Kindergarten Round-Up-(3/12 @ Washington)	

School Board Approved: August 11, 2025 (revised)

District Office : (218) 879-6721 / Fax (218) 879-6724; Cloquet Transit : 218-879-1291

Quarter 1: 9/3 - 10/31	40 days	Trimester 1: 9/3 - 11/26	57 days
Quarter 2: 11/4 - 1/16	43 days	Trimester 2: 12/1 - 2/26	52 days
Semester 1: 9/3 - 1/16	83 days	Trimester 3: 3/2 - 5/29	58 days
Quarter 3: 1/20 - 3/20	41 days	(167 Student Days)	
Quarter 4: 3/30 - 5/29	43 days	(14.5 K-12 Professional Days)	
Semester 2: 1/20 - 5/29	84 days	Snow Makeup Days: 6/1/26 & 6/2/26	

Please Note: Beginning Wednesday, September 10, (K-12) classes will be dismissed 30 minutes early on each Wednesday of the month for the remainder of the 2025-2026 School Year.

July 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

August 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

September 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

October 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

November 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

December 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

January 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

February 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

March 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

April 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

May 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

June 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

8/18 - First Year Teachers Professional Day
8/19 - First Year/Non-Tenured Teachers Professional Day
8/25 - (K-12) Professional & Paraprofessional Day
8/26 - (K-12) All Staff Back to School Gathering
8/27 - (K-12) Uninterrupted Professional Day
8/28 - (K-12) Open Houses/Conferences
8/29 & 9/1 - No School for Students & Staff
9/2 - (K-12) Professional Day
9/3 - (1-12) FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL
9/3 - Kindergarten Preschool Conferences
9/4 - KINDERGARTEN - FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL
10/6 & 10/8 - (5-6) Conferences
10/8 - (7-12) & CAAEP Conferences
10/13 - Indigenous Peoples' Day (No school K-12)
10/16 & 10/17 - ED MN Break (No school K-12)
11/3 - (K-4) Conferences/ Professional Day (No school K-12)
11/5 (K-4) Conferences
11/27 & 11/28 - Thanksgiving Break (No school K-12)
12/3 - (7-12) & CAAEP Conferences
12/5 - (K-12) Professional Day
12/24- 1/2- (K-12) Winter Break, No school K-12
1/19 - (K-12) Professional Day (No school K-12)
1/26 - (K-12) Professional Day (No school K-12)
2/16 - Presidents' Day (No school K-12)
2/17 & 2/18 - (5-6) Conferences
2/18 - (7-12) & CAAEP Conferences
2/24 & 2/26 - (K-4) Conferences
2/27 (K-4) Conferences/Professional Day (No school K-12)
3/10 Churchill & 3/12 Washington - Kindergarten Roundup
3/23 - 3/27 - Spring Break (No school K-12)
4/3 - No School for Students & Staff
4/29 - (7-12) & CAAEP Conferences
5/21 - CAAEP Graduation, 2 pm
5/22 - CHS Graduation, 6 pm
5/25 - Memorial Day (No school K-12)
5/29 - (K-12) LAST DAY OF SCHOOL - 2 Hours Early Out
6/1 - 6/3 (K-12) Professional Days (6/3 - 0.5 Prof. Day)

2025-2026 School Year - Parent Information Guide - as of August 11, 2025

Also visit our website for more information about our schools: <http://www.isd94.org>

DISTRICT INFORMATION

DISTRICT OFFICE	218-879-6721
Dr. Michael Cary, Superintendent	218-879-6724 (Fax)
302 - 14th Street, Cloquet, MN 55720	7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
mcary@isd94.org	
CHURCHILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	218-879-3308
Jennifer Holm, Principal	218-879-7034 (Fax)
515 Granite Street, Cloquet	7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
jholm@isd94.org	
WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	218-879-3369
Robbi Mondati, Principal	218-879-3360 (Fax)
801 - 12th Street, Cloquet	7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
rmondati@isd94.org	
CLOQUET MIDDLE SCHOOL	218-879-3328
Tom Brenner, Principal	218-879-4175 (Fax)
2001 Washington Avenue, Cloquet	7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
tbrenner@isd94.org	
Tom Lenarz, Assistant Principal	
tlenarz@isd94.org	
CLOQUET SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL	218-879-3393
Steve Battaglia, Principal	218-879-6494 (Fax)
1000 - 18th Street, Cloquet	7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
sbattaglia@isd94.org	
Tim Prosen, Assistant Principal	
tprosen@isd94.org	
CLOQUET AREA ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMS (CAAEP)	218-879-0115
Dr. Marcia Nelson, Principal	218-879-6941 (Fax)
302 - 14th Street, Cloquet	8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
mnelson2@isd94.org	
COMMUNITY EDUCATION	218-879-1261
Erin Bates, Director	218-878-3013 (Fax)
2001 Washington Avenue, Cloquet	8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
ebates@isd94.org	

ADDITIONAL NUMBERS

Activities/Athletics	879-3393, ext. 1203
Before and After School Hours	Building Principal
Facility Request, After School Hours	879-1261
Buildings & Grounds	879-6721
Cloquet Educational Foundation	879-3806
Cloquet Transit	879-1291
Community/School Resources	879-3806
District Nurse - During School Hours	269-7362
ECFE and School Readiness	879-9291
Early Childhood Screening	879-9291
Food Service Program	879-5164
Gifted and Talented Programming	879-3328
Homeless Liaison	879-6721
American Indian Education Office	879-6721, ext. 6206
SR / Early 5's Childcare - Churchill	879-3309
Kids Corner School-Age Childcare	879-0929
Li'l Lumberjacks Learning Center	878-0774
Li'l Thunder Learning Center	879-0830
Northern Lights Special Education Cooperative	655-5018
Open Enrollment	879-6721, ext. 6205
Parent Portal Information	879-6721
Sports:	
High School	879-3393, Ext. 1203
Middle School	879-3328, Ext. 2003
Technology Information	879-6721, ext. 6217
Volunteering Opportunities	879-3806

Cloquet Area Youth Sports Association information can be found on our website at www.isd94.org under the "Activities" tab.

Cloquet School Board Members

Nate Sandman, School Board Chair	218-591-1734
Melissa Juntunen, School Board Clerk	218-348-8685
Dave Battaglia, School Board Treasurer	218-879-5146
Gary Huard	218-879-7809
LeAnn Butler	218-576-7201
Nichole Diver	218-213-6325

JUST KIDS DENTAL
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
2025/2026 AND 2026/2027 SCHOOL YEAR DENTAL SERVICES

This agreement is entered into as of the **1st day of July 2025** between the **Cloquet Public Schools ISD #94** (“the Organization”) and **Just Kids Dental Inc.**, a Minnesota Non-Profit Corporation (“the Provider”).

1. **Relationship of the Parties.** Subject to the terms and condition of this Agreement, the Organization hereby engages the Provider as an independent contractor to perform the services set forth herein, and the Provider hereby accepts such engagement. This Agreement shall not render the Provider an employee, partner, agent of, or joint venture with the Organization for any purpose.

2. **Statutory Authorization.** Minnesota Statute 150A.10 and Wisconsin Statute HFS 105.06(2), Wis. Admin. Code, provides that a dental hygienist may perform dental hygiene services for certain individuals without the patient first being examined by a licensed dentist if the dental hygienist meets certain criteria set forth in the statute.

3. **Term.** The term of this Agreement is two (2) years with an automatic renewal of one (1) year, unless earlier terminated. Either Party may terminate this Agreement at any time by giving written notice received by the other Party at least sixty (60) days prior to the proposed termination date in the notice. Said notice will be sent by certified mail to the address noted below.

4. **Compensation.** The Provider shall be responsible for all billing and collections.

5. **Written Consent.** The Provider shall obtain a signed consent to treatment form from parent/legal guardian prior to dental services being provided. The consent to treatment form shall include a statement that the dental hygiene services provided are not a substitute for a dental examination by a licensed dentist.

6. **Scheduling.** Organization may work cooperatively with Provider to schedule appointments and/or determine availability and classroom release of qualified individuals during school hours for Provider’s services.

Just Kids Dental provides two programs to students: school-based dental sealant program to low-income uninsured children and children enrolled in State Medicaid, and school-wide oral health education program to all enrolled students in grades 4K-3.

7. **Space.** Organization will make available to Provider adequate office space, to carry out dental hygiene services.

8. **Dental Record.** The Provider shall create and maintain a dental record for the patients that are treated by Provider.

9. **Confidentiality.** The Provider acknowledges that no private or confidential data collected, maintained, or used in the course of performance of this Agreement shall be disseminated by Provider or its employees except as authorized by statute during the period of this Agreement of thereafter.

10. **Non-hire Provision.** For a period of one year following the termination of any of Provider's employees or termination of this Agreement, the Organization shall not, directly or indirectly hire, or solicit such employees for the provision of dental services.

11. **Insurance.** The Provider will carry professional liability insurance coverage (including malpractice insurance, if warranted) relative to any service that it performs for the Organization. Organization shall maintain premises liability insurance for its property.

12. **Successors and Assigns.** All the provisions of this Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties hereto and their respective heirs, if any, successors, and assigns.

13. **Choice of Law.** The laws of the state of Wisconsin shall govern that validity of this Agreement, the construction of its terms and the interpretation of the rights and duties of the parties hereto.

14. **Notices.** All notices, demands, or other communications required or desired to be given hereunder by any party shall be in writing and shall be validly given or made to another party is personally served, or is deposited in the United States mail, certified or registered, postage prepaid, return receipt requested. If such notice or demand is served personally, notice shall be deemed constructively made at the time of such personal service. If such notice, demand or other communication is given by mail, such notice shall be conclusively deemed given five days after deposit thereof in the United States mail addressed to the party to whom such notice, demand or other communication is to be given as follows:

If to the Organization:

**Dr. Michael Cary
302 – 14th St
Cloquet, MN 55720**

If to the Provider:

**Just Kids Dental
1313 Fairgrounds Rd
Two Harbors, MN 55616**

Any party hereto may change its address for the purposes of this paragraph by written notice given in the manner provided above.

15. **Modification or Amendment.** No amendment, change or modification of this Agreement shall be valid unless in writing signed by the parties hereto.

16. **Entire Understanding.** This document and any exhibit attached constitute the entire understanding and agreement of the parties, and any and all prior agreements, understandings, and representations are hereby terminated and canceled in their entirety and are no further force and effect.

17. Unenforceability of Provision. If any provision of this Agreement, or any portion thereof, is held to be invalid and unenforceable, then the remainder of this Agreement shall nevertheless remain in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned have executed this Agreement as of the day and year first written above. The parties hereto agree that facsimile signatures shall be as effective as if originals.

ORGANIZATION: Cloquet Public Schools ISD #94

By: Dr. Michael Cary

Its: Superintendent

By: _____
Signature

Date: _____

By: Mr. Nate Sandman
nsandma1@isd94.org

Its: School Board, Chair

By: _____
Signature

Date: _____

PROVIDER: Just Kids Dental

By: Ms. Laura Borud

Its: Executive Director

By: _____

Date: _____

By: Mr. Michael Lattery

Its: Board of Directors, Chair

By: _____

Date: _____

Just Kids Dental School-Based Sealant Program

Just Kids Dental partners with schools in Lake, St. Louis, Carlton and Douglas Counties to provide preventative oral health services to low-income children who lack access to regular dental care. The goal of the program is to decrease the incidence of long-term, untreated decay and urgent dental care needs.

JUST KIDS DENTAL SCHOOL PARTICIPATION CRITERIA

Physical Environment for Dental Care

REQUIREMENTS

- Classroom-size space
- Power supply must be grounded double wall outlets in the room
- Overhead lighting to illuminate all areas of room
- Working telephone, intercom or two-way radio in room
- Locking door(s)
- (2) 6-foot, sturdy tables
- One large (barrel-type) trash can and daily trash removal

PREFERRED BUT NOT REQUIRED

- Running water in room

Administrative Support

REQUIREMENTS

- School administrators supportive of program
- Able to comply with all deadlines for paperwork collection and processing
- Provide lunch schedule and any other special scheduling considerations for the time Just Kids Dental will be in the school
- School designated liaison person available for communication when Just Kids Dental is in building (during both screening and treatment visits)

PREFERRED BUT NOT REQUIRED

- Promotion of Just Kids Dental within the school (i.e. among staff, parents and children) to ensure a high participation rate
- Dedicated runner(s), such as parent helper, to escort students to and from clinic to classrooms (i.e. a person or persons who are available during the entire time Just Kids Dental is in the school treating children)



Central Administration
509 Carlton Avenue • 218-879-6721 • FAX-879-6724
Cloquet Senior High School
1000 18th Street • 218-879-3393 • FAX-879-6494
Cloquet Middle School
509 Carlton Avenue • 218-879-3328 • FAX-879-4175
Churchill Elementary School
515 Granite Street • 218-879-3308 • FAX-879-7034
Washington Elementary School
801 12th Street • 218-879-3369 • FAX-879-3360
Community Education
302 14th Street • 218-879-1261 • FAX-879-6941
Cloquet Area Alternative Education Programs
302 14th Street • 218-879-0115 • FAX-879-6941
<http://www.cloquet.k12.mn.us>

Memorandum

TO: School Board of ISD 94

FROM: Dr. Michael Cary, Superintendent

DATE: 8/11/2025

RE: Updated MOU for Cloquet Information Technology Association

Extra Service Contracts

The Cloquet Information Technology Support Association proposes extra services contracts for the 2025-2026 fiscal year incorporating the following terms:

1. Contracts
 - a. One contract in the amount of \$12,000 annually for district-wide IT leadership, including oversight of daily operations, strategic planning for infrastructure and services, coordination of the IT support team, and partnership with administration to align technology initiatives with instructional and operational goals.
 - b. One contract in the amount of \$6,000 annually for expanded responsibilities beyond the Level 2 role, including more involvement in IT systems management, taking a stronger role in planning and executing technology projects, and directly administering complex systems to ensure reliable districtwide IT services.
2. The intent of these contracts is to compensate for additional responsibilities outside the scope of the Level 2 Technology Support Specialist job description. These leadership duties are expected to be performed during normal working hours whenever possible and overtime will only be required through mutual agreement between Association members and district administration.
3. The Association proposes an annual review of these stipends prior to 2026-2027 and subsequent years to ensure they continue to align with staff workloads and responsibilities.
4. These extra service contracts will be in effect for the duration of the 2025-2026 fiscal year unless (1) the Association member receiving a stipend ceases employment in a position under the CITSA contract or (2) the Association and district mutually agree to cancellation. Should the extra service contracts not be renewed for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, Association members will cease related duties on July 1, 2026.

5. In the event that outside vendor support (currently provided by Tech Check) is reduced in cost or complexity, the parties will reevaluate the terms of this agreement within 30 days to ensure additional responsibilities are compensated appropriately.
6. In recognition of ongoing duties that have been performed in good faith, these contracts shall be paid retroactively starting on April 23, 2025.
7. The district will support additional training and professional development opportunities to strengthen Association members' expertise in technologies and new areas of responsibility. When district operations can be reasonably maintained through remote support or other coverage, Association members shall be permitted to attend professional development sessions together.
8. Association members who perform work duties during scheduled vacation periods shall receive restoration of affected vacation hours or additional compensation for hours worked.

The parties agree this MOU does not create a new position or replace the former Technology Director position.

Notification of Layoff

The Cloquet Information Technology Support Association proposes that Article VII of the CITSA contract be amended to include:

Article VIII: Probationary Period and Notification

Section 3. Notification of Layoff: In the event the District chooses to reduce a unit position, it must provide unit members with at least four (4) weeks of notice prior to ceasing salary and benefits.

Nate Sandman, Chair

William Bauer, CITSA Representative

Date

Date

Dr. Michael Cary, Superintendent

Date



Independent School District No. 94
Cloquet, Minnesota 55720

Central Administration
302 14th Street • 218-879-6721 • FAX-879-6724
Cloquet Senior High School
1000 18th Street • 218-879-3393 • FAX-879-6494
Cloquet Middle School
2001 Washington Avenue • 218-879-3328 • FAX-879-4175
Churchill Elementary School
515 Granite Street • 218-879-3308 • FAX-879-7034
Washington Elementary School
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Community Education
2001 Washington Avenue • 218-879-1261 • FAX-878-3013
Cloquet Area Alternative Education Programs
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<http://www.isd94.org>

MEMORANDUM

TO: Cloquet School Board

FROM: Dr. Michael Cary, Superintendent

DATE: July 31, 2025

RE: Recommendation for Extra Service Contract

I am recommending the following extra service contracts for the Cloquet Information Technology Support Association members:

1. William Bauer - \$12,000 annually for district-wide IT leadership, including oversight of daily operations, strategic planning for infrastructure and services, coordination of the IT support team, and partnership with administration to align technology initiatives with instructional and operational goals.
2. Mark Brenner - \$6,000 annually for expanded responsibilities beyond the Level 2 role, including more involvement in IT systems management, taking a stronger role in planning and executing technology projects, and directly administering complex systems to ensure reliable districtwide IT services.

(Employment is contingent upon Cloquet School Board approval.)

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Michael Cary, Superintendent

DATE: July 29, 2025

FROM: Erin Bates, Community Education Director

RE: Pay increase for Community Education staff.

I am recommending a pay increase of 2% for FY2025-26 be implemented for the Community Education staff.

“Employment is subject to Cloquet School Board Approval”

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Michael Cary, Superintendent

DATE: July 16, 2025

FROM: Erin Bates, Community Education Director

RE: Rate change - Li'l Lumberjacks and Li'l Thunder Learning Centers, Wrap around care

Beginning September 1, Li'l Lumberjacks and Li'l Thunder Learning Centers will increase tuition by \$2/day. The new rates will be as follows:

Babies: \$54/day
Toddlers: \$34 for half day, \$49 for full day
Preschoolers: \$29 for half day, \$44 for full day

Half day care is defined as up to 6 hours per day.

Wraparound care for School Readiness will also increase by \$2/day with before and after school increasing by \$1/day. The new rates will be as follows:

\$29 for half day, \$44 for full day
\$8 before school, \$13 after school

“Employment is subject to Cloquet School Board Approval”

CLASSIFICATION AND WAGE SCALE FOR NONLICENSED PERSONNEL - NON UNION

Position	2019-20 SALARY (per hour)	2020-21 SALARY (per hour)	2021-22 SALARY (per hour)	2022-23 SALARY (per hour)	2023-24 SALARY (per hour)	2024-25 SALARY (per hour)	2025-26 SALARY (per hour)	2026-27 SALARY (per hour)
SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER SUBSTITUTES	14.05	14.30	14.65	14.94	15.63	15.94	16.26	TBD
ESL TRANSLATION SERVICES	26.61	27.08	27.74	28.30	29.60	30.19	30.80	TBD
SECRETARIAL SUBSTITUTES	12.36	12.58	15.50	15.81	16.54	16.87	17.21	TBD
LPN SUBSTITUTES & COTA SUBSTITUTES	14.05	14.30	19.89	20.29	21.22	21.65	22.08	TBD
INSTRUCTIONAL NON-UNION PARAPROFESSIONALS	13.67	13.91	15.41	15.72	16.44	16.77	17.11	TBD
POWER LUNCH COORDINATOR	16.94	17.24	17.66	18.02	18.85	19.22	19.61	TBD
PARAPROFESSIONAL & INDIAN EDUCATION SUBSTITUTES	12.82	13.04	15.41	15.72	16.44	16.77	17.11	TBD
PARAPROFESSIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL	16.66	16.95	*at school year	rate		-	-	-
PARAPROFESSIONAL/INDIAN EDUCATION/NURSE/COTA/START DRIVER LONG TERM SUBSTITUTES (31 days, but less than 67 days)						Step 1 of contract	Step 1 of contract	Step 1 of contract
HEAD ELECTION JUDGES	13.79	14.03	14.37	14.66	15.34	15.64	15.96	TBD
ELECTION JUDGES	11.03	11.22	11.49	11.72	12.27	12.51	12.76	TBD
BUS SUPERVISION: Per A.M./P.M. Supervision PER EVENT	9.24	9.40	9.63	9.82	10.28	10.48	10.69	TBD
STREET CROSSING GUARD: Per A.M./P.M. Supervision PER EVENT	9.24	9.40	9.63	9.82	10.28	10.48	10.69	TBD
CLEANING NIGHT SWEEPERS			-	-		-	-	TBD
- Substitutes	11.80	12.01	14.30	14.59	15.26	15.56	15.87	TBD
CUSTODIAN SUBSTITUTES	12.18	12.39	14.30	14.59	15.26	15.56	15.87	TBD
GROUNDS KEEPER / EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE II	15.58	15.85	16.24	16.56	17.33	17.67	18.03	TBD
GROUNDS KEEPER / EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE I	13.72	13.96	14.30	14.59	15.26	15.57	15.87	TBD
CASUAL LABOR (Other) (Summer Helpers)	11.80	12.01	14.30	14.59	15.26	15.56	15.87	TBD
CASUAL LABOR (High School Students & OJT: 18 years of age and older)	Min Wage	Min Wage	Min Wage	Min Wage		-	-	-
CASUAL LABOR (High School Students & OJT: Under 18 years of age)	Min Wage	Min Wage	Min Wage	Min Wage		-	-	-
ADULT FOOD SERVICE HELPERS			-	-		-	-	-
- New employees hired after August 1, 1991			-	-		-	-	-
- Category I (180 day Probation)	11.80	12.01	12.30	12.55	13.13	13.39	13.66	TBD
- Category II	12.41	12.63	14.68	14.97	15.66	15.98	16.30	TBD
SUBSTITUTE COOK OR BAKER	15.11	15.37	17.00	17.34	18.14	18.50	18.87	TBD
SUBSTITUTE HELPER	10.59	10.78	14.68	14.97	15.66	15.98	16.30	TBD
SUBSTITUTE TRUCK DRIVER	13.48	13.72	18.01	18.37	19.22	19.60	19.99	TBD
PART-TIME SECRETARIAL (NON-UNION)	12.66	12.88	15.5	15.81	16.54	16.87	17.21	TBD
SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS (DAILY RATE)	116.00	116.00	150.00	153.00	160.00	163.00	166.00	TBD

* 2026-2027 will increase by "Me-Too" percentage of the negotiated 2025-2027 EM-C Teacher Contract

Adopted: 1/27/20, 12/8/03, 12/5/95

Revised: 8/11/25, 2/28/22, 1/27/20, 11/10/03

414 MANDATED REPORTING OF CHILD NEGLECT OR PHYSICAL OR SEXUAL ABUSE

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to make clear the statutory requirements of school personnel to report suspected child neglect or physical or sexual abuse.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

- A. The policy of the school district is to fully comply with Minn. Stat. Ch. 260E requiring school personnel to report suspected child neglect or physical or sexual abuse.
- B. A violation of this policy occurs when any school personnel fails to immediately report instances of child neglect or physical or sexual abuse when the school personnel knows or has reason to believe a child is being neglected or physically or sexually abused or has been neglected or physically or sexually abused within the preceding three years.

III. DEFINITIONS

- A. “Accidental” means a sudden, not reasonably foreseeable, and unexpected occurrence or event that:
 - 1. is not likely to occur and could not have been prevented by exercise of due care; and
 - 2. if occurring while a child is receiving services from a facility, happens when the facility and the employee or person providing services in the facility are in compliance with the laws and rules relevant to the occurrence of event.
- B. “Child” means one under age 18 and, for purposes of Minn. Stat. Ch. 260C (Juvenile Safety and Placement) and Minn. Stat. Ch. 260D (Child in Voluntary Foster Care for Treatment), includes an individual under age 21 who is in foster care pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 260C.451 (Foster Care Benefits Past Age 18).
- C. “Immediately” means as soon as possible but in no event longer than 24 hours.
- D. “Mandated reporter” means any school personnel who knows or has reason to believe a child is being maltreated or has been maltreated within the preceding three years.
- E. “Mental injury” means an injury to the psychological capacity or emotional stability of a child as evidenced by an observable or substantial impairment in the child’s ability to function within a normal range of performance and behavior with due regard to the child’s culture.

- F. “Neglect” means the commission or omission of any of the acts specified below, other than by accidental means:
1. failure by a person responsible for a child’s care to supply a child with necessary food, clothing, shelter, health care, medical, or other care required for the child’s physical or mental health when reasonably able to do so;
 2. failure to protect a child from conditions or actions that seriously endanger the child’s physical or mental health when reasonably able to do so, including a growth delay, which may be referred to as a failure to thrive, that has been diagnosed by a physician and is due to parental neglect;
 3. failure to provide for necessary supervision or child care arrangements appropriate for a child after considering factors as the child’s age, mental ability, physical condition, length of absence, or environment, when the child is unable to care for the child’s own basic needs or safety, or the basic needs or safety of another child in his or her care;
 4. failure to ensure that a child is educated in accordance with state law, which does not include a parent’s refusal to provide his or her child with sympathomimetic medications;
 5. prenatal exposure to a controlled substance as defined in state law used by the mother for a nonmedical purpose, as evidenced by withdrawal symptoms in the child at birth, results of a toxicology test performed on the mother at delivery or the child’s birth, medical effects or developmental delays during the child’s first year of life that medically indicate prenatal exposure to a controlled substance, or the presence of a fetal alcohol spectrum disorder;
 6. medical neglect as defined by Minn. Stat. § 260C.007, Subd. 6, Clause (5);
 7. chronic and severe use of alcohol or a controlled substance by a person responsible for the care of the child that adversely affects the child’s basic needs and safety; or
 8. emotional harm from a pattern of behavior that contributes to impaired emotional functioning of the child, which may be demonstrated by a substantial and observable effect in the child’s behavior, emotional response, or cognition that is not within the normal range for the child’s age and stage of development, with due regard to the child’s culture.

Neglect does not occur solely because the child’s parent, guardian, or other person responsible for the child’s care in good faith selects and depends upon spiritual means or prayer for treatment or care of disease or remedial care of the child in lieu of medical care.

- G. “Nonmaltreatment mistake” occurs when: (1) at the time of the incident, the individual was performing duties identified in the center’s child care program plan required under Minn. Rules Part 9503.0045; (2) the individual has not been determined responsible for a similar

incident that resulted in a finding of maltreatment for at least seven years; (3) the individual has not been determined to have committed a similar nonmaltreatment mistake under this paragraph for at least four years; (4) any injury to a child resulting from the incident, if treated, is treated only with remedies that are available over the counter, whether ordered by a medical professional or not; and (5) except for the period when the incident occurred, the facility and the individual providing services were both in compliance with all licensing requirements relevant to the incident. This definition only applies to child care centers licensed under Minn. Rules Ch. 9503.

- H. “Person responsible for the child’s care” means (1) an individual functioning within the family unit and having responsibilities for the care of the child such as a parent, guardian, or other person having similar care responsibilities, or (2) an individual functioning outside the family unit and having responsibilities for the care of the child such as a teacher, school administrator, other school employee or agent, or other lawful custodian of a child having either full-time or short-term care responsibilities including, but not limited to, day care, babysitting whether paid or unpaid, counseling, teaching, and coaching.
- I. “Physical abuse” means any physical injury, mental injury (under subdivision 13), or threatened injury (under subdivision 23), inflicted by a person responsible for the child’s care on a child other than by accidental means; or any physical or mental injury that cannot reasonably be explained by the child’s history of injuries, or any aversive or deprivation procedures, or regulated interventions, that have not been authorized by Minn. Stat. § 125A.0942 or § 245.825.

Abuse does not include reasonable and moderate physical discipline of a child administered by a parent or legal guardian that does not result in an injury. Abuse does not include the use of reasonable force by a teacher, principal, or school employee as allowed by Minn. Stat. § 121A.582.

Actions that are not reasonable and moderate include, but are not limited to, any of the following: (1) throwing, kicking, burning, biting, or cutting a child; (2) striking a child with a closed fist; (3) shaking a child under age three; (4) striking or other actions that result in any nonaccidental injury to a child under 18 months of age; (5) unreasonable interference with a child’s breathing; (6) threatening a child with a weapon, as defined in Minn. Stat. § 609.02, Subd. 6; (7) striking a child under age one on the face or head; (8) striking a child who is at least age one but under age four on the face or head, which results in an injury; (9) purposely giving a child poison, alcohol, or dangerous, harmful, or controlled substances that were not prescribed for the child by a practitioner, in order to control or punish the child, or other substances that substantially affect the child’s behavior, motor coordination, or judgment, or that result in sickness or internal injury, or that subject the child to medical procedures that would be unnecessary if the child were not exposed to the substances; (10) unreasonable physical confinement or restraint not permitted under Minn. Stat. § 609.379, including, but not limited to, tying, caging, or chaining; or (11) in a school facility or school zone, an act by a person responsible for the child’s care that is a violation under Minn. Stat. § 121A.58.

- J. “Report” means any communication received by the local welfare agency, police department, county sheriff, or agency responsible for child protection pursuant to this section that describes maltreatment of a child and contains sufficient content to identify the child and any person believed to be responsible for the maltreatment, if known.
- K. “School personnel” means professional employee or professional’s delegate of the school district who provides health, educational, social, psychological, law enforcement, or child care services.
- L. “Sexual abuse” means the subjection of a child by a person responsible for the child’s care, by a person who has a significant relationship to the child (as defined in Minn. Stat. § 609.341, Subd. 15), or by a person in a current or recent position of authority (as defined in Minn. Stat. § 609.341, Subd. 10) to any act which constitutes a violation of Minnesota statutes prohibiting criminal sexual conduct. Such acts include sexual penetration, sexual contact, solicitation of children to engage in sexual conduct, and communication of sexually explicit materials to children. Sexual abuse also includes any act involving a minor that constitutes a violation of Minnesota statutes prohibiting prostitution or use of a minor in a sexual performance. Sexual abuse includes all reports of known or suspected child sex trafficking involving a child who is identified as a victim of sex trafficking. Sexual abuse includes threatened sexual abuse which includes the status of a parent or household member who has committed a violation that requires registration under Minn. Stat. § 243.166, Subd. 1b(a) or (b) (Registration of Predatory Offenders).
- M. “Threatened injury” means a statement, overt act, condition, or status that represents a substantial risk of physical or sexual abuse or mental injury. Threatened injury includes, but is not limited to, exposing a child to a person responsible for the child’s care who has (1) subjected the child to, or failed to protect a child from, an overt act or condition that constitutes egregious harm under Minnesota Statutes, section 260E.03, subdivision 5, or a similar law of another jurisdiction; (2) been found to be palpably unfit under Minnesota Statutes, section 260C.301, subdivision 1, paragraph (b), clause 3, or a similar law of another jurisdiction; (3) committed an act that resulted in an involuntary termination of parental rights under Minnesota Statutes, section 260C.301, or a similar law of another jurisdiction; (4) , or committed an act that resulted in the involuntary transfer of permanent legal and physical custody of a child to a relative or parent under Minnesota Statutes, section 260C.515, subdivision 4, or similar law of another jurisdiction.

IV. REPORTING PROCEDURES

- A. A mandated reporter shall immediately report the information to the local welfare agency, agency responsible for assessing or investigating the report, police department, county sheriff, tribal social services agency, or tribal police department. The reporter will include his or her name and address in the report.
- B. An oral report shall be made immediately by telephone or otherwise., The oral report shall be followed by a written report within 72 hours (exclusive of weekends and holidays) to the appropriate police department, the county sheriff, local welfare agency, or agency responsible for assessing or investigating the report. Any report shall be of sufficient

content to identify the child, any person believed to be responsible for the maltreatment of the child if the person is known, the nature and extent of the maltreatment, and the name and address of the reporter.

- C. Regardless of whether a report is made, as soon as practicable after a school receives information regarding an incident that may constitute maltreatment of a child in a school facility, the school shall inform the parent, legal guardian, or custodian of the child that an incident has occurred that may constitute maltreatment of the child, when the incident occurred, and the nature of the conduct that may constitute maltreatment.
- D. A mandated reporter who knows or has reason to know of the deprivation of custodial or parental rights or the kidnapping of a child shall report the information to the local police department or the county sheriff.
- E. With the exception of a health care professional or a social service professional who is providing the woman with prenatal care or other health care services, a mandated reporter shall immediately report to the local welfare agency if the person knows or has reason to believe that a woman is pregnant and has used a controlled substance for a nonmedical purpose during the pregnancy, including, but not limited to, tetrahydrocannabinol, or has consumed alcoholic beverages during the pregnancy in any way that is habitual or excessive.
- F. A person mandated by Minnesota law and this policy to report who fails to report may be subject to criminal penalties and/or discipline, up to and including termination of employment.
- G. An employer of a mandated reporter shall not retaliate against the person for reporting in good faith maltreatment against a child with respect to whom a report is made, because of the report.
- H. Any person who knowingly or recklessly makes a false report under the provisions of applicable Minnesota law or this policy shall be liable in a civil suit for any actual damages suffered by the person or persons so reported and for any punitive damages set by the court or jury, plus costs and reasonable attorney fees. Knowingly or recklessly making a false report also may result in discipline.

V. INVESTIGATION

- A. The responsibility for assessing or investigating reports of suspected maltreatment rests with the appropriate state, county, or local agency or agencies. The agency responsible for assessing or investigating reports of maltreatment has the authority to interview the child, the person or persons responsible for the child's care, the alleged offender, and any other person with knowledge of the maltreatment for the purpose of gathering facts, assessing safety and risk to the child, and formulating a plan. The investigating agency may interview the child at school. The interview may take place outside the presence of the alleged offender or parent, legal guardian, or school official. The investigating agency, not the school, is responsible for either notifying or withholding notification of the interview to

the parent, guardian, or person responsible for the child's care. School officials may not disclose to the parent, legal custodian, or guardian the contents of the notification or any other related information regarding the interview until notified in writing by the local welfare or law enforcement agency that the investigation or assessment has been concluded.

- B. When the investigating agency determines that an interview should take place on school property, written notification of intent to interview the child on school property must be received by school officials prior to the interview. The notification shall include the name of the child to be interviewed, the purpose of the interview, and a reference to the statutory authority to conduct an interview on school property.
- C. Except where the alleged offender is believed to be a school official or employee, the time and place, and manner of the interview on school premises shall be within the discretion of school officials, but the local welfare or law enforcement agency shall have the exclusive authority to determine who may attend the interview. The conditions as to time, place, and manner of the interview set by the school officials shall be reasonable, and the interview shall be conducted not more than 24 hours after the receipt of the notification unless another time is considered necessary by agreement between the school officials and the local welfare or law enforcement agency. Every effort must be made to reduce the disruption of the educational program of the child, other students, or school employees when an interview is conducted on school premises.
- D. Where the alleged offender is believed to be a school official or employee, the school district shall conduct its own investigation independent of MDE and, if involved, the local welfare or law enforcement agency.
- E. Upon request by MDE, the school district shall provide all requested data that are relevant to a report of maltreatment and are in the possession of a school facility, pursuant to an assessment or investigation of a maltreatment report of a student in school. The school district shall provide the requested data in accordance with the requirements of the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minn. Stat. Ch. 13, and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. § 1232g.

VI. MAINTENANCE OF SCHOOL RECORDS CONCERNING ABUSE OR POTENTIAL ABUSE

- A. When a local welfare or local law enforcement agency determines that a potentially abused or abused child should be interviewed on school property, written notification of the agency's intent to interview on school property must be received by school officials prior to the interview. The notification shall include the name of the child to be interviewed, the purpose of the interview, and a reference to the statutory authority to conduct the interview. The notification shall be private data. School officials may not disclose to the parent, legal custodian, or guardian the contents of the notice or any other related information regarding the interview until notified in writing by the local welfare or law enforcement agency that the investigation has been concluded.

- B. All records regarding a report of maltreatment, including any notification of intent to interview which was received by the school as described above in Paragraph A., shall be destroyed by the school only when ordered by the agency conducting the investigation or by a court of competent jurisdiction.

VII. PHYSICAL OR SEXUAL ABUSE AS SEXUAL HARASSMENT OR VIOLENCE

Under certain circumstances, alleged physical or sexual abuse may also be sexual harassment or violence under Minnesota law. If so, the duties relating to the reporting and investigation of such harassment or violence may be applicable.

VIII. DISSEMINATION OF POLICY AND TRAINING

- A. This policy shall appear in school personnel handbooks.
- B. The school district will develop a method of discussing this policy with school personnel.
- C. This policy shall be reviewed at least annually for compliance with state law.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. Ch. 13 (Minnesota Government Data Practices Act)
 Minn. Stat. § 121A.58 (Corporal Punishment)
 Minn. Stat. § 121A.582 (Student Discipline; Reasonable Force)
 Minn. Stat. § 125A.0942 (Standards for Restrictive Procedures)
 Minn. Stat. § 243.166, Subd. 1b(a)(b) (Registration of Predatory Offenders)
 Minn. Stat. § 245.825 (Use of Aversive or Deprivation Procedures)
 Minn. Stat. § 260C.007, Subd. 6, Clause (5) (Child in Need of Protection)
 Minn. Stat. §260C.301 (Termination of Parental Rights)
 Minn. Stat. § 260C.451 (Foster Care Benefits Past Age 18)
 Minn. Stat. Ch. 260D (Child in Voluntary Foster Care for Treatment)
 Minn. Stat. Ch. 260E (Reporting of Maltreatment of Minors)
 Minn. Stat. § 609.02, Subd. 6 (Definitions – Dangerous Weapon)
 Minn. Stat. § 609.341, Subd. 10 (Definitions – Position of Authority)
 Minn. Stat. § 609.341, Subd. 15 (Definitions – Significant Relationship)
 Minn. Stat. § 609.379 (Reasonable Force)
 20 U.S.C. § 1232g (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 415 (Mandated Reporting of Maltreatment of Vulnerable Adults)

Adopted: 1/27/20, 12/8/03, 12/5/95

Revised: 8/11/25, 2/28/22, 1/27/20, 11/10/03

414 MANDATED REPORTING OF CHILD NEGLECT OR PHYSICAL OR SEXUAL ABUSE

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to make clear the statutory requirements of school personnel to report suspected child neglect or physical or sexual abuse.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

- A. The policy of the school district is to fully comply with Minn. Stat. Ch. 260E requiring school personnel to report suspected child neglect or physical or sexual abuse.
- B. A violation of this policy occurs when any school personnel fails to immediately report instances of child neglect or physical or sexual abuse when the school personnel knows or has reason to believe a child is being neglected or physically or sexually abused or has been neglected or physically or sexually abused within the preceding three years.

III. DEFINITIONS

- A. “Accidental” means a sudden, not reasonably foreseeable, and unexpected occurrence or event that:
 - 1. is not likely to occur and could not have been prevented by exercise of due care; and
 - 2. if occurring while a child is receiving services from a facility, happens when the facility and the employee or person providing services in the facility are in compliance with the laws and rules relevant to the occurrence of event.
- B. “Child” means one under age 18 and, for purposes of Minn. Stat. Ch. 260C (Juvenile Safety and Placement) and Minn. Stat. Ch. 260D (Child in Voluntary Foster Care for Treatment), includes an individual under age 21 who is in foster care pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 260C.451 (Foster Care Benefits Past Age 18).
- C. “Immediately” means as soon as possible but in no event longer than 24 hours.
- D. “Mandated reporter” means any school personnel who knows or has reason to believe a child is being maltreated or has been maltreated within the preceding three years.
- E. “Mental injury” means an injury to the psychological capacity or emotional stability of a child as evidenced by an observable or substantial impairment in the child’s ability to function within a normal range of performance and behavior with due regard to the child’s culture.

- F. “Neglect” means the commission or omission of any of the acts specified below, other than by accidental means:
1. failure by a person responsible for a child’s care to supply a child with necessary food, clothing, shelter, health care, medical, or other care required for the child’s physical or mental health when reasonably able to do so;
 2. failure to protect a child from conditions or actions that seriously endanger the child’s physical or mental health when reasonably able to do so, including a growth delay, which may be referred to as a failure to thrive, that has been diagnosed by a physician and is due to parental neglect;
 3. failure to provide for necessary supervision or child care arrangements appropriate for a child after considering factors as the child’s age, mental ability, physical condition, length of absence, or environment, when the child is unable to care for the child’s own basic needs or safety, or the basic needs or safety of another child in his or her care;
 4. failure to ensure that a child is educated in accordance with state law, which does not include a parent’s refusal to provide his or her child with sympathomimetic medications;
 5. prenatal exposure to a controlled substance as defined in state law used by the mother for a nonmedical purpose, as evidenced by withdrawal symptoms in the child at birth, results of a toxicology test performed on the mother at delivery or the child’s birth, medical effects or developmental delays during the child’s first year of life that medically indicate prenatal exposure to a controlled substance, or the presence of a fetal alcohol spectrum disorder;
 6. medical neglect as defined by Minn. Stat. § 260C.007, Subd. 6, Clause (5);
 7. chronic and severe use of alcohol or a controlled substance by a person responsible for the care of the child that adversely affects the child’s basic needs and safety; or
 8. emotional harm from a pattern of behavior that contributes to impaired emotional functioning of the child, which may be demonstrated by a substantial and observable effect in the child’s behavior, emotional response, or cognition that is not within the normal range for the child’s age and stage of development, with due regard to the child’s culture.

Neglect does not occur solely because the child’s parent, guardian, or other person responsible for the child’s care in good faith selects and depends upon spiritual means or prayer for treatment or care of disease or remedial care of the child in lieu of medical care.

- G. “Nonmaltreatment mistake” occurs when: (1) at the time of the incident, the individual was performing duties identified in the center’s child care program plan required under Minn. Rules Part 9503.0045; (2) the individual has not been determined responsible for a similar

incident that resulted in a finding of maltreatment for at least seven years; (3) the individual has not been determined to have committed a similar nonmaltreatment mistake under this paragraph for at least four years; (4) any injury to a child resulting from the incident, if treated, is treated only with remedies that are available over the counter, whether ordered by a medical professional or not; and (5) except for the period when the incident occurred, the facility and the individual providing services were both in compliance with all licensing requirements relevant to the incident. This definition only applies to child care centers licensed under Minn. Rules Ch. 9503.

- H. “Person responsible for the child’s care” means (1) an individual functioning within the family unit and having responsibilities for the care of the child such as a parent, guardian, or other person having similar care responsibilities, or (2) an individual functioning outside the family unit and having responsibilities for the care of the child such as a teacher, school administrator, other school employee or agent, or other lawful custodian of a child having either full-time or short-term care responsibilities including, but not limited to, day care, babysitting whether paid or unpaid, counseling, teaching, and coaching.
- I. “Physical abuse” means any physical injury, mental injury (under subdivision 13), or threatened injury (under subdivision 23), inflicted by a person responsible for the child’s care on a child other than by accidental means; or any physical or mental injury that cannot reasonably be explained by the child’s history of injuries, or any aversive or deprivation procedures, or regulated interventions, that have not been authorized by Minn. Stat. § 125A.0942 or § 245.825.

Abuse does not include reasonable and moderate physical discipline of a child administered by a parent or legal guardian that does not result in an injury. Abuse does not include the use of reasonable force by a teacher, principal, or school employee as allowed by Minn. Stat. § 121A.582.

Actions that are not reasonable and moderate include, but are not limited to, any of the following: (1) throwing, kicking, burning, biting, or cutting a child; (2) striking a child with a closed fist; (3) shaking a child under age three; (4) striking or other actions that result in any nonaccidental injury to a child under 18 months of age; (5) unreasonable interference with a child’s breathing; (6) threatening a child with a weapon, as defined in Minn. Stat. § 609.02, Subd. 6; (7) striking a child under age one on the face or head; (8) striking a child who is at least age one but under age four on the face or head, which results in an injury; (9) purposely giving a child poison, alcohol, or dangerous, harmful, or controlled substances that were not prescribed for the child by a practitioner, in order to control or punish the child, or other substances that substantially affect the child’s behavior, motor coordination, or judgment, or that result in sickness or internal injury, or that subject the child to medical procedures that would be unnecessary if the child were not exposed to the substances; (10) unreasonable physical confinement or restraint not permitted under Minn. Stat. § 609.379, including, but not limited to, tying, caging, or chaining; or (11) in a school facility or school zone, an act by a person responsible for the child’s care that is a violation under Minn. Stat. § 121A.58.

- J. “Report” means any communication received by the local welfare agency, police department, county sheriff, or agency responsible for child protection pursuant to this section that describes maltreatment of a child and contains sufficient content to identify the child and any person believed to be responsible for the maltreatment, if known.
- K. “School personnel” means professional employee or professional’s delegate of the school district who provides health, educational, social, psychological, law enforcement, or child care services.
- L. “Sexual abuse” means the subjection of a child by a person responsible for the child’s care, by a person who has a significant relationship to the child (as defined in Minn. Stat. § 609.341, Subd. 15), or by a person in a current or recent position of authority (as defined in Minn. Stat. § 609.341, Subd. 10) to any act which constitutes a violation of Minnesota statutes prohibiting criminal sexual conduct. Such acts include sexual penetration, sexual contact, solicitation of children to engage in sexual conduct, and communication of sexually explicit materials to children. Sexual abuse also includes any act involving a minor that constitutes a violation of Minnesota statutes prohibiting prostitution or use of a minor in a sexual performance. Sexual abuse includes all reports of known or suspected child sex trafficking involving a child who is identified as a victim of sex trafficking. Sexual abuse includes threatened sexual abuse which includes the status of a parent or household member who has committed a violation that requires registration under Minn. Stat. § 243.166, Subd. 1b(a) or (b) (Registration of Predatory Offenders).
- M. “Threatened injury” means a statement, overt act, condition, or status that represents a substantial risk of physical or sexual abuse or mental injury. Threatened injury includes, but is not limited to, exposing a child to a person responsible for the child’s care who has (1) subjected the child to, or failed to protect a child from, an overt act or condition that constitutes egregious harm under Minnesota Statutes, section 260E.03, subdivision 5, or a similar law of another jurisdiction; (2) been found to be palpably unfit under Minnesota Statutes, section 260C.301, subdivision 1, paragraph (b), clause 3, or a similar law of another jurisdiction; (3) committed an act that resulted in an involuntary termination of parental rights under Minnesota Statutes, section 260C.301, or a similar law of another jurisdiction; (4) , or committed an act that resulted in the involuntary transfer of permanent legal and physical custody of a child to a relative or parent under Minnesota Statutes, section 260C.515, subdivision 4, or similar law of another jurisdiction.

IV. REPORTING PROCEDURES

- A. A mandated reporter shall immediately report the information to the local welfare agency, agency responsible for assessing or investigating the report, police department, county sheriff, tribal social services agency, or tribal police department. The reporter will include his or her name and address in the report.
- B. An oral report shall be made immediately by telephone or otherwise., The oral report shall be followed by a written report within 72 hours (exclusive of weekends and holidays) to the appropriate police department, the county sheriff, local welfare agency, or agency responsible for assessing or investigating the report. Any report shall be of sufficient

content to identify the child, any person believed to be responsible for the maltreatment of the child if the person is known, the nature and extent of the maltreatment, and the name and address of the reporter.

- C. Regardless of whether a report is made, as soon as practicable after a school receives information regarding an incident that may constitute maltreatment of a child in a school facility, the school shall inform the parent, legal guardian, or custodian of the child that an incident has occurred that may constitute maltreatment of the child, when the incident occurred, and the nature of the conduct that may constitute maltreatment.
- D. A mandated reporter who knows or has reason to know of the deprivation of custodial or parental rights or the kidnapping of a child shall report the information to the local police department or the county sheriff.
- E. With the exception of a health care professional or a social service professional who is providing the woman with prenatal care or other health care services, a mandated reporter shall immediately report to the local welfare agency if the person knows or has reason to believe that a woman is pregnant and has used a controlled substance for a nonmedical purpose during the pregnancy, including, but not limited to, tetrahydrocannabinol, or has consumed alcoholic beverages during the pregnancy in any way that is habitual or excessive.
- F. A person mandated by Minnesota law and this policy to report who fails to report may be subject to criminal penalties and/or discipline, up to and including termination of employment.
- G. An employer of a mandated reporter shall not retaliate against the person for reporting in good faith maltreatment against a child with respect to whom a report is made, because of the report.
- H. Any person who knowingly or recklessly makes a false report under the provisions of applicable Minnesota law or this policy shall be liable in a civil suit for any actual damages suffered by the person or persons so reported and for any punitive damages set by the court or jury, plus costs and reasonable attorney fees. Knowingly or recklessly making a false report also may result in discipline.

V. INVESTIGATION

- A. The responsibility for assessing or investigating reports of suspected maltreatment rests with the appropriate state, county, or local agency or agencies. The agency responsible for assessing or investigating reports of maltreatment has the authority to interview the child, the person or persons responsible for the child's care, the alleged offender, and any other person with knowledge of the maltreatment for the purpose of gathering facts, assessing safety and risk to the child, and formulating a plan. The investigating agency may interview the child at school. The interview may take place outside the presence of the alleged offender or parent, legal guardian, or school official. The investigating agency, not the school, is responsible for either notifying or withholding notification of the interview to

the parent, guardian, or person responsible for the child's care. School officials may not disclose to the parent, legal custodian, or guardian the contents of the notification or any other related information regarding the interview until notified in writing by the local

welfare or law enforcement agency that the investigation or assessment has been concluded.

- B. When the investigating agency determines that an interview should take place on school property, written notification of intent to interview the child on school property must be received by school officials prior to the interview. The notification shall include the name of the child to be interviewed, the purpose of the interview, and a reference to the statutory authority to conduct an interview on school property.
- C. Except where the alleged offender is believed to be a school official or employee, the time and place, and manner of the interview on school premises shall be within the discretion of school officials, but the local welfare or law enforcement agency shall have the exclusive authority to determine who may attend the interview. The conditions as to time, place, and manner of the interview set by the school officials shall be reasonable, and the interview shall be conducted not more than 24 hours after the receipt of the notification unless another time is considered necessary by agreement between the school officials and the local welfare or law enforcement agency. Every effort must be made to reduce the disruption of the educational program of the child, other students, or school employees when an interview is conducted on school premises.
- D. Where the alleged offender is believed to be a school official or employee, the school district shall conduct its own investigation independent of MDE and, if involved, the local welfare or law enforcement agency.
- E. Upon request by MDE, the school district shall provide all requested data that are relevant to a report of maltreatment and are in the possession of a school facility, pursuant to an assessment or investigation of a maltreatment report of a student in school. The school district shall provide the requested data in accordance with the requirements of the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minn. Stat. Ch. 13, and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. § 1232g.

VI. MAINTENANCE OF SCHOOL RECORDS CONCERNING ABUSE OR POTENTIAL ABUSE

- A. When a local welfare or local law enforcement agency determines that a potentially abused or abused child should be interviewed on school property, written notification of the agency's intent to interview on school property must be received by school officials prior to the interview. The notification shall include the name of the child to be interviewed, the purpose of the interview, and a reference to the statutory authority to conduct the interview. The notification shall be private data. School officials may not disclose to the parent, legal custodian, or guardian the contents of the notice or any other related information regarding the interview until notified in writing by the local welfare or law enforcement agency that the investigation has been concluded.

- B. All records regarding a report of maltreatment, including any notification of intent to interview which was received by the school as described above in Paragraph A., shall be destroyed by the school only when ordered by the agency conducting the investigation or by a court of competent jurisdiction.

VII. PHYSICAL OR SEXUAL ABUSE AS SEXUAL HARASSMENT OR VIOLENCE

Under certain circumstances, alleged physical or sexual abuse may also be sexual harassment or violence under Minnesota law. If so, the duties relating to the reporting and investigation of such harassment or violence may be applicable.

VIII. DISSEMINATION OF POLICY AND TRAINING

- A. This policy shall appear in school personnel handbooks.
- B. The school district will develop a method of discussing this policy with school personnel.
- C. This policy shall be reviewed at least annually for compliance with state law.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. Ch. 13 (Minnesota Government Data Practices Act)
 Minn. Stat. § 121A.58 (Corporal Punishment)
 Minn. Stat. § 121A.582 (Student Discipline; Reasonable Force)
 Minn. Stat. § 125A.0942 (Standards for Restrictive Procedures)
 Minn. Stat. § 243.166, Subd. 1b(a)(b) (Registration of Predatory Offenders)
 Minn. Stat. § 245.825 (Use of Aversive or Deprivation Procedures)
 Minn. Stat. § 260C.007, Subd. 6, Clause (5) (Child in Need of Protection)
 Minn. Stat. § 260C.301 (Termination of Parental Rights)
 Minn. Stat. § 260C.451 (Foster Care Benefits Past Age 18)
 Minn. Stat. Ch. 260D (Child in Voluntary Foster Care for Treatment)
 Minn. Stat. Ch. 260E (Reporting of Maltreatment of Minors)
 Minn. Stat. § 609.02, Subd. 6 (Definitions – Dangerous Weapon)
 Minn. Stat. § 609.341, Subd. 10 (Definitions – Position of Authority)
 Minn. Stat. § 609.341, Subd. 15 (Definitions – Significant Relationship)
 Minn. Stat. § 609.379 (Reasonable Force)
 20 U.S.C. § 1232g (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 415 (Mandated Reporting of Maltreatment of Vulnerable Adults)

Adopted: 11/13/18, 12/8/03, 12/5/95

Revised: 8/11/25, 9/9/24, 8/14/23, 11/13/18, 11/10/03

#418 DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE/DRUG-FREE SCHOOL

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to maintain a safe and healthful environment for employees and students by prohibiting the use of alcohol, toxic substances, medical cannabis, nonintoxicating cannabinoids, edible cannabinoid products, and controlled substances without a physician's prescription.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

- A. Use or possession of alcohol, toxic substances, medical cannabis, nonintoxicating cannabinoids, edible cannabinoid products, and controlled substances before, during, or after school hours, at school or in any other school location, is prohibited as general policy. Paraphernalia associated with controlled substances is prohibited.
- B. A violation of this policy occurs when any student, teacher, administrator, other school district personnel, or member of the public uses or possesses alcohol, toxic substances, medical cannabis, nonintoxicating cannabinoids, edible cannabinoid products, or controlled substances in any school location.
- C. An individual may not use or possess cannabis flower, cannabis products, lower-potency hemp edibles, or hemp-derived consumer products in a public school, as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 120A.05, subdivisions 9, 11, and 13, including all facilities, whether owned, rented, or leased, and all vehicles that the school district owns, leases, rents, contracts for, or controls.
- D. The school district will act to enforce this policy and to discipline or take appropriate action against any student, teacher, administrator, school personnel, or member of the public who violates this policy.

III. DEFINITIONS

- A. "Alcohol" includes any alcoholic beverage containing more than one-half of one percent alcohol by volume.
- B. "Controlled substances" include narcotic drugs, hallucinogenic drugs, amphetamines, barbiturates, marijuana, anabolic steroids, or any other controlled substance as defined in Schedules I through V of the Controlled Substances Act, 21 United States Code section 812, including analogues and look-alike drugs.
- C. "Edible cannabinoid product" means any product that is intended to be eaten or consumed as a beverage by humans, contains a cannabinoid in combination with food ingredients, and is not a drug.

- D. “Nonintoxicating cannabinoid” means substances extracted from certified hemp plants that do not produce intoxicating effects when consumed by injection, inhalation, ingestion, or by any other immediate means.
- E. “Medical cannabis” means any species of the genus cannabis plant, or any mixture or preparation of them, including whole plant extracts and resins, and is delivered in the form of: (1) liquid, including, but not limited to, oil; (2) pill; (3) vaporized delivery method with use of liquid or oil but which does not require the use of dried leaves or plant form; (4) combustion with use of dried raw cannabis; or (5) any other method approved by the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Health (“Commissioner”).
- F. “Possess” means to have on one’s person, in one’s effects, or in an area subject to one’s control.
- G. “School location” includes any school building or on any school premises; in any school-owned vehicle or in any other school-approved vehicle used to transport students to and from school or school activities; off school property at any school-sponsored or school-approved activity, event, or function, such as a field trip or athletic event, where students are under the jurisdiction of the school district; or during any period of time such employee is supervising students on behalf of the school district or otherwise engaged in school district business.
- H. “Sell” means to sell, give away, barter, deliver, exchange, distribute or dispose of to another, or to manufacture; or to offer or agree to perform such an act, or to possess with intent to perform such an act.
- I. “Toxic substances” includes: (1) glue, cement, aerosol paint, containing toluene, benzene, xylene, amyl nitrate, butyl nitrate, nitrous oxide, or containing other aromatic hydrocarbon solvents, but does not include glue, cement, or paint contained in a packaged kit for the construction of a model automobile, airplane, or similar item; (2) butane or a butane lighter; or (3) any similar substance declared to be toxic to the central nervous system and to have a potential for abuse, by a rule adopted by the Commissioner.
- I. “Use” means to sell, buy, manufacture, distribute, dispense, be under the influence of, or consume in any manner, including, but not limited to, consumption by injection, inhalation, ingestion, or by any other immediate means.

IV. EXCEPTIONS

- A. A violation of this policy does not occur when a person brings onto a school location, for such person’s own use, a controlled substance, except medical cannabis, nonintoxicating cannabinoids, or edible cannabinoid products, which has a currently accepted medical use in treatment in the United States and the person has a physician’s prescription for the substance. The person shall comply with the relevant procedures of this policy.
- B. A violation of this policy does not occur when a person possesses an alcoholic beverage in a school location when the possession is within the exceptions of Minnesota Statutes,

section 624.701, subdivision 1a (experiments in laboratories; pursuant to a temporary license to sell liquor issued under Minnesota laws or possession after the purchase from such a temporary license holder).

- C. A violation of this policy does not occur when a person uses or possesses a toxic substance unless they do so with the intent of inducing or intentionally aiding another in inducing intoxication, excitement, or stupefaction of the central nervous system, except under the direction and supervision of a medical doctor.
- D. The school district may not refuse to enroll or otherwise penalize a patient or person enrolled in the Minnesota Patient Registry Program or a Tribal medical cannabis program as a pupil solely because the patient or person is enrolled in the registry program or Tribal medical cannabis program, unless failing to do so would violate federal law or regulations or cause the school to lose a monetary or licensing-related benefit under federal law or regulations.

An employer or a school must provide written notice to a patient at least 14 days before the employer or school takes an action against the patient that is prohibited under Minnesota Statutes, section 342.57, subdivision 3 or 5. The written notice must cite the specific federal law or regulation that the employer or school believes would be violated if the employer or school fails to take action. The notice must specify what monetary or licensing-related benefit under federal law or regulations that the employer or school would lose if the employer or school fails to take action.

A school or an employer must not retaliate against a patient for asserting the patient's rights or seeking remedies under Minnesota Statutes, section 342.57 or section 152.32.

V. PROCEDURES

- A. Students who have a prescription from a physician for medical treatment with a controlled substance, except medical cannabis, nonintoxicating cannabinoids, or edible cannabinoid products, must comply with the school district's student medication policy.
- B. Employees who have a prescription from a physician for medical treatment with a controlled substance, except medical cannabis, nonintoxicating cannabinoids, or edible cannabinoid products, are permitted to possess such controlled substance and associated necessary paraphernalia, such as an inhaler or syringe. The employee must inform his or her supervisor. The employee may be required to provide a copy of the prescription.
- C. Each employee shall be provided with written notice of this Drug-Free Workplace/Drug-Free School policy and shall be required to acknowledge that he or she has received the policy.
- D. Employees are subject to the school district's drug and alcohol testing policies and procedures.

- E. Members of the public are not permitted to possess controlled substances, intoxicating cannabinoids, or edible cannabinoid products in a school location except with the express permission of the superintendent.
- F. No person is permitted to possess or use medical cannabis, nonintoxicating cannabinoids, or edible cannabinoid products on a school bus or van; or on the grounds of any preschool or primary or secondary school; or on the grounds of any child care facility. This prohibition includes (1) vaporizing or combusting medical cannabis on any form of public transportation where the vapor or smoke could be inhaled by a minor child or in any public place, including indoor or outdoor areas used by or open to the general public or place of employment; and (2) operating, navigating, or being in actual physical control of any motor vehicle or working on transportation property, equipment or facilities while under the influence of medical cannabis, nonintoxicating cannabinoids, or edible cannabinoid products.
- G. Possession of alcohol on school grounds pursuant to the exceptions of Minnesota Statutes section 624.701, subdivision 1a, shall be by permission of the school board only. The applicant shall apply for permission in writing and shall follow the school board procedures for placing an item on the agenda.

VI. SCHOOL PROGRAMS

- A. Starting in the 2026-2027 school year, the school district must implement a comprehensive education program on cannabis use and substance use, including but not limited to the use of fentanyl or mixtures containing fentanyl, for students in middle school and high school. The program must include instruction on the topics listed in Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.215, subdivision 1 and must:
 - 1. respect community values and encourage students to communicate with parents, guardians, and other trusted adults about cannabis use and substance use, including but not limited to the use of fentanyl or mixtures containing fentanyl; and
 - 2. refer students to local resources where students may obtain medically accurate information about cannabis use and substance use, including but not limited to the use of fentanyl or mixtures containing fentanyl, and treatment for a substance use disorder.
- B. School district efforts to develop, implement, or improve instruction or curriculum as a result of the provisions of this section must be consistent with Minnesota Statutes, sections 120B.10 and 120B.11.
- C. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the school district shall have a procedure for a parent, a guardian, or an adult student 18 years of age or older to review the content of the instructional materials to be provided to a minor child or to an adult student pursuant to this article. The district must allow a parent or adult student to opt out of instruction under this article with no academic or other penalty for the student and must inform parents and adult students of this right to opt out.

VI. ENFORCEMENT

A. Students

1. Students may be required to participate in programs and activities that provide education against the use of alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, smokeless tobacco products, electronic cigarettes, and nonintoxicating cannabinoids, and edible cannabinoid products.
2. Students may be referred to drug or alcohol assistance or rehabilitation programs; school based mental health services, mentoring and counseling, including early identification of mental health symptoms, drug use and violence and appropriate referral to direct individual or group counselling service. which may be provided by school based mental health services providers; and/or referral to law enforcement officials when appropriate.
3. A student who violates the terms of this policy shall be subject to discipline in accordance with the school district's discipline policy. Such discipline may include suspension or expulsion from school.

B. Employees

1. As a condition of employment in any federal grant, each employee who is engaged either directly or indirectly in performance of a federal grant shall abide by the terms of this policy and shall notify his or her supervisor in writing of his or her conviction of any criminal drug statute for a violation occurring in any of the places listed above on which work on a school district federal grant is performed, no later than five (5) calendar days after such conviction. Conviction means a finding of guilt (including a plea of nolo contendere) or imposition of sentence, or both, by any judicial body charged with the responsibility to determine violations of the federal or state criminal drug statutes.
2. An employee who violates the terms of this policy is subject to disciplinary action, including nonrenewal, suspension, termination, or discharge as deemed appropriate by the school board.
3. In addition, any employee who violates the terms of this policy may be required to satisfactorily participate in a drug and/or alcohol abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved by the school district. Any employee who fails to satisfactorily participate in and complete such a program is subject to nonrenewal, suspension, or termination as deemed appropriate by the school board.
4. Sanctions against employees, including nonrenewal, suspension, termination, or discharge shall be pursuant to and in accordance with applicable statutory authority, collective bargaining agreements, and school district policies.

C. The Public

A member of the public who violates this policy shall be informed of the policy and asked to leave. If necessary, law enforcement officials will be notified and asked to provide an escort.

- Legal References:** Minn. Stat. § 120B.215 (Education on Cannabis Use and Substance Use)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.22 (Administration of Drugs and Medicine)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.40-§ 121A.56 (Pupil Fair Dismissal Act)
Minn. Stat. § 151.72 (Sale of Certain Cannabinoid Products)
Minn. Stat. § 152.01, Subd. 15a (Definitions)
Minn. Stat. § 152.0264 (Cannabis Sale Crimes)
Minn. Stat. § 152.22, Subd. 6 (Definitions; Medical Cannabis)
Minn. Stat. § 152.23 (Limitations; Medical Cannabis)
Minn. Stat. § 169A.31 (Alcohol-Related School Bus or Head Start Bus Driving)
Minn. Stat. § 340A.101 (Definitions; Alcoholic Beverage)
Minn. Stat. § 340A.403 (3.2 Percent Malt Liquor Licenses)
- Minn. Stat. § 340A.404 (Intoxicating Liquor; On-Sale Licenses)
Minn. Stat. § 342.09 (Personal Adult Use of Cannabis)
Minn. Stat. § 342.56 (Limitations)
Minn. Stat. § 609.684 (Abuse of Toxic Substances)
Minn. Stat. § 624.701 (Alcohol in Certain Buildings or Grounds)
20 U.S.C. § 7101-7122 (Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants)
21 U.S.C. § 812 (Schedules of Controlled Substances)
41 U.S.C. §§ 8101-8106 (Drug-Free Workplace Act)
21 C.F.R. §§ 1308.11-1308.15 (Controlled Substances)
34 C.F.R. Part 84 (Government-Wide Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace)
- Cross References:** MSBA/MASA Model Policy 403 (Discipline, Suspension, and Dismissal of School District Employees)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 416 (Drug and Alcohol Testing)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 417 (Chemical Use and Abuse)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 419 (Tobacco-Free Environment; Possession and use of Tobacco, Tobacco-Related Devices, and Electronic Delivery Devices; Vaping Awareness and Prevention Instruction)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 506 (Student Discipline)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 516 (Student Medication)
- Resources:** To support the requirements for school districts and charter schools outlined in [Minnesota Statute 2024, section 120B.215, subdivision 2](#), and in accordance with subdivision 1, MDE, in collaboration with MDH, the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS), and education experts, has created a

[List of Model Cannabis Education Programs for School District and Charter School Consideration.](#)

Schools may choose to implement one of the listed programs or they may implement their own program(s) identified through a local curriculum adoption process by the 2026-27 school year. While it is not required for a school district or charter school to use one of the programs in the list, the list and rubric provided may be useful to school districts and charter schools in their own decision-making process.

Please visit [MDE's Health Education webpage](#) for more information.

Adopted: 11/13/18, 12/8/03, 12/5/95

Revised: 8/11/25, 9/9/24, 8/14/23, 11/13/18, 11/10/03

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- C. An individual may not use or possess cannabis flower, cannabis products, lower-potency hemp edibles, or hemp-derived consumer products in a public school, as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 120A.05, subdivisions 9, 11, and 13, including all facilities, whether owned, rented, or leased, and all vehicles that the school district owns, leases, rents, contracts for, or controls.
- D. The school district will act to enforce this policy and to discipline or take appropriate action against any student, teacher, administrator, school personnel, or member of the public who violates this policy.

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- C. "Edible cannabinoid product" means any product that is intended to be eaten or consumed as a beverage by humans, contains a cannabinoid in combination with food ingredients, and is not a drug.

- D. “Nonintoxicating cannabinoid” means substances extracted from certified hemp plants that do not produce intoxicating effects when consumed by injection, inhalation, ingestion, or by any other immediate means.
- E. “Medical cannabis” means any species of the genus cannabis plant, or any mixture or preparation of them, including whole plant extracts and resins, and is delivered in the form of: (1) liquid, including, but not limited to, oil; (2) pill; (3) vaporized delivery method with use of liquid or oil but which does not require the use of dried leaves or plant form; (4) combustion with use of dried raw cannabis; or (5) any other method approved by the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Health (“Commissioner”).
- F. “Possess” means to have on one’s person, in one’s effects, or in an area subject to one’s control.
- G. “School location” includes any school building or on any school premises; in any school-owned vehicle or in any other school-approved vehicle used to transport students to and from school or school activities; off school property at any school-sponsored or school-approved activity, event, or function, such as a field trip or athletic event, where students are under the jurisdiction of the school district; or during any period of time such employee is supervising students on behalf of the school district or otherwise engaged in school district business.
- H. “Sell” means to sell, give away, barter, deliver, exchange, distribute or dispose of to another, or to manufacture; or to offer or agree to perform such an act, or to possess with intent to perform such an act.
- I. “Toxic substances” includes: (1) glue, cement, aerosol paint, containing toluene, benzene, xylene, amyl nitrate, butyl nitrate, nitrous oxide, or containing other aromatic hydrocarbon solvents, but does not include glue, cement, or paint contained in a packaged kit for the construction of a model automobile, airplane, or similar item; (2) butane or a butane lighter; or (3) any similar substance declared to be toxic to the central nervous system and to have a potential for abuse, by a rule adopted by the Commissioner.
- I. “Use” means to sell, buy, manufacture, distribute, dispense, be under the influence of, or consume in any manner, including, but not limited to, consumption by injection, inhalation, ingestion, or by any other immediate means.

IV. EXCEPTIONS

- A. A violation of this policy does not occur when a person brings onto a school location, for such person’s own use, a controlled substance, except medical cannabis, nonintoxicating cannabinoids, or edible cannabinoid products, which has a currently accepted medical use in treatment in the United States and the person has a physician’s prescription for the substance. The person shall comply with the relevant procedures of this policy.
- B. A violation of this policy does not occur when a person possesses an alcoholic beverage in a school location when the possession is within the exceptions of Minnesota Statutes,

section 624.701, subdivision 1a (experiments in laboratories; pursuant to a temporary license to sell liquor issued under Minnesota laws or possession after the purchase from such a temporary license holder).

- C. A violation of this policy does not occur when a person uses or possesses a toxic substance unless they do so with the intent of inducing or intentionally aiding another in inducing intoxication, excitement, or stupefaction of the central nervous system, except under the direction and supervision of a medical doctor.
- D. The school district may not refuse to enroll or otherwise penalize a patient or person enrolled in the Minnesota Patient Registry Program or a Tribal medical cannabis program as a pupil solely because the patient or person is enrolled in the registry program or Tribal medical cannabis program, unless failing to do so would violate federal law or regulations or cause the school to lose a monetary or licensing-related benefit under federal law or regulations.

An employer or a school must provide written notice to a patient at least 14 days before the employer or school takes an action against the patient that is prohibited under Minnesota Statutes, section 342.57, subdivision 3 or 5. The written notice must cite the specific federal law or regulation that the employer or school believes would be violated if the employer or school fails to take action. The notice must specify what monetary or licensing-related benefit under federal law or regulations that the employer or school would lose if the employer or school fails to take action.

A school or an employer must not retaliate against a patient for asserting the patient's rights or seeking remedies under Minnesota Statutes, section 342.57 or section 152.32.

V. PROCEDURES

- A. Students who have a prescription from a physician for medical treatment with a controlled substance, except medical cannabis, nonintoxicating cannabinoids, or edible cannabinoid products, must comply with the school district's student medication policy.
- B. Employees who have a prescription from a physician for medical treatment with a controlled substance, except medical cannabis, nonintoxicating cannabinoids, or edible cannabinoid products, are permitted to possess such controlled substance and associated necessary paraphernalia, such as an inhaler or syringe. The employee must inform his or her supervisor. The employee may be required to provide a copy of the prescription.
- C. Each employee shall be provided with written notice of this Drug-Free Workplace/Drug-Free School policy and shall be required to acknowledge that he or she has received the policy.
- D. Employees are subject to the school district's drug and alcohol testing policies and procedures.
- E. Members of the public are not permitted to possess controlled substances, intoxicating cannabinoids, or edible cannabinoid products in a school location except with the express

permission of the superintendent.

- F. No person is permitted to possess or use medical cannabis, nonintoxicating cannabinoids, or edible cannabinoid products on a school bus or van; or on the grounds of any preschool or primary or secondary school; or on the grounds of any child care facility. This prohibition includes (1) vaporizing or combusting medical cannabis on any form of public transportation where the vapor or smoke could be inhaled by a minor child or in any public place, including indoor or outdoor areas used by or open to the general public or place of employment; and (2) operating, navigating, or being in actual physical control of any motor vehicle or working on transportation property, equipment or facilities while under the influence of medical cannabis, nonintoxicating cannabinoids, or edible cannabinoid products.
- G. Possession of alcohol on school grounds pursuant to the exceptions of Minnesota Statutes section 624.701, subdivision 1a, shall be by permission of the school board only. The applicant shall apply for permission in writing and shall follow the school board procedures for placing an item on the agenda.

VI. SCHOOL PROGRAMS

- A. Starting in the 2026-2027 school year, the school district must implement a comprehensive education program on cannabis use and substance use, including but not limited to the use of fentanyl or mixtures containing fentanyl, for students in middle school and high school. The program must include instruction on the topics listed in Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.215, subdivision 1 and must:
 - 1. respect community values and encourage students to communicate with parents, guardians, and other trusted adults about cannabis use and substance use, including but not limited to the use of fentanyl or mixtures containing fentanyl; and
 - 2. refer students to local resources where students may obtain medically accurate information about cannabis use and substance use, including but not limited to the use of fentanyl or mixtures containing fentanyl, and treatment for a substance use disorder.
- B. School district efforts to develop, implement, or improve instruction or curriculum as a result of the provisions of this section must be consistent with Minnesota Statutes, sections 120B.10 and 120B.11.
- C. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the school district shall have a procedure for a parent, a guardian, or an adult student 18 years of age or older to review the content of the instructional materials to be provided to a minor child or to an adult student pursuant to this article. The district must allow a parent or adult student to opt out of instruction under this article with no academic or other penalty for the student and must inform parents and adult students of this right to opt out.

VI. ENFORCEMENT

- A. Students

1. Students may be required to participate in programs and activities that provide education against the use of alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, smokeless tobacco products, electronic cigarettes, and nonintoxicating cannabinoids, and edible cannabinoid products.
2. Students may be referred to drug or alcohol assistance or rehabilitation programs; school based mental health services, mentoring and counseling, including early identification of mental health symptoms, drug use and violence and appropriate referral to direct individual or group counselling service. which may be provided by school based mental health services providers; and/or referral to law enforcement officials when appropriate.
3. A student who violates the terms of this policy shall be subject to discipline in accordance with the school district's discipline policy. Such discipline may include suspension or expulsion from school.

B. Employees

1. As a condition of employment in any federal grant, each employee who is engaged either directly or indirectly in performance of a federal grant shall abide by the terms of this policy and shall notify his or her supervisor in writing of his or her conviction of any criminal drug statute for a violation occurring in any of the places listed above on which work on a school district federal grant is performed, no later than five (5) calendar days after such conviction. Conviction means a finding of guilt (including a plea of nolo contendere) or imposition of sentence, or both, by any judicial body charged with the responsibility to determine violations of the federal or state criminal drug statutes.
2. An employee who violates the terms of this policy is subject to disciplinary action, including nonrenewal, suspension, termination, or discharge as deemed appropriate by the school board.
3. In addition, any employee who violates the terms of this policy may be required to satisfactorily participate in a drug and/or alcohol abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved by the school district. Any employee who fails to satisfactorily participate in and complete such a program is subject to nonrenewal, suspension, or termination as deemed appropriate by the school board.
4. Sanctions against employees, including nonrenewal, suspension, termination, or discharge shall be pursuant to and in accordance with applicable statutory authority, collective bargaining agreements, and school district policies.

C. The Public

A member of the public who violates this policy shall be informed of the policy and asked to leave. If necessary, law enforcement officials will be notified and asked to provide an escort.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 120B.215 (Education on Cannabis Use and Substance Use)
 Minn. Stat. § 121A.22 (Administration of Drugs and Medicine)
 Minn. Stat. § 121A.40-§ 121A.56 (Pupil Fair Dismissal Act)
 Minn. Stat. § 151.72 (Sale of Certain Cannabinoid Products)
 Minn. Stat. § 152.01, Subd. 15a (Definitions)
 Minn. Stat. § 152.0264 (Cannabis Sale Crimes)
 Minn. Stat. § 152.22, Subd. 6 (Definitions; Medical Cannabis)
 Minn. Stat. § 152.23 (Limitations; Medical Cannabis)
 Minn. Stat. § 169A.31 (Alcohol-Related School Bus or Head Start Bus Driving)
 Minn. Stat. § 340A.101 (Definitions; Alcoholic Beverage)
 Minn. Stat. § 340A.403 (3.2 Percent Malt Liquor Licenses)

Minn. Stat. § 340A.404 (Intoxicating Liquor; On-Sale Licenses)
 Minn. Stat. § 342.09 (Personal Adult Use of Cannabis)
 Minn. Stat. § 342.56 (Limitations)
 Minn. Stat. § 609.684 (Abuse of Toxic Substances)
 Minn. Stat. § 624.701 (Alcohol in Certain Buildings or Grounds)
 20 U.S.C. § 7101-7122 (Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants)
 21 U.S.C. § 812 (Schedules of Controlled Substances)
 41 U.S.C. §§ 8101-8106 (Drug-Free Workplace Act)
 21 C.F.R. §§ 1308.11-1308.15 (Controlled Substances)
 34 C.F.R. Part 84 (Government-Wide Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 403 (Discipline, Suspension, and Dismissal of School District Employees)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 416 (Drug and Alcohol Testing)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 417 (Chemical Use and Abuse)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 419 (Tobacco-Free Environment; Possession and use of Tobacco, Tobacco-Related Devices, and Electronic Delivery Devices; Vaping Awareness and Prevention Instruction)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 506 (Student Discipline)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 516 (Student Medication)

Resources: To support the requirements for school districts and charter schools outlined in Minnesota Statute 2024, section 120B.215, subdivision 2, and in accordance with subdivision 1, MDE, in collaboration with MDH, the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS), and education experts, has created a

List of Model Cannabis Education Programs for School District and Charter School Consideration.

Schools may choose to implement one of the listed programs or they may implement their own program(s) identified through a local curriculum adoption process by the 2026-27 school year. While it is not required for a school district or charter school to use one of the programs in the list, the list and rubric provided may be useful to school districts and charter schools in their own decision-making

process.

Please visit MDE's Health Education webpage for more information.

Adopted: 10/25/21, 2/25/19, 9/8/03, 1/9/96

Revised: 8/11/25, 10/25/21, 2/25/19, 9/8/03, 4/28/03, 8/11/00

501 SCHOOL WEAPONS POLICY

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to assure a safe school environment for students, staff and the public.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

No student or nonstudent, including adults and visitors, shall possess, use, or distribute a weapon when in a school location except as provided in this policy. The school district will act to enforce this policy and to discipline or take appropriate action against any student, teacher, administrator, school employee, volunteer, or member of the public who violates this policy.

III. DEFINITIONS

- A. “Dangerous Weapon” means any firearm, whether loaded or unloaded, or any device designed as a weapon and capable of producing death or great bodily harm, any combustible or flammable liquid or other device or instrumentality that, in the manner it is used or intended to be used, is calculated or likely to produce death or great bodily harm, or any fire that is used to produce death or great bodily harm. As used in this definition, "flammable liquid" means any liquid having a flash point below 100 degrees Fahrenheit and having a vapor pressure not exceeding 40 pounds per square inch (absolute) at 100 degrees Fahrenheit but does not include intoxicating liquor. As used in this subdivision, "combustible liquid" is a liquid having a flash point at or above 100 degrees Fahrenheit.
- B. “Possession” means having a weapon on one’s person or in an area subject to one’s control in a school location.
- C. “School Location” includes any school building or grounds, whether leased, rented, owned or controlled by the school, locations of school activities or trips, bus stops, school buses or school vehicles, school-contracted vehicles, the area of entrance or departure from school premises or events, all locations where school-related functions are conducted, and anywhere students are under the jurisdiction of the school district.
- D. “Weapon”
1. A “weapon” means any object, device or instrument designed as a weapon or through its use is capable of threatening or producing bodily harm or which may be used to inflict self-injury including, but not limited to, any firearm, whether loaded or unloaded; airguns; pellet guns; BB guns; all knives; blades; clubs; metal knuckles; numchucks; throwing stars; explosives; fireworks; mace and other propellants; stunguns; ammunition; poisons; chains; arrows; and objects that have been modified to serve as a weapon.

2. No person shall possess, use, or distribute any object, device or instrument having the appearance of a weapon and such objects, devices or instruments shall be treated as weapons including, but not limited to, weapons listed above which are broken or non-functional, look-alike guns; toy guns; and any object that is a facsimile of a real weapon.
3. No person shall use articles designed for other purposes (i.e., lasers or laser pointers, belts, combs, pencils, files, scissors, etc.), to inflict bodily harm and/or intimidate and such use will be treated as the possession and use of a weapon.

IV. EXCEPTIONS

- A. A student who finds a weapon on the way to school or in a school location, or a student who discovers that he or she accidentally has a weapon in his or her possession, and takes the weapon immediately to the principal's office shall not be considered to possess a weapon. If it would be impractical or dangerous to take the weapon to the principal's office, a student shall not be considered to possess a weapon if he or she immediately turns the weapon over to an administrator, teacher or head coach or immediately notifies an administrator, teacher or head coach of the weapon's location.
- B. It shall not be a violation of this policy if a nonstudent (or student where specified) falls within one of the following categories:
 1. active licensed peace officers;
 2. military personnel, or students or nonstudents participating in military training, who are on duty performing official duties;
 3. persons authorized to carry a pistol under Minnesota Statutes, section 624.714 while in a motor vehicle or outside of a motor vehicle for the purpose of directly placing a firearm in, or retrieving it from, the trunk or rear area of the vehicle;
 4. persons who keep or store in a motor vehicle pistols in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 624.714 or 624.715 or other firearms in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 97B.045;
 - a. Minnesota Statutes, section 624.714 specifies procedures and standards for obtaining pistol permits and penalties for the failure to do so. Minnesota Statutes, section 624.715 defines an exception to the pistol permit requirements for "antique firearms which are carried or possessed as curiosities or for their historical significance or value."
 - b. Minnesota Statutes, section 97B.045 generally provides that a firearm may not be transported in a motor vehicle unless it is (1) unloaded and in a gun case without any portion of the firearm exposed; (2) unloaded and in the closed trunk; or (3) a handgun carried in compliance with sections 624.714 and 624.715.

5. firearm safety or marksmanship courses or activities for students or nonstudents conducted on school property;
6. possession of dangerous weapons, BB guns, or replica firearms by a ceremonial color guard;
7. a gun or knife show held on school property;
8. possession of dangerous weapons, BB guns, or replica firearms with written permission of the principal or other person having general control and supervision of the school or the director of a child care center; or
9. persons who are on unimproved property owned or leased by a child care center, school or school district unless the person knows that a student is currently present on the land for a school-related activity.

C. Policy Application to Instructional Equipment/Tools

While the school district does not allow the possession, use, or distribution of weapons by students or nonstudents, such a position is not meant to interfere with instruction or the use of appropriate equipment and tools by students or nonstudents. Such equipment and tools, when properly possessed, used, and stored, shall not be considered in violation of the rule against the possession, use, or distribution of weapons. However, when authorized instructional and work equipment and tools are used in a potentially dangerous or threatening manner, such possession and use will be treated as the possession and use of a weapon.

D. Firearms in School Parking Lots and Parking Facilities

A school district may not prohibit the lawful carry or possession of firearms in a school parking lot or parking facility. For purposes of this policy, the “lawful” carry or possession of a firearm in a school parking lot or parking facility is specifically limited to nonstudent permit-holders authorized under Minnesota Statutes, section 624.714 to carry a pistol in the interior of a vehicle or outside the motor vehicle for the purpose of directly placing a firearm in, or retrieving it from, the trunk or rear area of the vehicle. Any possession or carry of a firearm beyond the immediate vicinity of a permit-holder’s vehicle shall constitute a violation of this policy.

V. CONSEQUENCES FOR STUDENT WEAPON POSSESSION/USE/ DISTRIBUTION

- A. The school district does not allow the possession, use, or distribution of weapons by students. Consequently, the minimum consequence for students willfully possessing, using, or distributing weapons shall include:
1. immediate out-of-school suspension;
 2. confiscation of the weapon;

3. immediate notification of police;
 4. parent or guardian notification; and
 5. recommendation to the superintendent of dismissal for a period of time not to exceed one year.
- B. Pursuant to Minnesota law, a student who brings a firearm, as defined by federal law, to school will be expelled for at least one year. The school board may modify this requirement on a case-by-case basis.
- C. The building principal shall, as soon as practicable, refer to the criminal justice or juvenile delinquency system, as appropriate, a student who brings a firearm to school unlawfully.
- D. Administrative Discretion

While the school district does not allow the possession, use, or distribution of weapons by students, the superintendent may use discretion in determining whether, under the circumstances, a course of action other than the minimum consequences specified above is warranted. If so, other appropriate action may be taken, including consideration of a recommendation for lesser discipline.

VI. CONSEQUENCES FOR WEAPON POSSESSION/USE/DISTRIBUTION BY NONSTUDENTS

- A. Employees
1. An employee who violates the terms of this policy is subject to disciplinary action, including nonrenewal, suspension, or discharge as deemed appropriate by the school board.
 2. Sanctions against employees, including nonrenewal, suspension, or discharge shall be pursuant to and in accordance with applicable statutory authority, collective bargaining agreements, and school district policies.
 3. When an employee violates the weapons policy, law enforcement may be notified, as appropriate.
- B. Other Nonstudents
1. Any member of the public who violates this policy shall be informed of the policy and asked to leave the school location. Depending on the circumstances, the person may be barred from future entry to school locations. In addition, if the person is a student in another school district, that school district may be contacted concerning the policy violation.

2. If appropriate, law enforcement will be notified of the policy violation by the member of the public and may be asked to provide an escort to remove the member of the public from the school location.

VII. REPORTS OF DANGEROUS WEAPON AND ACTIVE SHOOTER INCIDENTS IN SCHOOL ZONES

- A. The school district must electronically report to the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Education (“Commissioner”) incidents involving the use or possession of a dangerous weapon in school zones, as required under Minnesota Statutes, section 121A.06.
- B. The school district must electronically file an after-action review report for active shooter incidents and active shooter threats to the Minnesota Fusion Center as required under Minnesota Statutes, section 121A.06.
 1. "Active shooter incident" means an event involving an armed individual or individuals on campus or an armed assailant in the immediate vicinity of the school.
 2. "Active shooter threat" means a real or perceived threat that an active shooter incident will occur.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 97B.045 (Transporting Firearms)
 Minn. Stat. § 121A.05 (Policy to Refer Firearms Possessor)
 Minn. Stat. § 121A.06 (Reports of Dangerous Weapon Incidents in School Zones)
 Minn. Stat. §§ 121A.40-121A.56 (Pupil Fair Dismissal Act)
 Minn. Stat. § 121A.44 (Expulsion for Possession of Firearm)
 Minn. Stat. § 152.01, subd. 14(a) (Definition of a School Zone)
 Minn. Stat. § 609.02, subd. 6 (Definition of Dangerous Weapon)
 Minn. Stat. § 609.605 (Trespass)
 Minn. Stat. § 609.66 (Dangerous Weapons)
 Minn. Stat. § 624.714 (Carrying of Weapons without Permit; Penalties)
 Minn. Stat. § 624.715 (Exemptions; Antiques and Ornaments)
 18 U.S.C. § 921 (Definition of Firearm)
In re C.R.M., 611 N.W.2d 802 (Minn. 2000)
In re A.D., 883 N.W.2d 251 (Minn. 2016)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 403 (Discipline, Suspension, and Dismissal of School District Employees)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 506 (Student Discipline)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 525 (Violence Prevention)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 903 (Visitors to School District Buildings and Sites)

Adopted: 10/25/21, 2/25/19, 9/8/03, 1/9/96

Revised: 8/11/25, 10/25/21, 2/25/19, 9/8/03, 4/28/03, 8/11/00

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III. DEFINITIONS

- A. “Dangerous Weapon” means any firearm, whether loaded or unloaded, or any device designed as a weapon and capable of producing death or great bodily harm, any combustible or flammable liquid or other device or instrumentality that, in the manner it is used or intended to be used, is calculated or likely to produce death or great bodily harm, or any fire that is used to produce death or great bodily harm. As used in this definition, "flammable liquid" means any liquid having a flash point below 100 degrees Fahrenheit and having a vapor pressure not exceeding 40 pounds per square inch (absolute) at 100 degrees Fahrenheit but does not include intoxicating liquor. As used in this subdivision, "combustible liquid" is a liquid having a flash point at or above 100 degrees Fahrenheit.
- B. “Possession” means having a weapon on one’s person or in an area subject to one’s control in a school location.
- C. “School Location” includes any school building or grounds, whether leased, rented, owned or controlled by the school, locations of school activities or trips, bus stops, school buses or school vehicles, school-contracted vehicles, the area of entrance or departure from school premises or events, all locations where school-related functions are conducted, and anywhere students are under the jurisdiction of the school district.
- D. “Weapon”
1. A “weapon” means any object, device or instrument designed as a weapon or through its use is capable of threatening or producing bodily harm or which may be used to inflict self-injury including, but not limited to, any firearm, whether loaded or unloaded; airguns; pellet guns; BB guns; all knives; blades; clubs; metal knuckles; numchucks; throwing stars; explosives; fireworks; mace and other propellants; stunguns; ammunition; poisons; chains; arrows; and objects that have been modified to serve as a weapon.

2. No person shall possess, use, or distribute any object, device or instrument having the appearance of a weapon and such objects, devices or instruments shall be treated as weapons including, but not limited to, weapons listed above which are broken or non-functional, look-alike guns; toy guns; and any object that is a facsimile of a real weapon.
3. No person shall use articles designed for other purposes (i.e., lasers or laser pointers, belts, combs, pencils, files, scissors, etc.), to inflict bodily harm and/or intimidate and such use will be treated as the possession and use of a weapon.

IV. EXCEPTIONS

- A. A student who finds a weapon on the way to school or in a school location, or a student who discovers that he or she accidentally has a weapon in his or her possession, and takes the weapon immediately to the principal's office shall not be considered to possess a weapon. If it would be impractical or dangerous to take the weapon to the principal's office, a student shall not be considered to possess a weapon if he or she immediately turns the weapon over to an administrator, teacher or head coach or immediately notifies an administrator, teacher or head coach of the weapon's location.
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 1. active licensed peace officers;
 2. military personnel, or students or nonstudents participating in military training, who are on duty performing official duties;
 3. persons authorized to carry a pistol under Minnesota Statutes, section 624.714 while in a motor vehicle or outside of a motor vehicle for the purpose of directly placing a firearm in, or retrieving it from, the trunk or rear area of the vehicle;
 4. persons who keep or store in a motor vehicle pistols in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 624.714 or 624.715 or other firearms in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 97B.045;
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6. possession of dangerous weapons, BB guns, or replica firearms by a ceremonial color guard;
7. a gun or knife show held on school property;
8. possession of dangerous weapons, BB guns, or replica firearms with written permission of the principal or other person having general control and supervision of the school or the director of a child care center; or
9. persons who are on unimproved property owned or leased by a child care center, school or school district unless the person knows that a student is currently present on the land for a school-related activity.

C. Policy Application to Instructional Equipment/Tools

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 5. recommendation to the superintendent of dismissal for a period of time not to exceed one year.
- B. Pursuant to Minnesota law, a student who brings a firearm, as defined by federal law, to school will be expelled for at least one year. The school board may modify this requirement on a case-by-case basis.
- C. The building principal shall, as soon as practicable, refer to the criminal justice or juvenile delinquency system, as appropriate, a student who brings a firearm to school unlawfully.
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While the school district does not allow the possession, use, or distribution of weapons by students, the superintendent may use discretion in determining whether, under the circumstances, a course of action other than the minimum consequences specified above is warranted. If so, other appropriate action may be taken, including consideration of a recommendation for lesser discipline.

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VII. REPORTS OF DANGEROUS WEAPON AND ACTIVE SHOOTER INCIDENTS IN SCHOOL ZONES

- A. The school district must electronically report to the Commissioner of the **Minnesota Department of Education (“Commissioner”)** incidents involving the use or possession of a dangerous weapon in school zones, as required under Minnesota Statutes, section 121A.06.
- B. **The school district must electronically file an after-action review report for active shooter incidents and active shooter threats to the Minnesota Fusion Center as required under Minnesota Statutes, section 121A.06.**
 1. **"Active shooter incident" means an event involving an armed individual or individuals on campus or an armed assailant in the immediate vicinity of the school.**
 2. **"Active shooter threat" means a real or perceived threat that an active shooter incident will occur.**

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 97B.045 (Transporting Firearms)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.05 (Policy to Refer Firearms Possessor)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.06 (Reports of Dangerous Weapon Incidents in School Zones)
Minn. Stat. §§ 121A.40-121A.56 (Pupil Fair Dismissal Act)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.44 (Expulsion for Possession of Firearm)
Minn. Stat. § 152.01, subd. 14(a) (Definition of a School Zone)
Minn. Stat. § 609.02, subd. 6 (Definition of Dangerous Weapon)
Minn. Stat. § 609.605 (Trespass)
Minn. Stat. § 609.66 (Dangerous Weapons)
Minn. Stat. § 624.714 (Carrying of Weapons without Permit; Penalties)
Minn. Stat. § 624.715 (Exemptions; Antiques and Ornaments)
18 U.S.C. § 921 (Definition of Firearm)
In re C.R.M., 611 N.W.2d 802 (Minn. 2000)
In re A.D., 883 N.W.2d 251 (Minn. 2016)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 403 (Discipline, Suspension, and Dismissal of School District Employees)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 506 (Student Discipline)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 525 (Violence Prevention)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 903 (Visitors to School District Buildings and Sites)

Adopted: 1/9/96

Revised: 8/11/25, 9/9/24, 2/13/96, 8/26/96, 5/23/05, 11/22/21

503 STUDENT ATTENDANCE

I. PURPOSE

- A. The school board believes that regular school attendance is directly related to success in academic work, benefits students socially, provides opportunities for important communications between teachers and students and establishes regular habits of dependability important to the future of the student. The purpose of this policy is to encourage regular school attendance. It is intended to be positive and not punitive.
- B. This policy also recognizes that class attendance is a joint responsibility to be shared by the student, parent or guardian, teacher and administrators. This policy will assist students in attending class.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

- A. Responsibilities.

Student's Responsibility.

It is the student's right to be in school. It is also the student's responsibility to attend all assigned classes and study halls every day that school is in session and to be aware of and follow the correct procedures when absent from an assigned class or study hall. Finally, it is the student's responsibility to request any missed assignments due to an absence.

Parent or Guardian's Responsibility.

It is the responsibility of the student's parent or guardian to ensure the student is attending school, to inform the school in the event of a student absence, and to work cooperatively with the school and the student to solve any attendance problems that may arise.

Teacher's Responsibility.

It is the teacher's responsibility to take daily attendance and to maintain accurate attendance records in each assigned class and study hall. It is also the teacher's responsibility to be familiar with all procedures governing attendance and to apply these procedures uniformly. It is also the teacher's responsibility to provide any student who has been absent with any missed assignments upon request. Finally, it is the teacher's responsibility to work cooperatively with the student's parent or guardian and the student to solve any attendance problems that may arise.

Administrator's Responsibility.

It is the administrator's responsibility to require students to attend all assigned classes and study halls. It is also the administrator's responsibility to be familiar with all procedures governing attendance and to apply these procedures uniformly to all students, to maintain accurate records on student attendance. Finally, it is the administrator's responsibility to inform the student's parent or guardian of the student's attendance and to work cooperatively with them and the student to solve attendance problems.

In accordance with the regulations of the Minnesota Department of Children, Families and Learning and the Minnesota Compulsory Instruction Law, Minnesota Statute, section 120A.22, the students of the school district are **REQUIRED** to attend all assigned classes and/or study halls every day school is in session, unless the student has been excused by the school board from attendance because the student has already completed the studies ordinarily required to graduate from high school, has withdrawn, or has a valid excuse for absence.

B. Attendance Procedures

Minnesota State Law: "The Minnesota Law provides that every child between seven and sixteen must receive instruction for a period of not less than nine months during any school year, unless the child has completed the studies ordinarily required in the tenth grade and is at least 16 years of age. A student may be excused from attendance by the School Board upon application of his/her parents or guardians on grounds specified in the law."

The Minnesota Department of Children, Families, and Learning regulations require a school to withdraw students after fifteen consecutive days of unexplained absence for state aid purposes.

Attendance will be taken every class period of every school day.

C. Excused Absence

1. A parent, guardian, or other person having control of a child may apply to a school district to have the child excused from attendance for the whole or any part of the time school is in session during any school year. Application may be made to a truant officer, or the school official designated by the principal. A note from a physician or a licensed mental health professional stating that the child cannot attend school is a valid excuse. Any application made in accordance with the above must be shared with the building principal for approval. The building principal will be responsible for verifying the legitimacy of the request.
2. To be considered an excused absence, the student's parent or legal guardian may be asked to verify, in writing, the reason for the student's absence from school.

3. The board of the district in which the child resides may approve the application under subparagraph (a) above upon a legitimate exception being demonstrated to the satisfaction of that board.

4. Legitimate Exceptions

The following reasons shall be sufficient to constitute excused absences:

- a. that the child's physical or mental health is such as to prevent attendance at school or application to study for the period required, which includes:
 - i. child illness, medical, dental, orthodontic, or counseling appointments; including appointments conducted through telehealth. Parents should make every effort to schedule appointments/treatment outside of the school day. When this cannot be done, a student's absence due to a medical appointment or dental treatment may need to be verified. Parents can verify student illness to the school up to 15 days per year.
 - ii. the child has a condition that requires ongoing treatment for a mental health diagnosis or
 - iii. family emergencies;
 - iv. the death or serious illness or funeral of an immediate family member;
- b. that the child has already completed state and district standards required for graduation from high school; or
- c. that it is the wish of the parent, guardian, or other person having control of the child, that the child attend for a period or periods not exceeding in the aggregate three hours in any week, instruction conducted by a Tribal spiritual or cultural advisor, or a school for religious instruction conducted and maintained by a church, or association of churches, or any Sunday school association incorporated under the laws of this state, or any auxiliary thereof. This instruction must be conducted and maintained in a place other than a public school building, and it must not, in whole or in part, be conducted and maintained at public expense. A child may be absent from school on days that the child attends upon instruction according to this clause or
- d. active duty in any military branch of the United States or
- e. Court appearance or
- f. Recognized religious holiday observance or
- g. College/Technical visits- with prior school approval (High School only) or
- h. Vacation with prior school approval or
- i. Impassable roads/inclement weather or

- j. School related absences (field trip, sport student is involved in, suspension, school-sponsored event, etc.) or
- k. In the case of special circumstances, the Administration may approve additional excused absences or
- l. other exemptions included in this attendance policy.

D. Prearranged Absences

- 1. A prearranged absence form must be obtained from the principal's office upon written request from parents.
- 2. Pre-approval of absence(s) will be made by the building principal and will be arranged with individual teachers.

E. Unexcused Absences

- 1. An absence from school, class, or assigned detention by a student that was not approved by the parent/guardian and the school from the list above.
- 2. Absences in which the parent/guardian fails to contact the school within 24 hours of absence.
- 3. Absences resulting from unexcused tardies.
- 4. Disciplinary action will result from unexcused absence(s).

F. Tardiness

- 1. It is the student's responsibility to report to school and class on time.
- 2. When a student reports to school late he/she must go to the office for a pass.
- 3. The individual teacher will decide class tardiness.
- 4. Students who repeatedly break this rule shall be reported to the office for disciplinary action.

G. Participation in Extracurricular Activities and School-Sponsored On-the-Job Programs

- 1. This policy applies to all students involved in any extracurricular activity scheduled either during or outside the school day and any school-sponsored on-the-job training programs.
- 2. School-initiated absences will be accepted and participation permitted.
- 3. A student may not participate in any activity or program if he or she has an unexcused absence from any class during the day.

4. If a student is suspended from any class, he or she may not participate in any activity or program that day.
5. If a student is absent from school due to medical reasons, he or she must present a physician's statement or a statement from the student's parent or guardian clearing the student for participation that day. The note must be presented to the coach or advisor before the student participates in the activity or program.

H. Religious Observance Accommodation

Reasonable efforts will be made by the school district to accommodate any student who wishes to be excused from a curricular activity for a religious observance. Requests for accommodations should be directed to the building principal.

I. Checkout Procedures

1. Students who are leaving the building during school hours for any reason must have an Out-of-Building Pass issued from the main office. Parental permission must be obtained before permission is granted.
2. Under no circumstances is a student allowed to leave the building without first checking out through the office (see Open Lunch Policy if it applies to your school). Disciplinary action will be taken for those who violate this policy.

J. Upon Returning to School, Checking In and Checking Out of School

1. The student is to immediately bring a written excuse signed by the parent/guardian to the office indicating the reason for absence(s). A phone call or digital message will be accepted if parent/guardian can be verified.
2. This applies to students who return to school at any time during the day.
3. Disciplinary action will be taken for any student who is tardy or does not check into office upon arrival in school.

K. Consequences of Excessive Absences (Unexcused, Truant, or Excused)

1. After three unexcused absences or a combination of eight total excused and/or unexcused absences from school a letter will be sent home notifying parent/guardian. A copy of this letter will be forwarded to the district's truancy officer. Upon receipt of letter the truancy officer may elect to place student on an attendance contract or meet with parents.
2. After five unexcused absences or a combination of ten total excused and/or unexcused absences from school the truancy officer may elect to send home a letter notifying parent/guardian that student is determined a continuing truant Minnesota Statute 250A.02, subdivision 3 and request a meeting to address the issue further. Other school officials may be requested to attend this meeting. School services or

other outside services will be offered to assist with the problem when appropriate. A parent/student contract may be ordered.

3. If absences still persist the truancy officer may refer the student to the county attorney's office as a habitual truant pursuant to Minnesota Statute 260C.007, subdivision 19. Upon receipt from the truancy officer the county attorney's may elect to file a truancy petition with the district court.

L. Consequences due to Excessive Absences on Student's Grades and School Credit (Unexcused, Truant, or Excused)

1. See respective Student Handbook.

III. DISSEMINATION OF POLICY

1. Copies of this policy shall be made available to all students and parents at the commencement of each school year. This policy shall also be available upon request in each principal's office.
2. The school district will provide annual notice to parents of the school district's policy relating to a student's absence from school for religious observance.

Legal References:

- Minn. Stat. § 120A.05 (Definitions)
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Cross References: MSBA Model Policy 506 (Student Discipline)

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- c. that it is the wish of the parent, guardian, or other person having control of the child, that the child attend for a period or periods not exceeding in the aggregate three hours in any week, instruction conducted by a Tribal spiritual or cultural advisor, or a school for religious instruction conducted and maintained by a church, or association of churches, or any Sunday school association incorporated under the laws of this state, or any auxiliary thereof. This instruction must be conducted and maintained in a place other than a public school building, and it must not, in whole or in part, be conducted and maintained at public expense. A child may be absent from school on days that the child attends upon instruction according to this clause or
- d. active duty in any military branch of the United States or
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- g. College/Technical visits- with prior school approval (High School only) or
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- 1. This policy applies to all students involved in any extracurricular activity scheduled either during or outside the school day and any school-sponsored on-the-job training programs.
- 2. School-initiated absences will be accepted and participation permitted.

3. A student may not participate in any activity or program if he or she has an unexcused absence from any class during the day.
4. If a student is suspended from any class, he or she may not participate in any activity or program that day.
5. If a student is absent from school due to medical reasons, he or she must present a physician's statement or a statement from the student's parent or guardian clearing the student for participation that day. The note must be presented to the coach or advisor before the student participates in the activity or program.

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2. Under no circumstances is a student allowed to leave the building without first checking out through the office (see Open Lunch Policy if it applies to your school). Disciplinary action will be taken for those who violate this policy.

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1. The student is to immediately bring a written excuse signed by the parent/guardian to the office indicating the reason for absence(s). A phone call or digital message will be accepted if parent/guardian can be verified.
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1. After three unexcused absences or a combination of eight total excused and/or unexcused absences from school a letter will be sent home notifying parent/guardian. A copy of this letter will be forwarded to the district's truancy officer. Upon receipt of letter the truancy officer may elect to place student on an attendance contract or meet with parents.
2. After five unexcused absences or a combination of ten total excused and/or unexcused absences from school the truancy officer may elect to send home a letter notifying parent/guardian that student is determined a continuing truant Minnesota

Statute 250A.02, subdivision 3 and request a meeting to address the issue further. Other school officials may be requested to attend this meeting. School services or

other outside services will be offered to assist with the problem when appropriate. A parent/student contract may be ordered.

3. If absences still persist the truancy officer may refer the student to the county attorney's office as a habitual truant pursuant to Minnesota Statute 260C.007, subdivision 19. Upon receipt from the truancy officer the county attorney's may elect to file a truancy petition with the district court.

L. Consequences due to Excessive Absences on Student's Grades and School Credit (Unexcused, Truant, or Excused)

1. See respective Student Handbook.

III. DISSEMINATION OF POLICY

1. Copies of this policy shall be made available to all students and parents at the commencement of each school year. This policy shall also be available upon request in each principal's office.
2. The school district will provide annual notice to parents of the school district's policy relating to a student's absence from school for religious observance.

Legal References:

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- Minn. Stat. § 120A.22 (Compulsory Instruction)
- Minn. Stat. § 120A.24 (Reporting)
- Minn. Stat. § 120A.26 (Enforcement and Prosecution)
- Minn. Stat. § 120A.34 (Violations; Penalties)
- Minn. Stat. § 120A.35 (Absence from School for Religious Observance)
- Minn. Stat. §§ 121A.40-121A.56 (Pupil Fair Dismissal Act)
- Minn. Stat. § 260A.02 (Definitions)
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- Goss v. Lopez*, 419 U.S. 565 (1975)
- Slocum v. Holton Bd. of Educ.*, 429 N.W.2d 607 (Mich. App. Ct. 1988)
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- Hamer v. Bd. of Educ. of Twp. High Sch. Dist. No. 113*, 66 Ill. App.3d 7, 383 N.E.2d 231 (1978)
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Cross References: MSBA Model Policy 506 (Student Discipline)

Adopted: 10/14/19, 2/25/08, 2/11/06, 1/9/96

Revised: 9/9/24, 11/13/23, 8/14/23, 10/14/19, 1/28/18, 2/11/06, 1/9/96

506 STUDENT DISCIPLINE

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that students are aware of and comply with the school district's expectations for student conduct. Such compliance will enhance the school district's ability to maintain discipline and ensure that there is no interference with the educational process. The school district will take appropriate disciplinary action when students fail to adhere to the Code of Student Conduct established by this policy.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The school board recognizes that individual responsibility and mutual respect are essential components of the educational process. The school board further recognizes that nurturing the maturity of each student is of primary importance and is closely linked with the balance that must be maintained between authority and self-discipline as the individual progresses from a child's dependence on authority to the more mature behavior of self-control.

All students are entitled to learn and develop in a setting which promotes respect of self, others, and property. Proper positive discipline can only result from an environment which provides options and stresses student self-direction, decision-making, and responsibility. Schools can function effectively only with internal discipline based on mutual understanding of rights and responsibilities.

Students must conduct themselves in an appropriate manner that maintains a climate in which learning can take place. Overall decorum affects student attitudes and influences student behavior. Proper student conduct is necessary to facilitate the education process and to create an atmosphere conducive to high student achievement.

Although this policy emphasizes the development of self-discipline, it is recognized that there are instances when it will be necessary to administer disciplinary measures. The position of the school district is that a fair and equitable district-wide student discipline policy will contribute to the quality of the student's educational experience. This discipline policy is adopted in accordance with and subject to the Minnesota Pupil Fair Dismissal Act, Minnesota Statutes, sections 121A.40-121A.56.

In view of the foregoing and in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 121A.55, the school board, with the participation of school district administrators, teachers, employees, students, parents, community members, and such other individuals and organizations as appropriate, has developed this policy which governs student conduct and applies to all students of the school district.

III. DEFINITIONS

- A. "Nonexclusionary disciplinary policies and practices" means policies and practices that are alternatives to dismissing a pupil from school, including but not limited to evidence-based positive behavior interventions and supports, social and emotional services, school-linked mental health services, counseling services, social work services, academic screening for Title 1 services or reading interventions, and alternative education services. Nonexclusionary disciplinary policies and practices include but are not limited to the policies and practices under Minnesota Statutes, sections 120B.12; 121A.575, clauses (1) and (2); 121A.031, subdivision 4, paragraph (a), clause (1); 121A.61, subdivision 3, paragraph (r); and 122A.627, clause (3).
- B. "Pupil withdrawal agreement" means a verbal or written agreement between a school administrator or district administrator and a pupil's parent to withdraw a student from the school district to avoid expulsion or exclusion dismissal proceedings. The duration of the withdrawal agreement cannot be for more than a 12-month period.

IV. POLICY

- A. The school board must establish uniform criteria for dismissal and adopt written policies and rules to effectuate the purposes of the Minnesota Pupil Fair Dismissal Act. The policies must include nonexclusionary disciplinary policies and practices consistent with Minnesota Statutes, section 121A.41, subdivision 12, and must emphasize preventing dismissals through early detection of problems. The policies must be designed to address students' inappropriate behavior from recurring.
- B. The policies must recognize the continuing responsibility of the school for the education of the pupil during the dismissal period.
- C. The school is responsible for ensuring that alternative educational services, if the pupil wishes to take advantage of them, must be adequate to allow the pupil to make progress toward meeting the graduation standards adopted under Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.02 and help prepare the pupil for readmission in accordance with section Minnesota Statutes, section 121A.46, subdivision 5.
- D. For expulsion and exclusion dismissals and pupil withdrawal agreements as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 121A.41, subdivision 13:
 - 1. for a pupil who remains enrolled in the school district or is awaiting enrollment in a new district, the school district's continuing responsibility includes reviewing the pupil's schoolwork and grades on a quarterly basis to ensure the pupil is on track for readmission with the pupil's peers. The school district must communicate on a regular basis with the pupil's parent or guardian to ensure that the pupil is completing the work assigned through the alternative educational services as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 121A.41, subdivision 11. These services are required until the pupil enrolls in another school or returns to the same school;

2. a pupil receiving school-based or school-linked mental health services in the school district under Minnesota Statutes, section 245.4889 continues to be eligible for those services until the pupil is enrolled in a new district; and
3. the school district must provide to the pupil's parent or guardian information on accessing mental health services, including any free or sliding fee providers in the community. The information must also be posted on the school district website.

V. AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

- A. The School Board. The school board holds all school personnel responsible for the maintenance of order within the school district and supports all personnel acting within the framework of this discipline policy.
- B. Superintendent. The superintendent shall establish guidelines and directives to carry out this policy, hold all school personnel, students, and parents responsible for conforming to this policy, and support all school personnel performing their duties within the framework of this policy. The superintendent shall also establish guidelines and directives for using the services of appropriate agencies for assisting students and parents. Any guidelines or directives established to implement this policy shall be submitted to the school board for approval and shall be attached as an addendum to this policy.
- C. Principal. The school principal is given the responsibility and authority to formulate building rules and regulations necessary to enforce this policy, subject to final school board approval. The principal shall give direction and support to all school personnel performing their duties within the framework of this policy. The principal shall consult with parents of students conducting themselves in a manner contrary to the policy. The principal shall also involve other professional employees in the disposition of behavior referrals and shall make use of those agencies appropriate for assisting students and parents. A principal, in exercising the person's lawful authority, may use reasonable force when it is necessary under the circumstances to correct or restrain a student to prevent bodily harm or death to the student or another. A principal shall not use prone restraint and shall not inflict any form of physical holding that restricts or impairs a student's ability to breathe; restricts or impairs a student's ability to communicate distress; places pressure or weight on a student's head, throat, neck, chest, lungs, sternum, diaphragm, back or abdomen; or results in straddling a student's torso.
- D. Teachers. All teachers shall be responsible for providing a well-planned teaching/learning environment and shall have primary responsibility for student conduct, with appropriate assistance from the administration. All teachers shall enforce the Code of Student Conduct. A teacher, in exercising the teacher's lawful authority, may use reasonable force when it is necessary under the circumstances to correct or restrain a student to prevent bodily harm or death to the student or another. A teacher shall not use prone restraint and shall not inflict any form of physical holding that restricts or impairs a student's ability to breathe; restricts or impairs a student's ability to communicate distress; places pressure or weight on a student's head, throat, neck, chest, lungs, sternum, diaphragm, back or abdomen; or results in straddling a student's torso.

- E. Other School District Personnel. All school district personnel shall be responsible for contributing to the atmosphere of mutual respect within the school. Their responsibilities relating to student behavior shall be as authorized and directed by the superintendent. A school employee, school bus driver, or other agent of a school district, in exercising his or her lawful authority, may use reasonable force when it is necessary under the circumstances to restrain a student to prevent bodily harm or death to the student or another. A school employee, which does not include a school resource officer, shall not use prone restraint and shall not inflict any form of physical holding that restricts or impairs a student's ability to breathe; restricts or impairs a student's ability to communicate distress; places pressure or weight on a student's head, throat, neck, chest, lungs, sternum, diaphragm, back or abdomen; or results in straddling a student's torso.

For the purpose of Minnesota Statutes, section 121A.582 (Student Discipline; Reasonable Force), a school resource officer, as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 626.8482, subdivision 1, paragraph (c) is not a school employee or agent of the district.

- F. Parents or Legal Guardians. Parents and guardians shall be held responsible for the behavior of their children as determined by law and community practice. They are expected to cooperate with school authorities and to participate regarding the behavior of their children.
- G. Students. All students shall be held individually responsible for their behavior and for knowing and obeying the Code of Student Conduct and this policy.
- H. Community Members. Members of the community are expected to contribute to the establishment of an atmosphere in which rights and duties are effectively acknowledged and fulfilled.
- I. Reasonable Force Reports
1. The school district must report data on its use of any reasonable force used on a student with a disability to correct or restrain the student to prevent bodily harm or death to the student or another that is consistent with the definition of physical holding under Minnesota Statutes, section 125A.0941, paragraph (c), as outlined in section 125A.0942, subdivision 3, paragraph (b).
 2. Beginning with the 2024-2025 school year, the school district must report annually by July 15, in a form and manner determined by the MDE Commissioner, data from the prior school year about any reasonable force used on a general education student to correct or restrain the student to prevent imminent bodily harm or death to the student or another that is consistent with the definition of physical holding under Minnesota Statutes, section 125A.0941, paragraph (c).
 3. Any reasonable force used under Minnesota Statutes, sections 121A.582; 609.06, subdivision 1; and 609.379 which intends to hold a child immobile or limit a child's movement where body contact is the only source of physical restraint or confines a child alone in a room from which egress is barred shall be reported to the Minnesota Department of Education as a restrictive procedure, including physical holding or seclusion used by ~~an~~ unauthorized or untrained staff person.

VI. STUDENT RIGHTS

All students have the right to an education and the right to learn.

VII. STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

All students have the responsibility:

- A. For their behavior and for knowing and obeying all school rules, regulations, policies, and procedures;
- B. To attend school daily, except when excused, and to be on time to all classes and other school functions;
- C. To pursue and attempt to complete the courses of study prescribed by the state and local school authorities;
- D. To make necessary arrangements for making up work when absent from school;
- E. To assist the school staff in maintaining a safe school for all students;
- F. To be aware of all school rules, regulations, policies, and procedures, including those in this policy, and to conduct themselves in accord with them;
- G. To assume that until a rule or policy is waived, altered, or repealed, it is in full force and effect;
- H. To be aware of and comply with federal, state, and local laws;
- I. To volunteer information in disciplinary cases should they have any knowledge relating to such cases and to cooperate with school staff as appropriate;
- J. To respect and maintain the school's property and the property of others;
- K. To dress and groom in a manner which meets standards of safety and health and common standards of decency and which is consistent with applicable school district policy;
- L. To avoid inaccuracies in student newspapers or publications and refrain from indecent or obscene language;
- M. To conduct themselves in an appropriate physical or verbal manner; and
- N. To recognize and respect the rights of others.

VIII. CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT

- A. The following are examples of unacceptable behavior subject to disciplinary action by the school district. These examples are not intended to be an exclusive list. Any student who

engages in any of these activities shall be disciplined in accordance with this policy. This policy applies to all school buildings, school grounds, and school property or property immediately adjacent to school grounds; school-sponsored activities or trips; school bus stops; school buses, school vehicles, school contracted vehicles, or any other vehicles approved for school district purposes; the area of entrance or departure from school premises or events; and all school-related functions, school-sponsored activities, events, or trips. School district property also may mean a student's walking route to or from school for purposes of attending school or school-related functions, activities, or events. While prohibiting unacceptable behavior subject to disciplinary action at these locations and events, the school district does not represent that it will provide supervision or assume liability at these locations and events. This policy also applies to any student whose conduct at any time or in any place interferes with or obstructs the mission or operations of the school district or the safety or welfare of the student, other students, or employees.

1. Violations against property including, but not limited to, damage to or destruction of school property or the property of others, failure to compensate for damage or destruction of such property, arson, breaking and entering, theft, robbery, possession of stolen property, extortion, trespassing, unauthorized usage, or vandalism;
2. The use of profanity or obscene language, or the possession of obscene materials;
3. Gambling, including, but not limited to, playing a game of chance for stakes;
4. Violation of the school district's Hazing Prohibition Policy;
5. Attendance problems including, but not limited to, truancy, absenteeism, tardiness, skipping classes, or leaving school grounds without permission;
6. Violation of the school district's Student Attendance Policy;
7. Opposition to authority using physical force or violence;
8. Using, possessing, or distributing tobacco, tobacco-related devices, electronic cigarettes, or tobacco paraphernalia in violation of the school district's Tobacco-Free Environment; Possession and Use of Tobacco, Tobacco-Related Devices, and Electronic Delivery Devices Policy;
9. Using, possessing, distributing, intending to distribute, making a request to another person for (solicitation), or being under the influence of alcohol or other intoxicating substances or look-alike substances;
10. Using, possessing, distributing, intending to distribute, making a request to another person for (solicitation), or being under the influence of narcotics, drugs, or other controlled substances (except as prescribed by a physician), or look-alike substances (these prohibitions include medical marijuana or medical cannabis, even when prescribed by a physician, and one student sharing prescription medication with another student);

11. Using, possessing, or distributing items or articles that are illegal or harmful to persons or property including, but not limited to, drug paraphernalia;
12. Using, possessing, or distributing weapons, or look-alike weapons or other dangerous objects;
13. Violation of the school district's Weapons Policy;
14. Violation of the school district's Violence Prevention Policy;
15. Possession of ammunition including, but not limited to, bullets or other projectiles designed to be used in or as a weapon;
16. Possession, use, or distribution of explosives or any compound or mixture, the primary or common purpose or intended use of which is to function as an explosive;
17. Possession, use, or distribution of fireworks or any substance or combination of substances or article prepared for the purpose of producing a visible or an audible effect by combustion, explosion, deflagration or detonation;
18. Using an ignition device, including a butane or disposable lighter or matches, inside an educational building and under circumstances where there is a risk of fire, except where the device is used in a manner authorized by the school;
19. Violation of any local, state, or federal law as appropriate;
20. Acts disruptive of the educational process, including, but not limited to, disobedience, disruptive or disrespectful behavior, defiance of authority, cheating, insolence, insubordination, failure to identify oneself, improper activation of fire alarms, or bomb threats;
21. Violation of the school district's Internet Acceptable Use and Safety Policy;
22. Use of a cell phone in violation of the school district's Internet Acceptable Use and Safety Policy;
23. Violation of school bus or transportation rules or the school district's Student Transportation Safety Policy;
24. Violation of parking or school traffic rules and regulations, including, but not limited to, driving on school property in such a manner as to endanger persons or property;
25. Violation of directives or guidelines relating to lockers or improperly gaining access to a school locker;

26. Violation of the school district's Search of Student Lockers, Desks, Personal Possessions, and Student's Person Policy;
27. Violation of the school district's Student Use and Parking of Motor Vehicles; Patrols, Inspections, and Searches Policy;
28. Possession or distribution of slanderous, libelous, or pornographic materials;
29. Violation of the school district's Bullying Prohibition Policy;
30. Student attire or personal grooming which creates a danger to health or safety or creates a disruption to the educational process, including clothing which bears a message which is lewd, vulgar, or obscene, apparel promoting products or activities that are illegal for use by minors, or clothing containing objectionable emblems, signs, words, objects, or pictures communicating a message that is racist, sexist, or otherwise derogatory to a protected minority group or which connotes gang membership;
31. Criminal activity;
32. Falsification of any records, documents, notes, or signatures;
33. Tampering with, changing, or altering records or documents of the school district by any method including, but not limited to, computer access or other electronic means;
34. Scholastic dishonesty which includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a school assignment or test, plagiarism, or collusion, including the use of picture phones or other technology to accomplish this end;
35. Impertinent or disrespectful words, symbols, acronyms, or language, whether oral or written, related to teachers or other school district personnel;
36. Violation of the school district's Harassment and Violence Policy;
37. Actions, including fighting or any other assaultive behavior, which causes or could cause injury to the student or other persons or which otherwise endangers the health, safety, or welfare of teachers, students, other school district personnel, or other persons;
38. Committing an act which inflicts great bodily harm upon another person, even though accidental or a result of poor judgment;
39. Violations against persons, including, but not limited to, assault or threatened assault, fighting, harassment, interference or obstruction, attack with a weapon, or look-alike weapon, sexual assault, illegal or inappropriate sexual conduct, or indecent exposure;

40. Verbal assaults or verbally abusive behavior including, but not limited to, use of words, symbols, acronyms, or language, whether oral or written, that are discriminatory, abusive, obscene, threatening, intimidating, degrading to other people, or threatening to school property;
41. Physical or verbal threats including, but not limited to, the staging or reporting of dangerous or hazardous situations that do not exist;
42. Inappropriate, abusive, threatening, or demeaning actions based on race, color, creed, religion, sex, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, disability, national origin, or sexual orientation;
43. Violation of the school district's Distribution of Nonschool-Sponsored Materials on School Premises by Students and Employees Policy;
44. Violation of the school district's one-to-one device rules and regulations;
45. Violation of school rules, regulations, policies, or procedures, including, but not limited to, those policies specifically enumerated in this policy;
46. Other acts, as determined by the school district, which are disruptive of the educational process or dangerous or detrimental to the student or other students, school district personnel or surrounding persons, or which violate the rights of others or which damage or endanger the property of the school, or which otherwise interferes with or obstruct the mission or operations of the school district or the safety or welfare of students or employees.

IX. RECESS AND OTHER BREAKS

- A. "Recess detention" means excluding or excessively delaying a student from participating in a scheduled recess period as a consequence for student behavior. Recess detention does not include, among other things, providing alternative recess at the student's choice.
- B. The school district is encouraged to ensure student access to structured breaks from the demands of school and to support teachers, principals, and other school staff in their efforts to use evidence-based approaches to reduce exclusionary forms of discipline.
- C. The school district must not use recess detention unless:
 1. a student causes or is likely to cause serious physical harm to other students or staff;
 2. the student's parent or guardian specifically consents to the use of recess detention; or
 3. for students receiving special education services, the student's individualized education program team has determined that withholding recess is appropriate based on the individualized needs of the student.

- D. The school district must not withhold recess from a student based on incomplete schoolwork.
- E. The school district must require school staff to make a reasonable attempt to notify a parent or guardian within 24 hours of using recess detention.
- F. The school district must compile information on each recess detention at the end of each school year, including the student's age, grade, gender, race or ethnicity, and special education status. This information must be available to the public upon request. The school district is encouraged to use the data in professional development promoting the use of nonexclusionary discipline.
- G. The school district must not withhold or excessively delay a student's participation in scheduled mealtimes. This section does not alter a district or school's existing responsibilities under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.111 or other state or federal law.

X. DISCIPLINARY ACTION OPTIONS

The general policy of the school district is to utilize progressive discipline to the extent reasonable and appropriate based upon the specific facts and circumstances of student misconduct. The specific form of discipline chosen in a particular case is solely within the discretion of the school district. At a minimum, violation of school district code of conduct, rules, regulations, policies, or procedures will result in discussion of the violation and a verbal warning. The school district shall, however, impose more severe disciplinary sanctions for any violation, including exclusion or expulsion, if warranted by the student's misconduct, as determined by the school district. Disciplinary action may include, but is not limited to, one or more of the following:

- A. Student conference with teacher, principal, counselor, or other school district personnel, and verbal warning;
- B. Confiscation by school district personnel and/or by law enforcement of any item, article, object, or thing, prohibited by, or used in the violation of, any school district policy, rule, regulation, procedure, or state or federal law. If confiscated by the school district, the confiscated item, article, object, or thing will be released only to the parent/guardian following the completion of any investigation or disciplinary action instituted or taken related to the violation.
- C. Parent contact;
- D. Parent conference;
- E. Removal from class;
- F. In-school suspension;
- G. Suspension from extracurricular activities;
- H. Detention or restriction of privileges;

- I. Loss of school privileges;
- J. In-school monitoring or revised class schedule;
- K. Referral to in-school support services;
- L. Referral to community resources or outside agency services;
- M. Financial restitution;
- N. Referral to police, other law enforcement agencies, or other appropriate authorities;
- O. A request for a petition to be filed in district court for juvenile delinquency adjudication;
- P. Out-of-school suspension under the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act;
- Q. Preparation of an admission or readmission plan;
- R. Saturday school;
- S. Expulsion under the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act;
- T. Exclusion under the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act; and/or
- U. Other disciplinary action as deemed appropriate by the school district.

XI. REMOVAL OF STUDENTS FROM CLASS

- A. The teacher of record shall have the general control and government of the classroom. Teachers have the responsibility of attempting to modify disruptive student behavior by such means as conferring with the student, using positive reinforcement, assigning detention or other consequences, or contacting the student’s parents. When such measures fail, or when the teacher determines it is otherwise appropriate based upon the student’s conduct, the teacher shall have the authority to remove the student from class pursuant to the procedures established by this discipline policy. “Removal from class” and “removal” mean any actions taken by a teacher, principal, or other school district employee to prohibit a student from attending a class or activity period for a period of time not to exceed five (5) days, pursuant to this discipline policy.

Grounds for removal from class shall include any of the following:

- 1. Willful conduct that significantly disrupts the rights of others to an education, including conduct that interferes with a teacher’s ability to teach or communicate effectively with students in a class or with the ability of other students to learn;
- 2. Willful conduct that endangers surrounding persons, including school district employees, the student or other students, or the property of the school;

3. Willful violation of any school rules, regulations, policies or procedures, including the Code of Student Conduct in this policy; or
4. Other conduct, which in the discretion of the teacher or administration, requires removal of the student from class.

Such removal shall be for at least one (1) activity period or class period of instruction for a given course of study and shall not exceed five (5) such periods.

A student must be removed from class immediately if the student engages in assault or violent behavior. "Assault" is an act done with intent to cause fear in another of immediate bodily harm or death; or the intentional infliction of, or attempt to inflict, bodily harm upon another. The removal from class shall be for a period of time deemed appropriate by the principal, in consultation with the teacher.

- B. If a student is removed from class more than ten (10) times in a school year, the school district shall notify the parent or guardian of the student's tenth removal from class and make reasonable attempts to convene a meeting with the student's parent or guardian to discuss the problem that is causing the student to be removed from class.
- C. Procedures for Removal of a Student from a Class.
 1. Each teacher has the discretion to remove a student for inappropriate behavior as determined by the teacher. Upon asking the student to leave the classroom and report to the office, the teacher will notify the main office of the name of the student removed.
 2. Disciplinary action may be taken as a result of any behavior which is disruptive of the education processes or which violates the rights of others. The acts set forth in the disciplinary policy are unacceptable and subject to disciplinary action in school buildings, on the school buses, school grounds and at school sponsored activities.
 3. Teachers will contact the administration and/or complete appropriate behavior referral form in a timely manner.
- D. Period of Time for which a Student may be Removed from a Class (may not exceed five (5) class periods for a violation of a rule of conduct).
 1. The removal from class shall be for a period of time deemed appropriate by the principal, in consultation with the teacher.
- E. Responsibility for and Custody of a Student Removed from Class.
 1. Each teacher has the discretion to determine how to deal with inappropriate behavior by a student. The teacher may instruct the student to a designated supervised area or the office. When they are sent to the office, the teacher will

notify the office staff of the name of the student reporting to the office. When appropriate or necessary, the teacher will contact the office to request an escort.

2. Administrators have broad discretion to determine the consequences based on the minimum and maximum consequences established in the student handbooks. In unusual situations administrators may impose discipline less than the minimum. In the event the student has engaged in the same or similar behavior in the past or has engaged in persistent violation of school rules, the maximum penalties may be increased.

F. Procedures for Return of a Student to a Class from Which the Student Was Removed.

1. Administrators will take appropriate action for each student removed from class on a case-by-case basis. Such action may include, but is not limited to, warning, student conference, parent conference, detention, or suspension.

G. Procedures for Notification.

1. Parents will be notified of consequences when students are dismissed from class. Notification may be in the form of a phone call, written communication, or conference.

H. Disabled Students; Special Provisions.

1. Consideration of whether there is a need for further assessment will be determined by the Individual Education Plan (IEP) team members.
2. Consideration of whether there is a need for a review of the adequacy of the current Individual Education Plan (IEP) of a disabled student who is removed from class or disciplined will be determined by the IEP team members.

I. Procedures for Detecting and Addressing Chemical Abuse Problems of Students While on School Premises.

1. A chemical abuse pre-assessment team will be established pursuant to Minn. Stat. 121A.26;
2. A school and community advisory team to address chemical abuse problems in the district will be established pursuant to Minn. Stat. 121A.27;
3. Any teacher or school district employee who knows or has reason to believe that a student is using, possessing, or transferring alcohol or a controlled substance while on school premises or involved in school, shall immediately notify the building principal.

J. Procedures for Immediate and Appropriate Interventions Tied to Violations of the Code of Student Conduct.

1. Nothing in this policy shall prohibit the School District from taking immediate action to protect individuals and property from harm. Nor shall this policy be construed to prohibit the School District from expelling students from behavior not specifically set forth if such conduct:
2. Materially and substantially disrupts the rights of others to an education; or
3. Endangers the student, other students or individuals or property of the school.

All violations of the Code of Student Conduct will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

K. Any Procedures Determined Appropriate for Encouraging Early Involvement of Parents or Guardians in Attempts to Improve a Student’s Behavior.

1. School district personnel may respond to student misbehavior in a variety of ways in which to involve parents or guardians. They include, but are not limited to, communication of concerns, parent conferences, and mediation.

L. Any Procedures Determined Appropriate for Encouraging Early Detection of Behavioral Problems.

1. School district personnel may respond to behavioral problems in a variety of ways in attempts to modify the behavior. They include, but are not limited to, verbal warning, one-to-one interaction, written communication to parent, parent conference, detention, referral to administrator, and suspension.

M. Building Administrators responsible for student discipline shall consider referring students to the special education identification process within the building when multiple attempts to correct student behavior are deemed unsuccessful.

N. Building Administrators responsible for student behavior shall consider adaptation to standard discipline procedure when they have determined a student violated this policy as result of bullying by others.

XII. DISMISSAL

A. “Dismissal” means the denial of the current educational program to any student, including exclusion, expulsion, and suspension. Dismissal does not include removal from class.

The school district shall not deny due process or equal protection of the law to any student involved in a dismissal proceeding which may result in suspension, exclusion or expulsion.

The school district shall not dismiss any student without attempting to use nonexclusionary disciplinary policies and procedures before dismissal proceedings or pupil withdrawal agreements, except where it appears that the student will create an immediate and substantial danger to self or to surrounding persons or property.

- B. Violations leading to suspension, based upon severity, may also be grounds for actions leading to expulsion, and/or exclusion. A student may be dismissed on any of the following grounds:
1. Willful violation of any reasonable school board regulation, including those found in this policy;
 2. Willful conduct that significantly disrupts the rights of others to an education, or the ability of school personnel to perform their duties, or school sponsored extracurricular activities; or
 3. Willful conduct that endangers the student or other students, or surrounding persons, including school district employees, or property of the school.
- C. Disciplinary Dismissals Prohibited
1. A pupil enrolled in the following is not subject to dismissals under the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act:
 - a. a preschool or prekindergarten program, including an early childhood family education, school readiness, voluntary prekindergarten, Head Start, or other school-based preschool or prekindergarten program; or
 - b. kindergarten through Grade 3.
 2. This section does not apply to a dismissal from school for less than one school day, except as provided under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 125A and federal law for a student receiving special education services.
 3. Notwithstanding this section, expulsions and exclusions may be used only after resources outlined under Nonexclusionary discipline have been exhausted, and only in circumstances where there is an ongoing serious safety threat to the child or others.
- D. Suspension Procedures
1. “Suspension” means an action by the school administration, under rules promulgated by the School Board, prohibiting a student from attending school for a period of no more than ten (10) school days; provided, however, if a suspension is longer than five (5) school days, the suspending administrator shall provide the superintendent with a reason for the longer term of suspension. This definition does not apply to dismissal for one (1) school day or less where a student with a disability does not receive regular or special education instruction during that dismissal period.
 2. School administration must allow a suspended pupil the opportunity to complete all school work assigned during the period of the pupil's suspension and to receive full credit for satisfactorily completing the assignments. The school principal or other

person having administrative control of the school building or program is encouraged to designate a district or school employee as a liaison to work with the pupil's teachers to allow the suspended pupil to (1) receive timely course materials and other information, and (2) complete daily and weekly assignments and receive teachers' feedback.

3. If a student's total days of removal from school exceed ten (10) cumulative days in a school year, the school district shall make reasonable attempts to convene a meeting with the student and the student's parent or guardian before subsequently removing the student from school and, with the permission of the parent or guardian, arrange for a mental health screening for the student at the parent or guardian's expense. The purpose of this meeting is to attempt to determine the student's need for assessment or other services or whether the parent or guardian should have the student assessed or diagnosed to determine whether the student needs treatment for a mental health disorder.
4. The definition of suspension under Minnesota Statutes, section [121A.41, subdivision 10](#), does not apply to a student's dismissal from school for less than one day, except as provided under federal law for a student with a disability. Each suspension action may include a readmission plan. The plan shall include, where appropriate, a provision for implementing alternative educational services upon readmission which must not be used to extend the current suspension. A readmission plan must not obligate a parent or guardian to provide psychotropic drugs to their student as a condition of readmission. School administration must not use the refusal of a parent or guardian to consent to the administration of psychotropic drugs to their student or to consent to a psychiatric evaluation, screening, or examination of the student as a ground, by itself, to prohibit the student from attending class or participating in a school-related activity, or as a basis of a charge of child abuse, child neglect, or medical or educational neglect. The school administration may not impose consecutive suspensions against the same student for the same course of conduct, or incident of misconduct, except where the student will create an immediate and substantial danger to self or to surrounding persons or property or where the school district is in the process of initiating an expulsion, in which case the school administration may extend the suspension to a total of fifteen (15) days.
5. A child with a disability may be suspended. When a child with a disability has been suspended for more than five (5) consecutive days or ten (10) cumulative school days in the same year, and that suspension does not involve a recommendation for expulsion or exclusion or other change in placement under federal law, relevant members of the child's IEP team, including at least one of the child's teachers, shall meet and determine the extent to which the child needs services in order to continue to participate in the general education curriculum, although in another setting, and to progress toward meeting the goals in the child's IEP. That meeting must occur as soon as possible, but no more than ten (10) days after the sixth (6th) consecutive day of suspension or the tenth (10th) cumulative day of suspension has elapsed.

6. Alternative education services must be provided to a pupil who is suspended for more than five (5) consecutive school days. Alternative educational services may include, but are not limited to, special tutoring, modified curriculum, modified instruction, other modifications or adaptations, instruction through electronic media, special education services as indicated by appropriate assessments, homebound instruction, supervised homework, or enrollment in another district or in an alternative learning center under Minnesota Statutes, section 123A.05 selected to allow the student to progress toward meeting graduation standards under Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.02, although in a different setting.
7. The school administration shall not suspend a student from school without an informal administrative conference with the student. The informal administrative conference shall take place before the suspension, except where it appears that the student will create an immediate and substantial danger to self or to surrounding persons or property, in which case the conference shall take place as soon as practicable following the suspension. At the informal administrative conference, a school administrator shall notify the student of the grounds for the suspension, provide an explanation of the evidence the authorities have, and the student may present the student's version of the facts. A separate administrative conference is required for each period of suspension.
8. After school administration notifies a student of the grounds for suspension, school administration may, instead of imposing the suspension, do one or more of the following:
 - a. strongly encourage a parent or guardian of the student to attend school with the student for one day;
 - b. assign the student to attend school on Saturday as supervised by the principal or the principal's designee; and
 - c. petition the juvenile court that the student is in need of services under Minnesota Statutes chapter 260C.
9. A written notice containing the grounds for suspension, a brief statement of the facts, a description of the testimony, a readmission plan, and a copy of the Minnesota Pupil Fair Dismissal Act, Minnesota Statutes, sections 121A.40-121A.56, shall be personally served upon the student at or before the time the suspension is to take effect, and upon the student's parent or guardian by mail within forty-eight (48) hours of the conference. (See attached sample Notice of Suspension.)
10. The school administration shall make reasonable efforts to notify the student's parent or guardian of the suspension by telephone as soon as possible following suspension.

11. In the event a student is suspended without an informal administrative conference on the grounds that the student will create an immediate and substantial danger to surrounding persons or property, the written notice shall be served upon the student and the student's parent or guardian within forty-eight (48) hours of the suspension. Service by mail shall be complete upon mailing.
12. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, the student may be suspended pending the school board's decision in an expulsion or exclusion proceeding, provided that alternative educational services are implemented to the extent that suspension exceeds five (5) consecutive school days.

E. Expulsion and Exclusion Procedures

1. "Expulsion" means a school board action to prohibit an enrolled student from further attendance for up to twelve (12) months from the date the student is expelled. The authority to expel rests with the school board.
2. "Exclusion" means an action taken by the school board to prevent enrollment or re-enrollment of a student for a period that shall not extend beyond the school year. The authority to exclude rests with the school board.
3. All expulsion and exclusion proceedings will be held pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of the Minnesota Pupil Fair Dismissal Act, Minnesota Statutes, sections 121A.40-121A.56.
4. No expulsion or exclusion shall be imposed without a hearing, unless the right to a hearing is waived in writing by the student and parent or guardian.
5. The student and parent or guardian shall be provided written notice of the school district's intent to initiate expulsion or exclusion proceedings. This notice shall be served upon the student and his or her parent or guardian personally or by mail, and shall contain a complete statement of the facts; a list of the witnesses and a description of their testimony; state the date, time and place of hearing; be accompanied by a copy of the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act, Minnesota Statutes, sections 121A.40-121A.56; describe the nonexclusionary disciplinary practices accorded the student in an attempt to avoid the expulsion proceedings; and inform the student and parent or guardian of their right to: (1) have a representative of the student's own choosing, including legal counsel at the hearing; (2) examine the student's records before the hearing; (3) present evidence; and (4) confront and cross-examine witnesses. The school district must advise the student's parent or guardian that free or low-cost legal assistance may be available and that a legal assistance resource list is available from the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) and is posted on its website.
6. The hearing shall be scheduled within ten (10) days of the service of the written notice unless an extension, not to exceed five (5) days, is requested for good cause by the school district, student, parent, or guardian.

7. All hearings shall be held at a time and place reasonably convenient to the student, parent, or guardian and shall be closed, unless the student, parent, or guardian requests an open hearing.
8. The school district shall record the hearing proceedings at district expense, and a party may obtain a transcript at its own expense.
9. The student shall have a right to a representative of the student's own choosing, including legal counsel, at the student's sole expense. The school district shall advise the student's parent or guardian that free or low-cost legal assistance may be available and that a legal assistance resource list is available from MDE. The school board may appoint an attorney to represent the school district in any proceeding.
10. If the student designates a representative other than the parent or guardian, the representative must have a written authorization from the student and the parent or guardian providing them with access to and/or copies of the student's records.
11. All expulsion or exclusion hearings shall take place before and be conducted by an independent hearing officer designated by the school district. The hearing shall be conducted in a fair and impartial manner. Testimony shall be given under oath and the hearing officer shall have the power to issue subpoenas and administer oaths.
12. At a reasonable time prior to the hearing, the student, parent or guardian, or authorized representative shall be given access to all school district records pertaining to the student, including any tests or reports upon which the proposed dismissal action may be based.
13. The student, parent or guardian, or authorized representative, shall have the right to compel the presence of any school district employee or agent or any other person who may have evidence upon which the proposed dismissal action may be based, and to confront and cross-examine any witnesses testifying for the school district.
14. The student, parent or guardian, or authorized representative, shall have the right to present evidence and testimony, including expert psychological or educational testimony.
15. The student cannot be compelled to testify in the dismissal proceedings.
16. The hearing officer shall prepare findings and a recommendation based solely upon substantial evidence presented at the hearing, which must be made to the school board and served upon the parties within two (2) days after the close of the hearing.
17. The school board shall base its decision upon the findings and recommendation of the hearing officer and shall render its decision at a meeting held within five (5) days after receiving the findings and recommendation. The school board may provide the parties with the opportunity to present exceptions and comments to the hearing officer's findings and recommendation provided that neither party presents

any evidence not admitted at the hearing. The decision by the school board must be based on the record, must be in writing, and must state the controlling facts on which the decision is made in sufficient detail to apprise the parties and the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Education (Commissioner) of the basis and reason for the decision.

18. A party to an expulsion or exclusion decision made by the school board may appeal the decision to the Commissioner within twenty-one (21) calendar days of school board action pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 121A.49. The decision of the school board shall be implemented during the appeal to the Commissioner.
19. The school district shall report any suspension, expulsion or exclusion action taken to the appropriate public service agency, when the student is under the supervision of such agency.
20. The school district must report, through the MDE electronic reporting system, each expulsion or exclusion within thirty (30) days of the effective date of the action to the Commissioner. This report must include a statement of alternative educational services given the student and the reason for, the effective date, and the duration of the exclusion or expulsion. The report must also include the student's age, grade, gender, race, and special education status. The dismissal report must include state student identification numbers of affected students.
21. Whenever a student fails to return to school within ten (10) school days of the termination of dismissal, a school administrator shall inform the student and his/her parent or guardian by mail of the student's right to attend and to be reinstated in the school district.

XIII. ADMISSION OR READMISSION PLAN

A school administrator must prepare and enforce an admission or readmission plan for any student who is excluded or expelled from school. The plan must include measures to improve the student's behavior, which may include completing a character education program consistent with Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.232, subdivision 1, social and emotional learning, counseling, social work services, mental health services, referrals for special education or 504 evaluation, and evidence-based academic interventions. The plan must include reasonable attempts to obtain parental involvement in the admission or readmission process, and may indicate the consequences to the student of not improving the student's behavior. The readmission plan must not obligate parents to provide a sympathomimetic medication for their child as a condition of readmission.

XIV. NOTIFICATION OF POLICY VIOLATIONS

Notification of any violation of this policy and resulting disciplinary action shall be as provided herein, or as otherwise provided by the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act or other applicable law. The teacher, principal or other school district official may provide additional notification as deemed appropriate.

In addition, the school district must report, through the MDE electronic reporting system, each exclusion or expulsion, each physical assault of a school district employee by a pupil, and each pupil withdrawal agreement within thirty (30) days of the effective date of the dismissal action, pupil withdrawal, or assault, to the MDE Commissioner. This report must include a statement of the nonexclusionary disciplinary practices, or other sanction, intervention, or resolution in response to the assault given to the pupil and the reason for, the effective date, and the duration of the exclusion or expulsion or other sanction, intervention, or resolution. The report must also include the pupil's age, grade, gender, race, and special education status.

XV. STUDENT DISCIPLINE RECORDS

The policy of the school district is that complete and accurate student discipline records be maintained. The collection, dissemination, and maintenance of student discipline records shall be consistent with applicable school district policies and federal and state law, including the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minnesota Statutes chapter 13.

XVI. STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students who are currently identified as eligible under the IDEA or Section 504 will be subject to the provisions of this policy, unless the student's IEP or 504 plan specifies a necessary modification.

Before initiating an expulsion or exclusion of a student with a disability, relevant members of the child's IEP team and the child's parent shall, consistent with federal law, conduct a manifestation determination and determine whether the child's behavior was (i) caused by or had a direct and substantial relationship to the child's disability and (ii) whether the child's conduct was a direct result of a failure to implement the child's IEP. If the student's educational program is appropriate and the behavior is not a manifestation of the student's disability, the school district will proceed with discipline – up to and including expulsion – as if the student did not have a disability, unless the student's educational program provides otherwise. If the team determines that the behavior subject to discipline is a manifestation of the student's disability, the team shall conduct a functional behavioral assessment and implement a behavioral intervention plan for such student provided that the school district had not conducted such assessment prior to the manifestation determination before the behavior that resulted in a change of placement. Where a behavioral intervention plan previously has been developed, the team will review the behavioral intervention plan and modify it as necessary to address the behavior.

When a student who has an IEP is excluded or expelled for misbehavior that is not a manifestation of the student's disability, the school district shall continue to provide special education and related services during the period of expulsion or exclusion.

XVII. OPEN ENROLLED STUDENTS

The school district may terminate the enrollment of a nonresident student enrolled under an Enrollment Option Program (Minnesota Statutes section 124D.03) or Enrollment in Nonresident District (Minnesota Statutes section 124D.08) at the end of a school year if the student meets the definition of a habitual truant, the student has been provided appropriate services for truancy (Minnesota Statutes chapter 260A), and the student's case has been referred to juvenile court. The

school district may also terminate the enrollment of a nonresident student over the age of seventeen (17) enrolled under an Enrollment Options Program if the student is absent without lawful excuse for one or more periods on fifteen (15) school days and has not lawfully withdrawn from school.

XVIII. DISCIPLINE COMPLAINT PROCEDURE

Students, parents and other guardians, and school staff may file a complaint and seek corrective action when the requirements of the Minnesota Pupil Fair Dismissal Act, including the implementation of the local behavior and discipline policies, are not being implemented appropriately or are being discriminately applied.

The Discipline Complaint Procedure must, at a minimum:

1. provide procedures for communicating this policy including the ability for a parent to appeal a decision under Minnesota Statutes, section 121A.49 that contains explicit instructions for filing the complaint;
2. provide an opportunity for involved parties to submit additional information related to the complaint;
3. provide a procedure to begin to investigate complaints within three school days of receipt, and identify personnel who will manage the investigation and any resulting record and are responsible for keeping and regulating access to any record;
4. provide procedures for issuing a written determination to the complainant that addresses each allegation and contains findings and conclusions;
5. if the investigation finds the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, sections 121A.40 to 121A.61, including any local policies that were not implemented appropriately, contain procedures that require a corrective action plan to correct a student's record and provide relevant staff with training, coaching, or other accountability practices to ensure appropriate compliance with policies in the future; and
6. prohibit reprisals or retaliation against any person who asserts, alleges, or reports a complaint, and provide procedures for applying appropriate consequences for a person who engages in reprisal or retaliation.

XIX. DISTRIBUTION OF POLICY

The school district will notify students and parents of the existence and contents of this policy in such manner as it deems appropriate. Copies of this discipline policy shall be made available to all students and parents at the commencement of each school year and to all new students and parents upon enrollment. This policy shall also be available upon request in each principal's office.

XX. REVIEW OF POLICY

The principal and representatives of parents, students and staff in each school building shall confer at least annually to review this discipline policy, determine if the policy is working as intended, and

to assess whether the discipline policy has been enforced. Any recommended changes shall be submitted to the superintendent for consideration by the school board, which shall conduct an annual review of this policy.

- Legal References:**
- Minn. Stat. Ch. 13 (Minnesota Government Data Practices Act)
 - Minn. Stat. § 120B.02 (Educational Expectations and Graduation Requirements for Minnesota Students)
 - Minn. Stat. § 120B.232 (Character Development Education)
 - Minn. Stat. § 121A.26 (School Preassessment Teams)
 - Minn. Stat. § 121A.29 (Reporting; Chemical Abuse)
 - Minn. Stat. §§ 121A.40-121A.56 (Pupil Fair Dismissal Act)
 - Minn. Stat. § 121A.575 (Alternatives to Pupil Suspension)
 - Minn. Stat. § 121A.58 (Corporal Punishment; Prone Restraint; And Certain Physical Holds)
 - Minn. Stat. § 121A.582 (Student Discipline; Reasonable Force)
 - Minn. Stat. §§ 121A.60 (Definitions)
 - Minn. Stat. § 121A.61 (Discipline and Removal of Students from Class)
 - Minn. Stat. § 121A.611 (Recess and Other Breaks)
 - Minn. Stat. § 122A.42 (General Control of Schools)
 - Minn. Stat. § 123A.05 (State-Approved Alternative Program Organization)
 - Minn. Stat. § 124D.03 (Enrollment Options Program)
 - Minn. Stat. § 124D.08 (School Boards' Approval to Enroll in Nonresident District; Exceptions)
 - Minn. Stat. Ch. 125A (Special Education and Special Programs)
 - Minn. Stat. § 152.22, Subd. 6 (Definitions)
 - Minn. Stat. § 152.23 (Limitations)
 - Minn. Stat. Ch. 260A (Truancy)
 - Minn. Stat. Ch. 260C (Juvenile Safety and Placement)
 - 20 U.S.C. §§ 1400-1487 (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act)
 - 29 U.S.C. § 794 et seq. (Rehabilitation Act of 1973, § 504)
 - 34 C.F.R. § 300.530(e)(1) (Manifestation Determination)

- Cross References:**
- MSBA/MASA Model Policy 413 (Harassment and Violence)
 - MSBA/MASA Model Policy 419 (Tobacco-Free Environment; Possession and Use of Tobacco, Tobacco-Related Devices, and Electronic Delivery Devices; Vaping Awareness and Prevention Instruction)
 - MSBA/MASA Model Policy 501 (School Weapons)
 - MSBA/MASA Model Policy 502 (Search of Student Lockers, Desks, Personal Possessions, and Student's Person)
 - MSBA/MASA Model Policy 503 (Student Attendance)
 - MSBA/MASA Model Policy 505 (Distribution of Nonschool-Sponsored Materials on School Premises by Students and Employees)
 - MSBA/MASA Model Policy 507.5 (School Resource Officers)
 - MSBA/MASA Model Policy 514 (Bullying Prohibition Policy)
 - MSBA/MASA Model Policy 524 (Internet Acceptable Use and Safety Policy)
 - MSBA/MASA Model Policy 525 (Violence Prevention)
 - MSBA/MASA Model Policy 526 (Hazing Prohibition)
 - MSBA/MASA Model Policy 527 (Student Use and Parking of Motor Vehicles;

Patrols, Inspections, and Searches)

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 610 (Field Trips)

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 709 (Student Transportation Safety Policy)

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 711 (Video Recording on School Buses)

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 712 (Video Surveillance Other Than on Buses)

Adopted: 12/14/15, 10/13/14, 2/14/11, 1/9/1996

Revised: 8/11/25, 9/9/24, 8/14/23, 12/14/15, 10/13/14, 2/14/11

#515 PROTECTION AND PRIVACY OF PUPIL RECORDS

I. PURPOSE

The school district recognizes its responsibility in regard to the collection, maintenance, and dissemination of pupil records and the protection of the privacy rights of students as provided in federal law and state statutes.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The following procedures and policies regarding the protection and privacy of parents and students are adopted by the school district, pursuant to the requirements of 20 United States Code, section 1232g, *et seq.*, (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)) 34 Code of Federal Regulations part 99 and consistent with the requirements of the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minnesota Statutes, chapter 13, and Minnesota Rules, parts 1205.0100-1205.2000.

III. DEFINITIONS

A. Authorized Representative

“Authorized representative” means any entity or individual designated by the school district, state, or an agency headed by an official of the Comptroller of the United States, the Attorney General of the United States, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education, or state and local educational authorities to conduct, with respect to federal or state supported education programs, any audit or evaluation or any compliance or enforcement activity in connection with federal legal requirements that relate to these programs.

B. Biometric Record

“Biometric record,” as referred to in “Personally Identifiable,” means a record of one or more measurable biological or behavioral characteristics that can be used for automated recognition of an individual (e.g., fingerprints, retina and iris patterns, voiceprints, DNA sequence, facial characteristics, and handwriting).

C. Dates of Attendance

“Dates of attendance,” as referred to in “Directory Information,” means the period of time during which a student attends or attended a school or schools in the school district, including attendance in person or by paper correspondence, videoconference, satellite, Internet, or other electronic information and telecommunications technologies for students who are not in the classroom, and including the period during which a student is working under a work-study program. The term does not include specific daily records of a student’s attendance at a school or schools in the school district.

D. Directory Information

1. Under federal law, “directory information” means information contained in an education record of a student that would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed. It includes the student’s name; photograph; date and place of birth; major field of study; dates of attendance; grade level; enrollment status (i.e., full-time or part-time); participation in officially recognized activities and sports; weight and height of members of athletic teams; degrees, honors and awards received; and the most recent educational agency or institution attended. It also includes the name of the student’s parent(s). Directory information does not include:
 - a. a student’s social security number;
 - b. a student’s identification number (ID), user ID, or other unique personal identifier used by a student for purposes of accessing or communicating in electronic systems if the identifier may be used to access education records without use of one or more factors that authenticate the student’s identity such as a personal identification number (PIN), password, or other factor known or possessed only by the authorized user;
 - c. a student ID or other unique personal identifier that is displayed on a student ID badge if the identifier can be used to gain access to educational records when used in conjunction with one or more factors that authenticate the student’s identity, such as a PIN, password, or other factor known or possessed only by the student;
 - d. personally identifiable data which references religion, race, color, social position, or nationality; or
 - e. data collected from nonpublic school students, other than those who receive shared time educational services, unless written consent is given by the student’s parent or guardian.
2. Under Minnesota law, a school district may not designate a student’s home address, telephone number, email address, or other personal contact information as “directory information.”

E. Education Records

1. What constitutes “education records.” Education records means those records that are: (1) directly related to a student; and (2) maintained by the school district or by a party acting for the school district.
2. What does not constitute education records. The term “education records” does not include:
 - a. Records of instructional personnel that are:

- (1) kept in the sole possession of the maker of the record;
 - (2) used only as a personal memory aid;
 - (3) not accessible or revealed to any other individual except a temporary substitute teacher; and
 - (4) destroyed at the end of the school year.
- b. Records of a law enforcement unit of the school district, provided education records maintained by the school district are not disclosed to the unit, and the law enforcement records are:
- (1) maintained separately from education records;
 - (2) maintained solely for law enforcement purposes; and
 - (3) disclosed only to law enforcement officials of the same jurisdiction.
- c. Records relating to an individual, including a student, who is employed by the school district which:
- (1) are made and maintained in the normal course of business;
 - (2) relate exclusively to the individual in that individual's capacity as an employee; and
 - (3) are not available for use for any other purpose.
- However, records relating to an individual in attendance at the school district who is employed as a result of his or her status as a student are education records.
- d. Records relating to an eligible student, or a student attending an institution of post-secondary education, that are:
- (1) made or maintained by a physician, psychiatrist, psychologist, or other recognized professional or paraprofessional acting in his or her professional or paraprofessional capacity or assisting in that capacity;
 - (2) made, maintained, or used only in connection with the provision of treatment to the student; and
 - (3) disclosed only to individuals providing the treatment; provided that the records can be personally reviewed by a physician or other appropriate professional of the student's choice. For the purpose of this definition, "treatment" does not include remedial

educational activities or activities that are a part of the program of instruction within the school district.

- e. Records created or received by the school district after an individual is no longer a student at the school district and that are not directly related to the individual's attendance as a student.
- f. Grades on peer-related papers before the papers are collected and recorded by a teacher.

F. Education Support Services Data

"Education support services data" means data on individuals collected, created, maintained, used, or disseminated relating to programs administered by a government entity or entity under contract with a government entity designed to eliminate disparities and advance equities in educational achievement for youth by coordinating services available to participants, regardless of the youth's involvement with other government services. Education support services data does not include welfare data under Minnesota Statutes, section 13.46.

Unless otherwise provided by law, all education support services data are private data on individuals and must not be disclosed except according to Minnesota Statutes, section 13.05 or a court order.

G. Eligible Student

"Eligible student" means a student who has attained eighteen (18) years of age or is attending an institution of post-secondary education.

H. Juvenile Justice System

"Juvenile justice system" includes criminal justice agencies and the judiciary when involved in juvenile justice activities.

I. Legitimate Educational Interest

"Legitimate educational interest" includes an interest directly related to classroom instruction, teaching, student achievement and progress, discipline of a student, student health and welfare, and the ability to respond to a request for education data. It includes a person's need to know in order to:

1. Perform an administrative task required in the school or employee's contract or position description approved by the school board;
2. Perform a supervisory or instructional task directly related to the student's education;
3. Perform a service or benefit for the student or the student's family such as health care, counseling, student job placement, or student financial aid; or

4. Perform a task directly related to responding to a request for data.

J. Parent

“Parent” means a parent of a student and includes a natural parent, a guardian, or an individual acting as a parent of the student in the absence of a parent or guardian. The school district may presume the parent has the authority to exercise the rights provided herein, unless it has been provided with evidence that there is a state law or court order governing such matters as marriage dissolution, separation or child custody, or a legally binding instrument which provides to the contrary.

K. Personally Identifiable

“Personally identifiable” means that the data or information includes, but is not limited to: (a) a student’s name; (b) the name of the student’s parent or other family member; (c) the address of the student or student’s family; (d) a personal identifier such as the student’s social security number or student number or biometric record; (e) other indirect identifiers, such as the student’s date of birth, place of birth, and mother’s maiden name; (f) other information that, alone or in combination, is linked or linkable to a specific student that would allow a reasonable person in the school community, who does not have personal knowledge of the relevant circumstances, to identify the student with reasonable certainty; or (g) information requested by a person who the school district reasonably believes knows the identity of the student to whom the education record relates.

L. Record

“Record” means any information or data recorded in any way including, but not limited to, handwriting, print, computer media, video or audio tape, film, microfilm, and microfiche.

M. Responsible Authority

“Responsible authority” means Dr. Michael Cary, Superintendent

N. Student

“Student” includes any individual who is or has been in attendance, enrolled, or registered at the school district and regarding whom the school district maintains education records. Student also includes applicants for enrollment or registration at the school district and individuals who receive shared time educational services from the school district.

O. School Official

“School official” includes: (a) a person duly elected to the school board; (b) a person employed by the school board in an administrative, supervisory, instructional, or other professional position; (c) a person employed by the school board as a temporary substitute in a professional position for the period of his or her performance as a substitute; and (d) a person employed by, or under contract to, the school board to perform a special task such as a secretary, a clerk, a public information officer or data practices compliance

official, an attorney, or an auditor for the period of his or her performance as an employee or contractor.

P. Summary Data

“Summary data” means statistical records and reports derived from data on individuals but in which individuals are not identified and from which neither their identities nor any other characteristic that could uniquely identify the individual is ascertainable.

Q. Other Terms and Phrases

All other terms and phrases shall be defined in accordance with applicable state and federal law or ordinary customary usage.

IV. GENERAL CLASSIFICATION

State law provides that all data collected, created, received, or maintained by a school district are public unless classified by state or federal law as not public or private or confidential. State law classifies all data on individuals maintained by a school district which relates to a student as private data on individuals. This data may not be disclosed to parties other than the parent or eligible student without consent, except pursuant to a valid court order, certain state statutes authorizing access, and the provisions of FERPA and the regulations promulgated thereunder.

V. STATEMENT OF RIGHTS

A. Rights of Parents and Eligible Students

Parents and eligible students have the following rights under this policy:

1. The right to inspect and review the student’s education records;
2. The right to request the amendment of the student’s education records to ensure that they are not inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student’s privacy or other rights;
3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student’s education records, except to the extent that such consent is not required for disclosure pursuant to this policy, state or federal law, or the regulations promulgated thereunder;
4. The right to refuse release of names, addresses, and home telephone numbers of students in grades 11 and 12 to military recruiting officers and post-secondary educational institutions;
5. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the school district to comply with the federal law and the regulations promulgated thereunder;
6. The right to be informed about ¹⁴⁵rights under the federal law; and

7. The right to obtain a copy of this policy at the location set forth in Section XXI. of this policy.

B. Eligible Students

All rights and protections given to parents under this policy transfer to the student when he or she reaches eighteen (18) years of age or enrolls in an institution of post-secondary education. The student then becomes an “eligible student.” However, the parents of an eligible student who is also a “dependent student” are entitled to gain access to the education records of such student without first obtaining the consent of the student. In addition, parents of an eligible student may be given access to education records in connection with a health or safety emergency if the disclosure meets the conditions of any provision set forth in 34 Code of Federal Regulations, section 99.31(a).

C. Students with a Disability

The school district shall follow 34 Code of Federal Regulations, sections 300.610-300.617 with regard to the privacy, notice, access, recordkeeping, and accuracy of information related to students with a disability.

VI. DISCLOSURE OF EDUCATION RECORDS

A. Consent Required for Disclosure

1. The school district shall obtain a signed and dated written informed consent of the parent of a student or the eligible student before disclosing personally identifiable information from the education records of the student, except as provided herein.
2. The written consent required by this subdivision must be signed and dated by the parent of the student or the eligible student giving the consent and shall include:
 - a. a specification of the records to be disclosed;
 - b. the purpose or purposes of the disclosure;
 - c. the party or class of parties to whom the disclosure may be made;
 - d. the consequences of giving informed consent; and
 - e. if appropriate, a termination date for the consent.
3. When a disclosure is made under this subdivision:
 - a. if the parent or eligible student so requests, the school district shall provide him or her with a copy of the records disclosed; and
 - b. if the parent of a student who is not an eligible student so requests, the school district shall provide the student with a copy of the records disclosed.

4. A signed and dated written consent may include a record and signature in electronic form that:
 - a. identifies and authenticates a particular person as the source of the electronic consent; and
 - b. indicates such person's approval of the information contained in the electronic consent.

5. If the responsible authority seeks an individual's informed consent to the release of private data to an insurer or the authorized representative of an insurer, informed consent shall not be deemed to have been given unless the statement is:
 - a. in plain language;
 - b. dated;
 - c. specific in designating the particular persons or agencies the data subject is authorizing to disclose information about the data subject;
 - d. specific as to the nature of the information the subject is authorizing to be disclosed;
 - e. specific as to the persons or agencies to whom the subject is authorizing information to be disclosed;
 - f. specific as to the purpose or purposes for which the information may be used by any of the parties named in Clause e. above, both at the time of the disclosure and at any time in the future; and
 - g. specific as to its expiration date which should be within a reasonable time, not to exceed one year except in the case of authorizations given in connection with applications for: (i) life insurance or noncancellable or guaranteed renewable health insurance and identified as such, two years after the date of the policy, or (ii) medical assistance under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 256B or Minnesota Care under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 256L, which shall be ongoing during all terms of eligibility, for individualized education program health-related services provided by a school district that are subject to third party reimbursement.

6. Eligible Student Consent

Whenever a student has attained eighteen (18) years of age or is attending an institution of post-secondary education, the rights accorded to and the consent required of the parent of the student shall thereafter only be accorded to and required of the eligible student, except as provided in Section V. of this policy.

B. Prior Consent for Disclosure Not Required

The school district may disclose personally identifiable information from the education records of a student without the written consent of the parent of the student or the eligible student unless otherwise provided herein, if the disclosure is:

1. To other school officials, including teachers, within the school district whom the school district determines have a legitimate educational interest in such records;
2. To a contractor, consultant, volunteer, or other party to whom the school district has outsourced institutional services or functions provided that the outside party:
 - a. performs an institutional service or function for which the school district would otherwise use employees;
 - b. is under the direct control of the school district with respect to the use and maintenance of education records; and
 - c. will not disclose the information to any other party without the prior consent of the parent or eligible student and uses the information only for the purposes for which the disclosure was made;
3. To officials of other schools, school districts, or post-secondary educational institutions in which the student seeks or intends to enroll, or is already enrolled, as long as the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer. The records shall include information about disciplinary action taken as a result of any incident in which the student possessed or used a dangerous weapon, and with proper annual notice (see Section XIX.), suspension and expulsion information pursuant to section 7917 of the federal Every Student Succeeds Act, 20 United States Code, section 7917, and, if applicable, data regarding a student's history of violent behavior. The records also shall include a copy of any probable cause notice or any disposition or court order under Minnesota Statutes, section 260B.171, unless the data are required to be destroyed under Minnesota Statutes, section 120A.22, subdivision 7(c) or section 121A.75. On request, the school district will provide the parent or eligible student with a copy of the education records that have been transferred and provide an opportunity for a hearing to challenge the content of those records in accordance with Section XV. of this policy;
4. To authorized representatives of the Comptroller General of the United States, the Attorney General of the United States, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education, or the Commissioner of the State Department of Education or his or her representative, subject to the conditions relative to such disclosure provided under federal law;
5. In connection with financial aid for which a student has applied or has received, if the information is necessary for such purposes as to:
 - a. determine eligibility for the aid;

- b. determine the amount of the aid;
- c. determine conditions for the aid; or
- d. enforce the terms and conditions of the aid.

“Financial aid” for purposes of this provision means a payment of funds provided to an individual or a payment in kind of tangible or intangible property to the individual that is conditioned on the individual’s attendance at an educational agency or institution;

6. To state and local officials or authorities to whom such information is specifically allowed to be reported or disclosed pursuant to state statute adopted:
 - a. before November 19, 1974, if the allowed reporting or disclosure concerns the juvenile justice system and such system’s ability to effectively serve the student whose records are released; or
 - b. after November 19, 1974, if the reporting or disclosure allowed by state statute concerns the juvenile justice system and the system’s ability to effectively serve, prior to adjudication, the student whose records are released, provided the officials and authorities to whom the records are disclosed certify in writing to the school district that the data will not be disclosed to any other party, except as provided by state law, without the prior written consent of the parent of the student. At a minimum, the school district shall disclose the following information to the juvenile justice system under this paragraph: a student’s full name, home address, telephone number, and date of birth; a student’s school schedule, attendance record, and photographs, if any; and parents’ names, home addresses, and telephone numbers;
7. To organizations conducting studies for or on behalf of educational agencies or institutions for the purpose of developing, validating, or administering predictive tests, administering student aid programs, or improving instruction; provided that the studies are conducted in a manner which does not permit the personal identification of parents or students by individuals other than representatives of the organization who have a legitimate interest in the information, the information is destroyed when no longer needed for the purposes for which the study was conducted, and the school district enters into a written agreement with the organization that: (a) specifies the purpose, scope, and duration of the study or studies and the information to be disclosed; (b) requires the organization to use personally identifiable information from education records only to meet the purpose or purposes of the study as stated in the written agreement; (c) requires the organization to conduct the study in a manner that does not permit personal identification of parents and students by anyone other than representatives of the organization with legitimate interests; and (d) requires the organization to destroy all personally identifiable information when information is no longer needed for the purposes for which the study was conducted and specifies the time period in which the information must be destroyed. For purposes of this provision, the

term, “organizations,” includes, but is not limited to, federal, state, and local agencies and independent organizations. In the event the Department of Education determines that a third party outside of the school district to whom information is disclosed violates this provision, the school district may not allow that third party access to personally identifiable information from education records for at least five (5) years;

8. To accrediting organizations in order to carry out their accrediting functions;
9. To parents of a student eighteen (18) years of age or older if the student is a dependent of the parents for income tax purposes;
10. To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena, provided, however, that the school district makes a reasonable effort to notify the parent or eligible student of the order or subpoena in advance of compliance therewith so that the parent or eligible student may seek protective action, unless the disclosure is in compliance with a federal grand jury subpoena, or any other subpoena issued for law enforcement purposes, and the court or other issuing agency has ordered that the existence or the contents of the subpoena or the information furnished in response to the subpoena not be disclosed, or the disclosure is in compliance with an ex parte court order obtained by the United States Attorney General (or designee not lower than an Assistant Attorney General) concerning investigations or prosecutions of an offense listed in 18 United States Code, section 2332b(g)(5)(B), an act of domestic or international terrorism as defined in 18 United States Code, section 2331, or a parent is a party to a court proceeding involving child abuse and neglect or dependency matters, and the order is issued in the context of the proceeding. If the school district initiates legal action against a parent or student, it may disclose to the court, without a court order or subpoena, the education records of the student that are relevant for the school district to proceed with the legal action as a plaintiff. Also, if a parent or eligible student initiates a legal action against the school district, the school district may disclose to the court, without a court order or subpoena, the student’s education records that are relevant for the school district to defend itself;
11. To appropriate parties, including parents of an eligible student, in connection with an emergency if knowledge of the information is necessary to protect the health, including the mental health, or safety of the student or other individuals. The decision is to be based upon information available at the time the threat occurs that indicates that there is an articulable and significant threat to the health or safety of a student or other individuals. In making a determination whether to disclose information under this section, the school district may take into account the totality of the circumstances pertaining to a threat and may disclose information from education records to any person whose knowledge of the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other students. A record of this disclosure must be maintained pursuant to Section XIII.E. of this policy. In addition, an educational agency or institution may include in the education records of a student appropriate information concerning disciplinary action taken against the student for conduct that posed a significant risk to the safety or well-being¹⁵⁰ of that student, other students, or other members

of the school community. This information may be disclosed to teachers and school officials within the school district and/or teachers and school officials in other schools who have legitimate educational interests in the behavior of the student;

12. To the juvenile justice system if information about the behavior of a student who poses a risk of harm is reasonably necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals;
13. Information the school district has designated as “directory information” pursuant to Section VII. of this policy;
14. To military recruiting officers and post-secondary educational institutions pursuant to Section XI. of this policy;
15. To the parent of a student who is not an eligible student or to the student himself or herself;
16. To appropriate health authorities to the extent necessary to administer immunization programs and for bona fide epidemiologic investigations which the commissioner of health determines are necessary to prevent disease or disability to individuals in the public educational agency or institution in which the investigation is being conducted;
17. To volunteers who are determined to have a legitimate educational interest in the data and who are conducting activities and events sponsored by or endorsed by the educational agency or institution for students or former students;
18. To the juvenile justice system, on written request that certifies that the information will not be disclosed to any other person except as authorized by law without the written consent of the parent of the student:
 - a. the following information about a student must be disclosed: a student’s full name, home address, telephone number, date of birth; a student’s school schedule, daily attendance record, and photographs, if any; and any parents’ names, home addresses, and telephone numbers;
 - b. the existence of the following information about a student, not the actual data or other information contained in the student’s education record, may be disclosed provided that a request for access must be submitted on the statutory form and it must contain an explanation of why access to the information is necessary to serve the student: (1) use of a controlled substance, alcohol, or tobacco; (2) assaultive or threatening conduct that could result in dismissal from school under the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act; (3) possession or use of weapons or look-alike weapons; (4) theft; or (5) vandalism or other damage to property. Prior to releasing this information, the principal or chief administrative officer of a school who receives such a request must, to the extent permitted by federal law, notify the student’s parent or guardian by certified mail of the request to disclose information.

If the student's parent or guardian notifies the school official of an objection to the disclosure within ten (10) days of receiving certified notice, the school official must not disclose the information and instead must inform the requesting member of the juvenile justice system of the objection. If no objection from the parent or guardian is received within fourteen (14) days, the school official must respond to the request for information.

The written requests of the juvenile justice system member(s), as well as a record of any release, must be maintained in the student's file;

19. To the principal where the student attends and to any counselor directly supervising or reporting on the behavior or progress of the student if it is information from a disposition order received by a superintendent under Minnesota Statutes, section 260B.171, subdivision 3. The principal must notify the counselor immediately and must place the disposition order in the student's permanent education record. The principal also must notify immediately any teacher or administrator who directly supervises or reports on the behavior or progress of the student whom the principal believes needs the information to work with the student in an appropriate manner, to avoid being needlessly vulnerable, or to protect other persons from needless vulnerability. The principal may also notify other school district employees, substitutes, and volunteers who are in direct contact with the student if the principal determines that these individuals need the information to work with the student in an appropriate manner, to avoid being needlessly vulnerable, or to protect other persons from needless vulnerability. Such notices from the principal must identify the student, outline the offense, and describe any conditions of probation about which the school must provide information if this information is provided in the disposition order. Disposition order information received is private educational data received for the limited purpose of serving the educational needs of the student and protecting students and staff. The information may not be further disseminated by the counselor, teacher, administrator, staff member, substitute, or volunteer except as necessary to serve the student, to protect students and staff, or as otherwise required by law, and only to the student or the student's parent or guardian;
20. To the principal where the student attends if it is information from a peace officer's record of children received by a superintendent under Minnesota Statutes, section 260B.171, subdivision 5. The principal must place the information in the student's education record. The principal also must notify immediately any teacher, counselor, or administrator directly supervising the student whom the principal believes needs the information to work with the student in an appropriate manner, to avoid being needlessly vulnerable, or to protect other persons from needless vulnerability. The principal may also notify other district employees, substitutes, and volunteers who are in direct contact with the student if the principal determines that these individuals need the information to work with the student in an appropriate manner, to avoid being needlessly vulnerable, or to protect other persons from needless vulnerability. Such notices from the principal must identify the student and describe the alleged offense if this information is provided in the peace officer's notice. Peace officer's record

information received is private educational data received for the limited purpose of serving the educational needs of the student and protecting students and staff. The information must not be further disseminated by the counselor, teacher administrator, staff member, substitute, or volunteer except to communicate with the student or the student's parent or guardian as necessary to serve the student, to protect students and staff, or as otherwise required by law.

The principal must delete the peace officer's record from the student's education record, destroy the data, and make reasonable efforts to notify any teacher, counselor, staff member, administrator, substitute, or volunteer who received information from the peace officer's record if the county attorney determines not to proceed with a petition or directs the student into a diversion or mediation program or if a juvenile court makes a decision on a petition and the county attorney or juvenile court notifies the superintendent of such action;

21. To the Secretary of Agriculture, or authorized representative from the Food and Nutrition Service or contractors acting on behalf of the Food and Nutrition Service, for the purposes of conducting program monitoring, evaluations, and performance measurements of state and local educational and other agencies and institutions receiving funding or providing benefits of one or more programs authorized under the National School Lunch Act or the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 for which the results will be reported in an aggregate form that does not identify any individual, on the conditions that: (a) any data collected shall be protected in a manner that will not permit the personal identification of students and their parents by other than the authorized representatives of the Secretary; and (b) any personally identifiable data shall be destroyed when the data are no longer needed for program monitoring, evaluations, and performance measurements; or
22. To an agency caseworker or other representative of a State or local child welfare agency, or tribal organization (as defined in 25 United States Code, section 5304), who has the right to access a student's case plan, as defined and determined by the State or tribal organization, when such agency or organization is legally responsible, in accordance with State or tribal law, for the care and protection of the student, provided that the education records, or the personally identifiable information contained in such records, of the student will not be disclosed by such agency or organization, except to an individual or entity engaged in addressing the student's education needs and authorized by such agency or organization to receive such disclosure and such disclosure is consistent with the State or tribal laws applicable to protecting the confidentiality of a student's education records.
23. When requested, and in accordance with requirements for parental consent in 34 Code of Federal Regulations, section 300.622(b)(2), and part 99, educational agencies or institutions may share personal student contact information and directory information for students served in special education with postsecondary transition planning and services under Minnesota Statutes, section 125A.08, paragraph (b), clause (1), whether public or private, with the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development, as required for coordination of services to students with disabilities under Minnesota Statutes, sections 125A.08, paragraph (b), clause (1); 125A.023; and 125A.027.

C. Nonpublic School Students

The school district may disclose personally identifiable information from the education records of a nonpublic school student, other than a student who receives shared time educational services, without the written consent of the parent of the student or the eligible student unless otherwise provided herein, if the disclosure is:

1. Pursuant to a valid court order;
2. Pursuant to a statute specifically authorizing access to the private data; or
3. To appropriate health authorities to the extent necessary to administer immunization programs and for bona fide epidemiological investigations which the commissioner of health determines are necessary to prevent disease or disability to individuals in the public educational agency or institution in which the investigation is being conducted.

VII. RELEASE OF DIRECTORY INFORMATION

A. Educational Data

1. Educational data designated as directory information is public data on individuals to the extent required under federal law. Directory information must be designated pursuant to the provisions of:
 - a. Minnesota Statutes, section 13.32, subdivision 5; and
 - b. 20 United States Code, section 1232g, and 34 Code of Federal Regulations, section 99.37, which were in effect on January 3, 2012.
2. The school district may not designate a student's home address, telephone number, email address, or other personal contact information as directory information under Minnesota Statutes, section 13.32.
3. A parent's personal contact information must be treated as private data on individuals regardless of whether that contact information was previously designated as or treated as directory information under Minnesota Statutes, section 13.32, subdivision 2.
4. When requested, the school district must share personal contact information and directory information, whether public or private, with the Minnesota Department of Education, as required for federal reporting purposes.

B. Former Students

Unless a former student validly opted out of the release of directory information while the student was in attendance and has not rescinded the opt out request at any time, the school district may disclose directory information from the education records generated by it regarding the former student without meeting the requirements of Paragraph C. of

this section. In addition, under an explicit exclusion from the definition of an “education record,” the school district may release records that only contain information about an individual obtained after he or she is no longer a student at the school district and that are not directly related to the individual’s attendance as a student (e.g., a student’s activities as an alumnus of the school district).

C. Present Students and Parents

The school district may disclose directory information from the education records of a student and information regarding parents without prior written consent of the parent of the student or eligible student, except as provided herein.

1. When conducting the directory information designation and notice process required by federal law, the school district shall give parents and students notice of the right to refuse to let the district designate specified data about the student as directory information.
2. The school district shall give annual notice by any means that are reasonably likely to inform the parents and eligible students of:
 - a. the types of personally identifiable information regarding students and/or parents that the school district has designated as directory information;
 - b. the parent’s or eligible student’s right to refuse to let the school district designate any or all of those types of information about the student and/or the parent as directory information; and
 - c. the period of time in which a parent or eligible student has to notify the school district in writing that he or she does not want any or all of those types of information about the student and/or the parent designated as directory information.
3. Allow a reasonable period of time after such notice has been given for a parent or eligible student to inform the school district in writing that any or all of the information so designated should not be disclosed without the parent’s or eligible student’s prior written consent, except as provided in Section VI. of this policy.
4. A parent or eligible student may not opt out of the directory information disclosures to:
 - a. prevent the school district from disclosing or requiring the student to disclose the student’s name, ID, or school district e-mail address in a class in which the student is enrolled; or
 - b. prevent the school district from requiring a student to wear, to display publicly, or to disclose a student ID card or badge that exhibits information that may be designated as directory information and that has been properly designated by the school district as directory information.

5. The school district shall not disclose or confirm directory information without meeting the written consent requirements contained in Section VI.A. of this policy if a student's social security number or other non-directory information is used alone or in combination with other data elements to identify or help identify the student or the student's records.

D. Procedure for Obtaining Nondisclosure of Directory Information

The parent's or eligible student's written notice shall be directed to the responsible authority and shall include the following:

1. Name of the student and/or parent, as appropriate;
2. Home address;
3. School presently attended by student;
4. Parent's legal relationship to student, if applicable; and
5. Specific categories of directory information to be made not public without the parent's or eligible student's prior written consent, which shall only be applicable for that school year.

E. Duration

The designation of any information as directory information about a student or parents will remain in effect for the remainder of the school year unless the parent or eligible student provides the written notifications provided herein.

VIII. DISCLOSURE OF PRIVATE RECORDS

A. Private Records

For the purposes herein, education records are records which are classified as private data on individuals by state law and which are accessible only to the student who is the subject of the data and the student's parent if the student is not an eligible student. The school district may not disclose private records or their contents except as summary data, or except as provided in Section VI. of this policy, without the prior written consent of the parent or the eligible student. The school district will use reasonable methods to identify and authenticate the identity of parents, students, school officials, and any other party to whom personally identifiable information from education records is disclosed.

B. Private Records Not Accessible to Parent

In certain cases, state law intends, and clearly provides, that certain information contained in the education records of the school district pertaining to a student be accessible to the student alone, and to the parent only under special circumstances, if at all.

1. The responsible authority may deny access to private data by a parent when a minor student who is the subject of that data requests that the responsible authority

deny such access. The minor student's request must be submitted in writing setting forth the reasons for denying access to the parent and must be signed by the minor. Upon receipt of such request the responsible authority shall determine if honoring the request to deny the parent access would be in the best interest of the minor data subject. In making this determination the responsible authority shall consider the following factors:

- a. whether the minor is of sufficient age and maturity to be able to explain the reasons for and understand the consequences of the request to deny access;
- b. whether the personal situation of the minor is such that denying parental access may protect the minor data subject from physical or emotional harm;
- c. whether there are grounds for believing that the minor data subject's reasons for precluding parental access are reasonably accurate;
- d. whether the data in question is of such a nature that disclosure of it to the parent may lead to physical or emotional harm to the minor data subject; and
- e. whether the data concerns medical, dental or other health services provided pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, sections 144.341-144.347, in which case the data may be released only if the failure to inform the parent would seriously jeopardize the health of the minor.

C. Private Records Not Accessible to Student

Students shall not be entitled to access to private data concerning financial records and statements of the student's parent or any information contained therein.

D. Military-Connected Youth Identifier

When a school district updates its enrollment forms in the ordinary course of business, the school district must include a box on the enrollment form to allow students to self-identify as a military-connected youth. For purposes of this section, a "military-connected youth" means having an immediate family member, including a parent or sibling, who is currently in the armed forces either as a reservist or on active duty or has recently retired from the armed forces. Data collected under this provision is private data on individuals, but summary data may be published by the Department of Education.

IX. DISCLOSURE OF CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS

A. Confidential Records

Confidential records are those records and data contained therein which are made not public by state or federal law, and which are inaccessible to the student and the student's parents or to an eligible student.

B. Reports Under the Maltreatment of Minors Reporting Act

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, chapter 260E , written copies of reports pertaining to a neglected and/or physically and/or sexually abused child shall be accessible only to the appropriate welfare and law enforcement agencies. In respect to other parties, such data shall be confidential and will not be made available to the parent or the subject individual by the school district. The subject individual, however, may obtain a copy of the report from either the local welfare agency, county sheriff, or the local police department subject to the provisions of Minnesota Statutes, chapter 260E.

Regardless of whether a written report is made under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 260E, as soon as practicable after a school receives information regarding an incident that may constitute maltreatment of a child in a school facility, the school shall inform the parent, legal guardian, or custodian of the child that an incident occurred that may constitute maltreatment of the child, when the incident occurred, and the nature of the conduct that may constitute maltreatment.

C. Investigative Data

Data collected by the school district as part of an active investigation undertaken for the purpose of the commencement or defense of pending civil legal action, or are retained in anticipation of a pending civil legal action are classified as protected nonpublic data in the case of data not on individuals, and confidential data in the case of data on individuals.

1. The school district may make any data classified as protected non-public or confidential pursuant to this subdivision accessible to any person, agency, or the public if the school district determines that such access will aid the law enforcement process, promote public health or safety, or dispel widespread rumor or unrest.
2. A complainant has access to a statement he or she provided to the school district.
3. Parents or eligible students may have access to investigative data of which the student is the subject, but only to the extent the data is not inextricably intertwined with data about other school district students, school district employees, and/or attorney data as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 13.393.
4. Once a civil investigation becomes inactive, civil investigative data becomes public unless the release of the data would jeopardize another pending civil legal action, except for those portions of such data that are classified as not public data under state or federal law. Any civil investigative data presented as evidence in court or made part of a court record shall be public. For purposes of this provision, a civil investigation becomes inactive upon the occurrence of any of the following events:
 - a. a decision by the school district, or by the chief attorney for the school district, not to pursue the civil legal action. However, such investigation may subsequently become active if the school district or its attorney

decides to renew the civil legal action;

- b. the expiration of the time to file a complaint under the statute of limitations or agreement applicable to the civil legal action; or
- c. the exhaustion or expiration of rights of appeal by either party to the civil legal action.

5. A “pending civil legal action” for purposes of this subdivision is defined as including, but not limited to, judicial, administrative, or arbitration proceedings.

D. Chemical Abuse Records

To the extent the school district maintains records of the identity, diagnosis, prognosis, or treatment of any student which are maintained in connection with the performance of any drug abuse prevention function conducted, regulated, or directly or indirectly assisted by any department or agency of the United States, such records are classified as confidential and shall be disclosed only for the purposes and under the circumstances expressly authorized by law.

X. DISCLOSURE OF SCHOOL RECORDS PRIOR TO EXCLUSION OR EXPULSION HEARING

At a reasonable time prior to any exclusion or expulsion hearing, the student and the student’s parent or guardian or representative shall be given access to all school district records pertaining to the student, including any tests or reports upon which the action proposed by the school district may be based, pursuant to the Minnesota Pupil Fair Dismissal Act, Minnesota Statutes, section 121A.40, *et seq.*

XI. DISCLOSURE OF DATA TO MILITARY RECRUITING OFFICERS AND POST-SECONDARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

A. The school district will release the names, addresses, electronic mail address (which shall be the electronic mail addresses provided by the school district, if available, that may be released to military recruiting officers only), and home telephone numbers of students in grades 11 and 12 to military recruiting officers and post-secondary educational institutions within sixty (60) days after the date of the request unless a parent or eligible student has refused in writing to release this data pursuant to Paragraph C. below.

B. Data released to military recruiting officers under this provision:

- 1. may be used only for the purpose of providing information to students about military service, state and federal veterans’ education benefits, and other career and educational opportunities provided by the military;
- 2. cannot be further disseminated to any other person except personnel of the recruiting services of the armed forces; and
- 3. copying fees shall not be imposed.

- C. A parent or eligible student has the right to refuse the release of the name, address, electronic mail addresses (which shall be the electronic mail addresses provided by the school, if available, that may be released to military recruiting officers only) or home telephone number to military recruiting officers and post-secondary educational institutions. To refuse the release of the above information to military recruiting officers and post-secondary educational institutions, a parent or eligible student must notify the responsible authority, high school principal in writing by September 1st each year. The written request must include the following information:
1. Name of student and parent, as appropriate;
 2. Home address;
 3. Student's grade level;
 4. School presently attended by student;
 5. Parent's legal relationship to student, if applicable;
 6. Specific category or categories of information which are not to be released to military recruiting officers and post-secondary educational institutions; and
 7. Specific category or categories of information which are not to be released to the public, including military recruiting officers and post-secondary educational institutions.
- D. Annually, the school district will provide public notice by any means that are reasonably likely to inform the parents and eligible students of their rights to refuse to release the names, addresses, and home phone numbers of students in grades 11 and 12 without prior consent.
- E. A parent or eligible student's refusal to release the above information to military recruiting officers and post-secondary educational institutions does not affect the school district's release of directory information to the rest of the public, which includes military recruiting officers and post-secondary educational institutions. In order to make any directory information about a student private, the procedures contained in Section VII. of this policy also must be followed. Accordingly, to the extent the school district has designated the name, address, home phone number, and grade level of students as directory information, absent a request from a parent or eligible student not to release such data, this information will be public data and accessible to members of the public, including military recruiting officers and post-secondary educational institutions.

XII. LIMITS ON REDISCLOSURE

A. Redisclosure

Consistent with the requirements herein, the school district may only disclose personally identifiable information from the education records of a student on the condition that the

party to whom the information is to be disclosed will not disclose the information to any other party without the prior written consent of the parent of the student or the eligible student, except that the officers, employees, and agents of any party receiving personally identifiable information under this section may use the information, but only for the purposes for which the disclosure was made.

B. Redisclosure Not Prohibited

1. Subdivision A. of this section does not prevent the school district from disclosing personally identifiable information under Section VI. of this policy with the understanding that the party receiving the information may make further disclosures of the information on behalf of the school district provided:
 - a. The disclosures meet the requirements of Section VI. of this policy; and
 - b. The school district has complied with the record-keeping requirements of Section XIII. of this policy.
2. Subdivision A. of this section does not apply to disclosures made pursuant to court orders or lawfully issued subpoenas or litigation, to disclosures of directory information, to disclosures to a parent or student or to parents of dependent students, or to disclosures concerning sex offenders and other individuals required to register under 42 United States Code, section 14071. However, the school district must provide the notification required in Section XII.D. of this policy if a redisclosure is made based upon a court order or lawfully issued subpoena.

C. Classification of Disclosed Data

The information disclosed shall retain the same classification in the hands of the party receiving it as it had in the hands of the school district.

D. Notification

The school district shall inform the party to whom a disclosure is made of the requirements set forth in this section, except for disclosures made pursuant to court orders or lawfully issued subpoenas, disclosure of directory information under Section VII. of this policy, disclosures to a parent or student, or disclosures to parents of a dependent student. In the event that the Family Policy Compliance Office determines that a state or local educational authority, a federal agency headed by an official listed in 34 Code of Federal Regulations, section 99.31(a)(3), or an authorized representative of a state or local educational authority or a federal agency headed by an official listed in section 99.31(a)(3), or a third party outside of the school district improperly rediscloses personally identifiable information from education records or fails to provide notification required under this section of this policy, the school district may not allow that third party access to personally identifiable information from education records for at least five (5) years.

XIII. RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY; RECORD SECURITY; AND RECORD KEEPING

A. Responsible Authority

The responsible authority shall be responsible for the maintenance and security of student records.

B. Record Security

The principal of each school subject to the supervision and control of the responsible authority shall be the records manager of the school, and shall have the duty of maintaining and securing the privacy and/or confidentiality of student records.

C. Plan for Securing Student Records

The building principal shall submit to the responsible authority a written plan for securing students records by September 1 of each school year. The written plan shall contain the following information:

1. A description of records maintained;
2. Titles and addresses of person(s) responsible for the security of student records;
3. Location of student records, by category, in the buildings;
4. Means of securing student records; and
5. Procedures for access and disclosure.

D. Review of Written Plan for Securing Student Records

The responsible authority shall review the plans submitted pursuant to Paragraph C. of this section for compliance with the law, this policy, and the various administrative policies of the school district. The responsible authority shall then promulgate a chart incorporating the provisions of Paragraph C. which shall be attached to and become a part of this policy.

E. Record Keeping

1. The principal shall, for each request for and each disclosure of personally identifiable information from the education records of a student, maintain a record, with the education records of the student, that indicates:
 - a. the parties who have requested or received personally identifiable information from the education records of the student;
 - b. the legitimate interests these parties had in requesting or obtaining the information; and
 - c. the names of the state and local educational authorities and federal officials and agencies listed in Section VI.B.4. of this policy that may make further disclosure of personally identifiable information from the

student's education records without consent.

2. In the event the school district discloses personally identifiable information from an education record of a student pursuant to Section XII.B. of this policy, the record of disclosure required under this section shall also include:
 - a. the names of the additional parties to which the receiving party may disclose the information on behalf of the school district;
 - b. the legitimate interests under Section VI. of this policy which each of the additional parties has in requesting or obtaining the information; and
 - c. a copy of the record of further disclosures maintained by a state or local educational authority or federal official or agency listed in Section VI.B.4. of this policy in accordance with 34 Code of Federal Regulations, section 99.32 and to whom the school district disclosed information from an education record. The school district shall request a copy of the record of further disclosures from a state or local educational authority or federal official or agency to whom education records were disclosed upon a request from a parent or eligible student to review the record of requests for disclosure.

3. Section XIII.E.1. does not apply to requests by or disclosure to a parent of a student or an eligible student, disclosures pursuant to the written consent of a parent of a student or an eligible student, requests by or disclosures to other school officials under Section VI.B.1. of this policy, to requests for disclosures of directory information under Section VII. of this policy, or to a party seeking or receiving the records as directed by a federal grand jury or other law enforcement subpoena and the issuing court or agency has ordered that the existence or the contents of the subpoena or the information provided in response to the subpoena not be disclosed or as directed by an ex parte court order obtained by the United States Attorney General (or designee not lower than an Assistant Attorney General) concerning investigations or prosecutions of an offense listed in 18 United States Code, section 2332b(g)(5)(B) or an act of domestic or international terrorism.

4. The record of requests of disclosures may be inspected by:
 - a. the parent of the student or the eligible student;
 - b. the school official or his or her assistants who are responsible for the custody of the records; and
 - c. the parties authorized by law to audit the record-keeping procedures of the school district.

5. The school district shall record the following information when it discloses personally identifiable information from education records under the health or safety emergency exception:

- a. the articulable and significant threat to the health or safety of a student or other individual that formed the basis for the disclosure; and
 - b. the parties to whom the school district disclosed the information.
6. The record of requests and disclosures shall be maintained with the education records of the student as long as the school district maintains the student's education records.

XIV. RIGHT TO INSPECT AND REVIEW EDUCATION RECORDS

A. Parent of a Student, an Eligible Student or the Parent of an Eligible Student Who is Also a Dependent Student

The school district shall permit the parent of a student, an eligible student, or the parent of an eligible student who is also a dependent student who is or has been in attendance in the school district to inspect or review the education records of the student, except those records which are made confidential by state or federal law or as otherwise provided in Section VIII. of this policy.

B. Response to Request for Access

The school district shall respond to any request pursuant to Subdivision A. of this section immediately, if possible, or within ten (10) days of the date of the request, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays.

C. Right to Inspect and Review

The right to inspect and review education records under Subdivision A. of this section includes:

- 1. The right to a response from the school district to reasonable requests for explanations and interpretations of records; and
- 2. If circumstances effectively prevent the parent or eligible student from exercising the right to inspect and review the education records, the school district shall provide the parent or eligible student with a copy of the records requested or make other arrangements for the parent or eligible student to inspect and review the requested records.
- 3. Nothing in this policy shall be construed as limiting the frequency of inspection of the education records of a student with a disability by the student's parent or guardian or by the student upon the student reaching the age of majority.

D. Form of Request

Parents or eligible students shall submit to the school district a written request to inspect education records which identify as precisely as possible the record or records he or she wishes to inspect.

E. Collection of Student Records

If a student's education records are maintained in more than one location, the responsible authority may collect copies of the records or the records themselves from the various locations so they may be inspected at one site. However, if the parent or eligible student wishes to inspect these records where they are maintained, the school district shall attempt to accommodate those wishes. The parent or eligible student shall be notified of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

F. Records Containing Information on More Than One Student

If the education records of a student contain information on more than one student, the parent or eligible student may inspect and review or be informed of only the specific information which pertains to that student.

G. Authority to Inspect or Review

The school district may presume that either parent of the student has authority to inspect or review the education records of a student unless the school district has been provided with evidence that there is a legally binding instrument or a state law or court order governing such matters as marriage dissolution, separation, or custody which provides to the contrary.

H. Fees for Copies of Records

1. The school district shall charge a reasonable fee for providing photocopies or printed copies of records unless printing a copy is the only method to provide for the inspection of data. In determining the amount of the reasonable fee, the school district shall consider the following:
 - a. the cost of materials, including paper, used to provide the copies;
 - b. the cost of the labor required to prepare the copies;
 - c. any schedule of standard copying charges established by the school district in its normal course of operations;
 - d. any special costs necessary to produce such copies from machine-based record-keeping systems, including but not limited to computers and microfilm systems; and
 - e. mailing costs.
2. If 100 or fewer pages of black and white, letter or legal size paper copies are requested, actual costs shall not be used, and, instead, the charge shall be no more than 25 cents for each page copied.
3. The cost of providing copies shall be borne by the parent or eligible student.

4. The responsible authority, however, may not impose a fee for a copy of an education record made for a parent or eligible student if doing so would effectively prevent or, in the case of a student with a disability, impair the parent or eligible student from exercising their right to inspect or review the student's education records.

XV. REQUEST TO AMEND RECORDS; PROCEDURES TO CHALLENGE DATA

A. Request to Amend Education Records

The parent of a student or an eligible student who believes that information contained in the education records of the student is inaccurate, misleading, or violates the privacy rights of the student may request that the school district amend those records.

1. The request shall be in writing, shall identify the item the requestor believes to be inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of the privacy or other rights of the student, shall state the reason for this belief, and shall specify the correction the requestor wishes the school district to make. The request shall be signed and dated by the requestor.
2. The school district shall decide whether to amend the education records of the student in accordance with the request within thirty (30) days after receiving the request.
3. If the school district decides to refuse to amend the education records of the student in accordance with the request, it shall inform the parent of the student or the eligible student of the refusal and advise the parent or eligible student of the right to a hearing under Subdivision B. of this section.

B. Right to a Hearing

If the school district refuses to amend the education records of a student, the school district, on request, shall provide an opportunity for a hearing in order to challenge the content of the student's education records to ensure that information in the education records of the student is not inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the privacy or other rights of the student. A hearing shall be conducted in accordance with Subdivision C. of this section.

1. If, as a result of the hearing, the school district decides that the information is inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the privacy or other rights of the student, it shall amend the education records of the student accordingly and so inform the parent of the student or the eligible student in writing.
2. If, as a result of the hearing, the school district decides that the information is not inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the privacy or other rights of the student, it shall inform the parent or eligible student of the right to place a statement in the record commenting on the contested information in the record or stating why he or she disagrees with the decision of the school district, or both.
3. Any statement placed in the ¹⁶⁶education records of the student under Subdivision

B. of this section shall:

- a. be maintained by the school district as part of the education records of the student so long as the record or contested portion thereof is maintained by the school district; and
- b. if the education records of the student or the contested portion thereof is disclosed by the school district to any party, the explanation shall also be disclosed to that party.

C. Conduct of Hearing

- 1. The hearing shall be held within a reasonable period of time after the school district has received the request, and the parent of the student or the eligible student shall be given notice of the date, place, and time reasonably in advance of the hearing.
 - 2. The hearing may be conducted by any individual, including an official of the school district who does not have a direct interest in the outcome of the hearing. The school board attorney shall be in attendance to present the school board's position and advise the designated hearing officer on legal and evidentiary matters.
 - 3. The parent of the student or eligible student shall be afforded a full and fair opportunity for hearing to present evidence relative to the issues raised under Subdivisions A. and B. of this section and may be assisted or represented by individuals of his or her choice at his or her own expense, including an attorney.
4. The school district shall make a decision in writing within a reasonable period of time after the conclusion of the hearing. The decision shall be based solely on evidence presented at the hearing and shall include a summary of evidence and reasons for the decision.

D. Appeal

The final decision of the designated hearing officer may be appealed in accordance with the applicable provisions of Minnesota Statutes, chapter 14 relating to contested cases.

XVI. PROBLEMS ACCESSING DATA

- A. The data practices compliance official is the designated employee to whom persons may direct questions or concerns regarding problems in obtaining access to data or other data practices problems.
- B. Data practices compliance official means Candace Nelis, Business Manager,
- C. Any request by an individual with a disability for reasonable modifications of the school

district's policies or procedures for purposes of accessing records shall be made to the data practices compliance official.

XVII. COMPLAINTS FOR NONCOMPLIANCE WITH FERPA

A. Where to File Complaints

Complaints regarding alleged violations of rights accorded parents and eligible students by FERPA, and the rules promulgated thereunder, shall be submitted in writing to the U.S. Department of Education, Student Privacy Policy Office, 400 Maryland Avenue S.W., Washington, D.C. 20202-8520.

B. Content of Complaint

A complaint filed pursuant to this section must contain specific allegations of fact giving reasonable cause to believe that a violation of FERPA and the rules promulgated thereunder has occurred.

XVIII. WAIVER

A parent or eligible student may waive any of his or her rights provided herein pursuant to FERPA. A waiver shall not be valid unless in writing and signed by the parent or eligible student. The school district may not require such a waiver.

XIX. ANNUAL NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS

A. Contents of Notice

The school district shall give parents of students currently in attendance and eligible students currently in attendance annual notice by such means as are reasonably likely to inform the parents and eligible students of the following:

1. That the parent or eligible student has a right to inspect and review the student's education records and the procedure for inspecting and reviewing education records;
2. That the parent or eligible student has a right to seek amendment of the student's education records to ensure that those records are not inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy or other rights and the procedure for requesting amendment of records;
3. That the parent or eligible student has a right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that federal and state law and the regulations promulgated thereunder authorize disclosure without consent;
4. That the parent or eligible student has a right to file a complaint with the U.S.

Department of Education regarding an alleged failure by the school district to comply with the requirements of FERPA and the rules promulgated thereunder;

5. The criteria for determining who constitutes a school official and what constitutes a legitimate educational interest for purposes of disclosing education records to other school officials whom the school district has determined to have legitimate educational interests; and
6. That the school district forwards education records on request to a school in which a student seeks or intends to enroll or is already enrolled as long as the disclosure is for purposes related to the student’s enrollment or transfer and that such records may include suspension and expulsion records pursuant to the federal Every Student Succeeds Act and, if applicable, a student’s history of violent behavior.

B. Notification to Parents of Students Having a Primary Home Language Other Than English

The school district shall provide for the need to effectively notify parents of students identified as having a primary or home language other than English.

C. Notification to Parents or Eligible Students Who are Disabled

The school district shall provide for the need to effectively notify parents or eligible students identified as disabled.

XX. DESTRUCTION AND RETENTION OF RECORDS

Destruction and retention of records by the school district shall be controlled by state and federal law.

XXI. COPIES OF POLICY

Copies of this policy may be obtained by parents and eligible students at the superintendent’s office.

- Legal References:**
- Minn. Stat. Ch. 13 (Minnesota Government Data Practices Act)
 - Minn. Stat. § 13.32, Subd. 5 (Directory Information)
 - Minn. Stat. § 13.393 (Attorneys)
 - Minn. Stat. Ch. 14 (Administrative Procedures Act)
 - Minn. Stat. § 120A.22 (Compulsory Instruction)
 - Minn. Stat. § 121A.40-121A.56 (The Pupil Fair Dismissal Act)
 - Minn. Stat. § 121A.75 (Receipt of Records; Sharing)
 - Minn. Stat. § 127A.852 (Military-Connected Youth Identifier)
 - Minn. Stat. § 144.341-144.347 (Consent of Minors for Health Services)
 - Minn. Stat. Ch. 256B (Medical Assistance for Needy Persons)
 - Minn. Stat. Ch. 256L (MinnesotaCare)
 - Minn. Stat. § 260B.171, Subds. 3 and 5 (Disposition Order and Peace Officer Records of Children)
 - Minn. Stat. Ch. 260E (Reporting of Maltreatment of Minors)

Minn. Stat. § 363A.42 (Public Records; Accessibility)
 Minn. Stat. § 480.40 (Personal Information, Dissemination)
 Minn. Stat. § 626.557 (Reporting of Maltreatment of Vulnerable Adults)
 Minn. Rules Parts 1205.0100-1205.2000 (Data Practices)
 10 U.S.C. § 503(b) and (c) (Enlistments: Recruiting Campaigns; Compilation of Directory Information)
 18 U.S.C. § 2331 (Definitions)
 18 U.S.C. § 2332b (Acts of Terrorism Transcending National Boundaries)
 20 U.S.C. § 1232g *et seq.* (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act)
 20 U.S.C. § 6301 *et seq.* (Every Student Succeeds Act)
 20 U.S.C. § 7908 (Armed Forces Recruiting Information)
 20 U.S.C. § 7917 (Transfer of School Disciplinary Records)
 25 U.S.C. § 5304 (Definitions – Tribal Organization)
 26 U.S.C. §§ 151 and 152 (Internal Revenue Code)
 42 U.S.C. § 1711 *et seq.* (Child Nutrition Act)
 42 U.S.C. § 1751 *et seq.* (Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act)
 34 C.F.R. §§ 99.1-99.67 (Family Educational Rights and Privacy)
 34 C.F.R. § 300.610-300.627 (Confidentiality of Information)
 42 C.F.R. § 2.1 *et seq.* (Confidentiality of Drug Abuse Patient Records)
Gonzaga University v. Doe, 536 U.S. 273 309 (2002)
 Dept. of Admin. Advisory Op. No. 21-008 (December 8, 2021)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 414 (Mandated Reporting of Child Neglect or Physical or Sexual Abuse)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 417 (Chemical Use and Abuse)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 506 (Student Discipline)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 519 (Interviews of Students by Outside Agencies)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 520 (Student Surveys)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 711 (Video Recording on School Buses)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 722 (Public Data Requests)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 906 (Community Notification of Predatory Offenders)
 MSBA School Law Bulletin “I” (School Records – Privacy – Access to Data)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Independent School District No. 94 gives notice to parents of students currently in attendance in the District, and eligible students currently in attendance in the District, of their rights regarding pupil records.

1. Parents and eligible students are hereby informed that they have the following rights:
 - a. That a parent or eligible student has a right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days after the day the request for access is received by the school district. A parent or eligible student should submit to the school district a written request to inspect education records which identify as precisely as possible the record or records he or she wishes to inspect. The parent or eligible student will be notified of the time and place where the records may be inspected;
 - b. That the parent or eligible student has a right to seek amendment of the student's education records to ensure that those records are not inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights. A parent or eligible student may ask the school district to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading. The request shall be in writing, identify the item the parent or eligible student believes to be inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of the privacy rights of the student, shall state the reason for this belief, and shall specify the correction the parent or eligible student wishes the school district to make. The request shall be signed by the parent or eligible student. If the school district decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the school district will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise him or her of the right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing;
 - c. That the parent or eligible student has a right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that federal and state law and the regulations promulgated thereunder authorize disclosures without consent;
 - d. That the school district may disclose education records to other school officials within the school district if the school district has determined they have legitimate educational interests. For purposes of such disclosure, a "school official" is a person employed by the school district as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel) or other employee; a person serving on the school board; a person or company with whom the school district has consulted to perform a specific task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, therapist, public information officer, or data practices compliance official); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee; or any individual assisting a school official in the performance of his or her tasks. A school official has a "legitimate educational interest" if the individual needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility and includes, but is not limited to, an interest directly related to classroom

instruction, teaching, student achievement and progress, discipline of a student, and student health and welfare and the ability to respond to a request for educational data;

- e. That the school district forwards education records on request to a school or post-secondary educational institution in which a student seeks or intends to enroll, or is already enrolled, as long as the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment, including information about disciplinary action taken as a result of any incident in which the student possessed or used a dangerous weapon, suspension and expulsion information pursuant to 20 U.S.C. § 7917, part of the federal Every Student Succeeds Act and any disposition order which adjudicates the student as delinquent for committing an illegal act on school district property and certain other illegal acts;
 - f. That the parent or eligible student has a right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education regarding an alleged failure by the school district to comply with the requirements of 20 U.S.C. § 1232g and the rules promulgated thereunder.
 - g. That the parent or eligible student has a right to obtain a copy of the school district's policy regarding the protection and privacy of pupil records; and
 - h. That copies of the school district's policy regarding the protection and privacy of school records are located on our school website.
2. Copies of the school board policy and accompanying procedures and regulations are available to parents and students upon written request to the Superintendent.
 3. Pursuant to applicable law, Independent School District No. 94 gives notice to parents of students currently in attendance in the school district, and eligible students currently in attendance in the school district, of their rights regarding "directory information."

"Directory information" includes the following information relating to a student: the student's name; photograph; date and place of birth; major field of study; dates of attendance; grade level; enrollment status; participation in officially recognized activities and sports; weight and height of members of athletic teams; degrees, honors and awards received; the most recent educational agency or institution attended by the student; and other similar information. "Directory information" also includes the name, address, and telephone number of the student's parent(s). "Directory information" does not include a student's social security number or a student's identification number (ID) if the ID may be used to access education records without use of one or more factors that authenticate the student's identity such as a personal identification number, password, or other factor known or possessed only by the authorized user. It also does not include identifying information on a student's religion, race, color, social position, or nationality.

- a. THE INFORMATION LISTED ABOVE SHALL BE PUBLIC INFORMATION WHICH THE SCHOOL DISTRICT MAY DISCLOSE FROM THE

EDUCATION RECORDS OF A STUDENT OR INFORMATION REGARDING A PARENT.

- b. SHOULD THE PARENT OF A STUDENT OR THE STUDENT SO DESIRE, ANY OR ALL OF THE LISTED INFORMATION WILL NOT BE DISCLOSED WITHOUT THE PARENT’S OR ELIGIBLE STUDENT’S PRIOR WRITTEN CONSENT EXCEPT TO SCHOOL OFFICIALS AS PROVIDED UNDER FEDERAL LAW.
- c. IN ORDER TO MAKE ANY OR ALL OF THE DIRECTORY INFORMATION LISTED ABOVE “PRIVATE” (I.E., SUBJECT TO CONSENT PRIOR TO DISCLOSURE), THE PARENT OR ELIGIBLE STUDENT MUST MAKE A WRITTEN REQUEST TO THE BUILDING PRINCIPAL WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF THE LAST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. THIS WRITTEN REQUEST MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:
 - (1) NAME OF STUDENT AND PARENT, AS APPROPRIATE;
 - (2) HOME ADDRESS;
 - (3) SCHOOL PRESENTLY ATTENDED BY STUDENT;
 - (4) PARENT’S LEGAL RELATIONSHIP TO STUDENT, IF APPLICABLE;
 - (5) SPECIFIC CATEGORY OR CATEGORIES OF DIRECTORY INFORMATION WHICH IS NOT TO BE MADE PUBLIC WITHOUT THE PARENT’S OR ELIGIBLE STUDENT’S PRIOR WRITTEN CONSENT.

- 4. Pursuant to applicable law, Independent School District No. 94 hereby gives notice to parents of students and eligible students in grades 11 and 12 of their rights regarding release of information to military recruiting officers and post-secondary educational institutions. The school district must release the names, addresses, electronic mail address (which shall be the electronic mail addresses provided by the school district, if available, that may be released to military recruiters only), and home telephone numbers of students in grades 11 and 12 to military recruiting officers and post-secondary educational institutions within sixty (60) days after the date of the request. Data released to military recruiting officers under this provision may be used only for the purpose of providing information to students about military service, state and federal veterans’ education benefits, and other career and educational opportunities provided by the military and cannot be further disseminated to any other person except personnel of the recruiting services of the armed forces.

SHOULD THE PARENT OF A STUDENT OR THE ELIGIBLE STUDENT SO DESIRE, ANY OR ALL OF THE LISTED INFORMATION WILL NOT BE DISCLOSED TO MILITARY RECRUITING OFFICERS AND POST-SECONDARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS WITHOUT PRIOR CONSENT.

IN ORDER TO REFUSE THE RELEASE OF THIS INFORMATION WITHOUT PRIOR CONSENT, THE PARENT OR ELIGIBLE STUDENT MUST MAKE A WRITTEN REQUEST TO THE RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY, [DESIGNATE TITLE OF INDIVIDUAL, HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING PRINCIPAL, BY SEPTEMBER 1st EACH YEAR. THIS WRITTEN REQUEST MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

- (1) NAME OF STUDENT AND PARENT, AS APPROPRIATE;
- (2) HOME ADDRESS;
- (3) STUDENT'S GRADE LEVEL;
- (4) SCHOOL PRESENTLY ATTENDED BY STUDENT;
- (5) PARENT'S LEGAL RELATIONSHIP TO STUDENT, IF APPLICABLE;
- (6) SPECIFIC CATEGORY OR CATEGORIES OF INFORMATION WHICH ARE NOT TO BE RELEASED TO MILITARY RECRUITING OFFICERS AND POST-SECONDARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS WITHOUT PRIOR CONSENT;
- (7) SPECIFIC CATEGORY OR CATEGORIES OF DIRECTORY INFORMATION WHICH ARE NOT TO BE RELEASED TO THE PUBLIC, INCLUDING MILITARY RECRUITING OFFICERS AND POST-SECONDARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

Notice: Refusal to release the above information to military recruiting officers and post-secondary educational institutions alone does not affect the school district's release of directory information to the public, including military recruiting officers and post-secondary educational institutions. In order to make any directory information about a student private, the procedures contained in the Directory Information section of this notice also must be followed. If you do not want your child's or eligible student's directory information released to military recruiting officers or post-secondary educational institutions, you also must notify the school district that you do not want this directory information released to any member of the public, including military recruiting officers and post-secondary educational institutions.

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 94
CLOQUET, MINNESOTA

Cloquet School District # 94
Student Directory Information Declination Form

Parent or Guardian: ONLY complete and return the form on the back side of this page if you DO NOT give your consent for release of School Directory Information.

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that requires the school district, with certain exceptions, to obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child’s educational records. However, the school may disclose some student information without written consent when the information is designated “Directory Information” unless you have advised the district to the contrary in accordance with district procedures.

Examples of when directory information may be released include but are not limited to the following:

- a playbill or program, showing your child’s role in a drama or music production
- the annual yearbook
- honor roll or other recognition lists published at school or in newspapers
- graduation programs
- sports statistics listed in programs, such as football which may include height and weight of team members
- school or district website

Directory Information can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent’s prior written consent. Outside organizations include but are not limited to: Institutions of higher education the student is seeking to attend (transcripts, etc.); scholarship programs; class ring manufacturers; state or federal authorities auditing, evaluating programs, or enforcing state or federal laws; a court by order of a subpoena.

For the Cloquet School District, directory information includes, but is not limited to the following:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• a student’s name• photographs/videos (not surveillance videos)• date and place of birth• dates of attendance• grade level• participation in activities and sports• awards, and special recognitions received• weight/height of athletic team participants | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• parents’ names, addresses and phone numbers• most recent previous educational agency or institution attended |
|--|---|

If you do not want the district to disclose Directory Information about your child without your prior written consent, you must notify the district in writing by September 30, or within 10 days following your child’s enrollment in a Cloquet school.

Please complete the lower portion of this form and return the entire form to your child’s school if you do not want your child’s directory information disclosed. Once the form has been received by the school administration, you will be contacted to verify that your form has been received.

Parent or Guardian: ONLY complete and return the form on the back side of this page IF you DO NOT give your consent for release of School Directory Information. Use a separate form for each child and return it to their school.

PARENT OPT-OUT FORM FOR RELEASE OF DIRECTORY INFORMATION

Name of student: _____ Date: _____

School/ Grade in which student is enrolled: _____ / _____

Name of Parent/Guardian: _____ Telephone #: _____

**GENERAL DIRECTIONS FOR OPTING OUT OF
RELEASING DIRECTORY INFORMATION**

Parent/Guardian: If opting out of release of directory information, please check only ONE of the options below. A new form must be submitted for each child for whom you may want to have opted out of release of directory information. If you are opting out of release of information to military recruiters, you must complete a separate form which may be obtained at your school’s office.

I hereby indicated that I do not want my child identified above to have his/her directory information released as per the line checked below.

___ Do not release my student’s directory information at any time.

___ Do not release my student’s directory information without my prior written consent.

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____

Address: _____
Street/Apt. # City State Zip

**PARENT OPT-OUT FORM FOR RELEASE OF DIRECTORY INFORMATION
TO MILITARY RECRUITERS**

The above form does not apply for not releasing information to military recruiters. If you do not want directory information released to military recruiters, please complete and sign this portion of the form.

By my signature below, I hereby indicate that I DO NOT my child identified above to have his/her directory information released to military recruiters.

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____

Date: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN:

IF YOU HAVE COMPLETED ANY PART OF THE ABOVE FORM, YOU MUST RETURN THIS FORM TO THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE AT YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL.

Adopted: 12/14/15, 10/13/14, 2/14/11, 1/9/1996

Revised: 8/11/25, 9/9/24, 8/14/23, 12/14/15, 10/13/14, 2/14/11

#515 PROTECTION AND PRIVACY OF PUPIL RECORDS

I. PURPOSE

The school district recognizes its responsibility in regard to the collection, maintenance, and dissemination of pupil records and the protection of the privacy rights of students as provided in federal law and state statutes.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The following procedures and policies regarding the protection and privacy of parents and students are adopted by the school district, pursuant to the requirements of 20 United States Code, section 1232g, *et seq.*, (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)) 34 Code of Federal Regulations part 99 and consistent with the requirements of the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minnesota Statutes, chapter 13, and Minnesota Rules, parts 1205.0100-1205.2000.

III. DEFINITIONS

A. Authorized Representative

“Authorized representative” means any entity or individual designated by the school district, state, or an agency headed by an official of the Comptroller of the United States, the Attorney General of the United States, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education, or state and local educational authorities to conduct, with respect to federal or state supported education programs, any audit or evaluation or any compliance or enforcement activity in connection with federal legal requirements that relate to these programs.

B. Biometric Record

“Biometric record,” as referred to in “Personally Identifiable,” means a record of one or more measurable biological or behavioral characteristics that can be used for automated recognition of an individual (e.g., fingerprints, retina and iris patterns, voiceprints, DNA sequence, facial characteristics, and handwriting).

C. Dates of Attendance

“Dates of attendance,” as referred to in “Directory Information,” means the period of time during which a student attends or attended a school or schools in the school district, including attendance in person or by paper correspondence, videoconference, satellite, Internet, or other electronic information and telecommunications technologies for students who are not in the classroom, and including the period during which a student is working under a work-study program. The term does not include specific daily records of a student’s attendance at a school or schools in the school district.

D. Directory Information

1. Under federal law, “directory information” means information contained in an education record of a student that would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed. It includes the student’s name; ~~address; telephone listing; electronic mail address;~~ photograph; date and place of birth; major field of study; dates of attendance; grade level; enrollment status (i.e., full-time or part-time); participation in officially recognized activities and sports; weight and height of members of athletic teams; degrees, honors and awards received; and the most recent educational agency or institution attended. It also includes the name, ~~address, and telephone number~~ of the student’s parent(s). Directory information does not include:
 - a. a student’s social security number;
 - b. a student’s identification number (ID), user ID, or other unique personal identifier used by a student for purposes of accessing or communicating in electronic systems if the identifier may be used to access education records without use of one or more factors that authenticate the student’s identity such as a personal identification number (PIN), password, or other factor known or possessed only by the authorized user;
 - c. a student ID or other unique personal identifier that is displayed on a student ID badge if the identifier can be used to gain access to educational records when used in conjunction with one or more factors that authenticate the student’s identity, such as a PIN, password, or other factor known or possessed only by the student;
 - d. personally identifiable data which references religion, race, color, social position, or nationality; or
 - e. data collected from nonpublic school students, other than those who receive shared time educational services, unless written consent is given by the student’s parent or guardian.
2. Under Minnesota law, a school district may not designate a student’s home address, telephone number, email address, or other personal contact information as “directory information.”

E. Education Records

1. What constitutes “education records.” Education records means those records that are: (1) directly related to a student; and (2) maintained by the school district or by a party acting for the school district.
2. What does not constitute education records. The term “education records” does not include:
 - a. Records of instructional personnel that are:

- (1) kept in the sole possession of the maker of the record;
 - (2) used only as a personal memory aid;
 - (3) not accessible or revealed to any other individual except a temporary substitute teacher; and
 - (4) destroyed at the end of the school year.
- b. Records of a law enforcement unit of the school district, provided education records maintained by the school district are not disclosed to the unit, and the law enforcement records are:
- (1) maintained separately from education records;
 - (2) maintained solely for law enforcement purposes; and
 - (3) disclosed only to law enforcement officials of the same jurisdiction.
- c. Records relating to an individual, including a student, who is employed by the school district which:
- (1) are made and maintained in the normal course of business;
 - (2) relate exclusively to the individual in that individual's capacity as an employee; and
 - (3) are not available for use for any other purpose.

However, records relating to an individual in attendance at the school district who is employed as a result of his or her status as a student are education records.

- d. Records relating to an eligible student, or a student attending an institution of post-secondary education, that are:
- (1) made or maintained by a physician, psychiatrist, psychologist, or other recognized professional or paraprofessional acting in his or her professional or paraprofessional capacity or assisting in that capacity;
 - (2) made, maintained, or used only in connection with the provision of treatment to the student; and
 - (3) disclosed only to individuals providing the treatment; provided that the records can be personally reviewed by a physician or other appropriate professional of the student's choice. For the purpose

of this definition, “treatment” does not include remedial educational activities or activities that are a part of the program of instruction within the school district.

- e. Records created or received by the school district after an individual is no longer a student at the school district and that are not directly related to the individual’s attendance as a student.
- f. Grades on peer-related papers before the papers are collected and recorded by a teacher.

F. Education Support Services Data

"Education support services data" means data on individuals collected, created, maintained, used, or disseminated relating to programs administered by a government entity or entity under contract with a government entity designed to eliminate disparities and advance equities in educational achievement for youth by coordinating services available to participants, regardless of the youth's involvement with other government services. Education support services data does not include welfare data under Minnesota Statutes, section 13.46.

Unless otherwise provided by law, all education support services data are private data on individuals and must not be disclosed except according to Minnesota Statutes, section 13.05 or a court order.

G. Eligible Student

“Eligible student” means a student who has attained eighteen (18) years of age or is attending an institution of post-secondary education.

H. Juvenile Justice System

“Juvenile justice system” includes criminal justice agencies and the judiciary when involved in juvenile justice activities.

I. Legitimate Educational Interest

“Legitimate educational interest” includes an interest directly related to classroom instruction, teaching, student achievement and progress, discipline of a student, student health and welfare, and the ability to respond to a request for education data. It includes a person’s need to know in order to:

1. Perform an administrative task required in the school or employee’s contract or position description approved by the school board;
2. Perform a supervisory or instructional task directly related to the student’s education;
3. Perform a service or benefit for the student or the student’s family such as health care, counseling, student job placement, or student financial aid; or

4. Perform a task directly related to responding to a request for data.

J. Parent

“Parent” means a parent of a student and includes a natural parent, a guardian, or an individual acting as a parent of the student in the absence of a parent or guardian. The school district may presume the parent has the authority to exercise the rights provided herein, unless it has been provided with evidence that there is a state law or court order governing such matters as marriage dissolution, separation or child custody, or a legally binding instrument which provides to the contrary.

K. Personally Identifiable

“Personally identifiable” means that the data or information includes, but is not limited to: (a) a student’s name; (b) the name of the student’s parent or other family member; (c) the address of the student or student’s family; (d) a personal identifier such as the student’s social security number or student number or biometric record; (e) other indirect identifiers, such as the student’s date of birth, place of birth, and mother’s maiden name; (f) other information that, alone or in combination, is linked or linkable to a specific student that would allow a reasonable person in the school community, who does not have personal knowledge of the relevant circumstances, to identify the student with reasonable certainty; or (g) information requested by a person who the school district reasonably believes knows the identity of the student to whom the education record relates.

L. Record

“Record” means any information or data recorded in any way including, but not limited to, handwriting, print, computer media, video or audio tape, film, microfilm, and microfiche.

M. Responsible Authority

“Responsible authority” means Dr. Michael Cary, Superintendent

N. Student

“Student” includes any individual who is or has been in attendance, enrolled, or registered at the school district and regarding whom the school district maintains education records. Student also includes applicants for enrollment or registration at the school district and individuals who receive shared time educational services from the school district.

O. School Official

“School official” includes: (a) a person duly elected to the school board; (b) a person employed by the school board in an administrative, supervisory, instructional, or other professional position; (c) a person employed by the school board as a temporary substitute in a professional position for the period of his or her performance as a substitute; and (d) a person employed by, or under contract to, the school board to perform a special task

such as a secretary, a clerk, a public information officer or data practices compliance official, an attorney, or an auditor for the period of his or her performance as an employee or contractor.

P. Summary Data

“Summary data” means statistical records and reports derived from data on individuals but in which individuals are not identified and from which neither their identities nor any other characteristic that could uniquely identify the individual is ascertainable.

Q. Other Terms and Phrases

All other terms and phrases shall be defined in accordance with applicable state and federal law or ordinary customary usage.

IV. GENERAL CLASSIFICATION

State law provides that all data collected, created, received, or maintained by a school district are public unless classified by state or federal law as not public or private or confidential. State law classifies all data on individuals maintained by a school district which relates to a student as private data on individuals. This data may not be disclosed to parties other than the parent or eligible student without consent, except pursuant to a valid court order, certain state statutes authorizing access, and the provisions of FERPA and the regulations promulgated thereunder.

V. STATEMENT OF RIGHTS

A. Rights of Parents and Eligible Students

Parents and eligible students have the following rights under this policy:

1. The right to inspect and review the student’s education records;
2. The right to request the amendment of the student’s education records to ensure that they are not inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student’s privacy or other rights;
3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student’s education records, except to the extent that such consent is not required for disclosure pursuant to this policy, state or federal law, or the regulations promulgated thereunder;
4. The right to refuse release of names, addresses, and home telephone numbers of students in grades 11 and 12 to military recruiting officers and post-secondary educational institutions;
5. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the school district to comply with the federal law and the regulations promulgated thereunder;

6. The right to be informed about rights under the federal law; and
7. The right to obtain a copy of this policy at the location set forth in Section XXI. of this policy.

B. Eligible Students

All rights and protections given to parents under this policy transfer to the student when he or she reaches eighteen (18) years of age or enrolls in an institution of post-secondary education. The student then becomes an “eligible student.” However, the parents of an eligible student who is also a “dependent student” are entitled to gain access to the education records of such student without first obtaining the consent of the student. In addition, parents of an eligible student may be given access to education records in connection with a health or safety emergency if the disclosure meets the conditions of any provision set forth in 34 Code of Federal Regulations, section 99.31(a).

C. Students with a Disability

The school district shall follow 34 Code of Federal Regulations, sections 300.610-300.617 with regard to the privacy, notice, access, recordkeeping, and accuracy of information related to students with a disability.

VI. DISCLOSURE OF EDUCATION RECORDS

A. Consent Required for Disclosure

1. The school district shall obtain a signed and dated written informed consent of the parent of a student or the eligible student before disclosing personally identifiable information from the education records of the student, except as provided herein.
2. The written consent required by this subdivision must be signed and dated by the parent of the student or the eligible student giving the consent and shall include:
 - a. a specification of the records to be disclosed;
 - b. the purpose or purposes of the disclosure;
 - c. the party or class of parties to whom the disclosure may be made;
 - d. the consequences of giving informed consent; and
 - e. if appropriate, a termination date for the consent.
3. When a disclosure is made under this subdivision:
 - a. if the parent or eligible student so requests, the school district shall provide him or her with a copy of the records disclosed; and
 - b. if the parent of a student who is not an eligible student so requests, the school district shall provide the student with a copy of the records

disclosed.

4. A signed and dated written consent may include a record and signature in electronic form that:
 - a. identifies and authenticates a particular person as the source of the electronic consent; and
 - b. indicates such person's approval of the information contained in the electronic consent.

5. If the responsible authority seeks an individual's informed consent to the release of private data to an insurer or the authorized representative of an insurer, informed consent shall not be deemed to have been given unless the statement is:
 - a. in plain language;
 - b. dated;
 - c. specific in designating the particular persons or agencies the data subject is authorizing to disclose information about the data subject;
 - d. specific as to the nature of the information the subject is authorizing to be disclosed;
 - e. specific as to the persons or agencies to whom the subject is authorizing information to be disclosed;
 - f. specific as to the purpose or purposes for which the information may be used by any of the parties named in Clause e. above, both at the time of the disclosure and at any time in the future; and
 - g. specific as to its expiration date which should be within a reasonable time, not to exceed one year except in the case of authorizations given in connection with applications for: (i) life insurance or noncancellable or guaranteed renewable health insurance and identified as such, two years after the date of the policy, or (ii) medical assistance under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 256B or Minnesota Care under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 256L, which shall be ongoing during all terms of eligibility, for individualized education program health-related services provided by a school district that are subject to third party reimbursement.

6. Eligible Student Consent

Whenever a student has attained eighteen (18) years of age or is attending an institution of post-secondary education, the rights accorded to and the consent required of the parent of the student shall thereafter only be accorded to and required of the eligible student, except as provided in Section V. of this policy.

B. Prior Consent for Disclosure Not Required

The school district may disclose personally identifiable information from the education records of a student without the written consent of the parent of the student or the eligible student unless otherwise provided herein, if the disclosure is:

1. To other school officials, including teachers, within the school district whom the school district determines have a legitimate educational interest in such records;
2. To a contractor, consultant, volunteer, or other party to whom the school district has outsourced institutional services or functions provided that the outside party:
 - a. performs an institutional service or function for which the school district would otherwise use employees;
 - b. is under the direct control of the school district with respect to the use and maintenance of education records; and
 - c. will not disclose the information to any other party without the prior consent of the parent or eligible student and uses the information only for the purposes for which the disclosure was made;
3. To officials of other schools, school districts, or post-secondary educational institutions in which the student seeks or intends to enroll, or is already enrolled, as long as the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer. The records shall include information about disciplinary action taken as a result of any incident in which the student possessed or used a dangerous weapon, and with proper annual notice (see Section XIX.), suspension and expulsion information pursuant to section 7917 of the federal Every Student Succeeds Act, 20 United States Code, section 7917, and, if applicable, data regarding a student's history of violent behavior. The records also shall include a copy of any probable cause notice or any disposition or court order under Minnesota Statutes, section 260B.171, unless the data are required to be destroyed under Minnesota Statutes, section 120A.22, subdivision 7(c) or section 121A.75. On request, the school district will provide the parent or eligible student with a copy of the education records that have been transferred and provide an opportunity for a hearing to challenge the content of those records in accordance with Section XV. of this policy;
4. To authorized representatives of the Comptroller General of the United States, the Attorney General of the United States, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education, or the Commissioner of the State Department of Education or his or her representative, subject to the conditions relative to such disclosure provided under federal law;
5. In connection with financial aid for which a student has applied or has received, if the information is necessary for such purposes as to:

- a. determine eligibility for the aid;
- b. determine the amount of the aid;
- c. determine conditions for the aid; or
- d. enforce the terms and conditions of the aid.

“Financial aid” for purposes of this provision means a payment of funds provided to an individual or a payment in kind of tangible or intangible property to the individual that is conditioned on the individual’s attendance at an educational agency or institution;

- 6. To state and local officials or authorities to whom such information is specifically allowed to be reported or disclosed pursuant to state statute adopted:
 - a. before November 19, 1974, if the allowed reporting or disclosure concerns the juvenile justice system and such system’s ability to effectively serve the student whose records are released; or
 - b. after November 19, 1974, if the reporting or disclosure allowed by state statute concerns the juvenile justice system and the system’s ability to effectively serve, prior to adjudication, the student whose records are released, provided the officials and authorities to whom the records are disclosed certify in writing to the school district that the data will not be disclosed to any other party, except as provided by state law, without the prior written consent of the parent of the student. At a minimum, the school district shall disclose the following information to the juvenile justice system under this paragraph: a student’s full name, home address, telephone number, and date of birth; a student’s school schedule, attendance record, and photographs, if any; and parents’ names, home addresses, and telephone numbers;
- 7. To organizations conducting studies for or on behalf of educational agencies or institutions for the purpose of developing, validating, or administering predictive tests, administering student aid programs, or improving instruction; provided that the studies are conducted in a manner which does not permit the personal identification of parents or students by individuals other than representatives of the organization who have a legitimate interest in the information, the information is destroyed when no longer needed for the purposes for which the study was conducted, and the school district enters into a written agreement with the organization that: (a) specifies the purpose, scope, and duration of the study or studies and the information to be disclosed; (b) requires the organization to use personally identifiable information from education records only to meet the purpose or purposes of the study as stated in the written agreement; (c) requires the organization to conduct the study in a manner that does not permit personal identification of parents and students by anyone other than representatives of the organization with legitimate interests; and (d) requires the organization to destroy all personally identifiable information when information is no longer needed for

the purposes for which the study was conducted and specifies the time period in which the information must be destroyed. For purposes of this provision, the term, “organizations,” includes, but is not limited to, federal, state, and local agencies and independent organizations. In the event the Department of Education determines that a third party outside of the school district to whom information is disclosed violates this provision, the school district may not allow that third party access to personally identifiable information from education records for at least five (5) years;

8. To accrediting organizations in order to carry out their accrediting functions;
9. To parents of a student eighteen (18) years of age or older if the student is a dependent of the parents for income tax purposes;
10. To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena, provided, however, that the school district makes a reasonable effort to notify the parent or eligible student of the order or subpoena in advance of compliance therewith so that the parent or eligible student may seek protective action, unless the disclosure is in compliance with a federal grand jury subpoena, or any other subpoena issued for law enforcement purposes, and the court or other issuing agency has ordered that the existence or the contents of the subpoena or the information furnished in response to the subpoena not be disclosed, or the disclosure is in compliance with an ex parte court order obtained by the United States Attorney General (or designee not lower than an Assistant Attorney General) concerning investigations or prosecutions of an offense listed in 18 United States Code, section 2332b(g)(5)(B), an act of domestic or international terrorism as defined in 18 United States Code, section 2331, or a parent is a party to a court proceeding involving child abuse and neglect or dependency matters, and the order is issued in the context of the proceeding. If the school district initiates legal action against a parent or student, it may disclose to the court, without a court order or subpoena, the education records of the student that are relevant for the school district to proceed with the legal action as a plaintiff. Also, if a parent or eligible student initiates a legal action against the school district, the school district may disclose to the court, without a court order or subpoena, the student’s education records that are relevant for the school district to defend itself;
11. To appropriate parties, including parents of an eligible student, in connection with an emergency if knowledge of the information is necessary to protect the health, including the mental health, or safety of the student or other individuals. The decision is to be based upon information available at the time the threat occurs that indicates that there is an articulable and significant threat to the health or safety of a student or other individuals. In making a determination whether to disclose information under this section, the school district may take into account the totality of the circumstances pertaining to a threat and may disclose information from education records to any person whose knowledge of the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other students. A record of this disclosure must be maintained pursuant to Section XIII.E. of this policy. In addition, an educational agency or institution may include in the education records of a student appropriate information concerning

disciplinary action taken against the student for conduct that posed a significant risk to the safety or well-being of that student, other students, or other members of the school community. This information may be disclosed to teachers and school officials within the school district and/or teachers and school officials in other schools who have legitimate educational interests in the behavior of the student;

12. To the juvenile justice system if information about the behavior of a student who poses a risk of harm is reasonably necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals;
13. Information the school district has designated as “directory information” pursuant to Section VII. of this policy;
14. To military recruiting officers and post-secondary educational institutions pursuant to Section XI. of this policy;
15. To the parent of a student who is not an eligible student or to the student himself or herself;
16. To appropriate health authorities to the extent necessary to administer immunization programs and for bona fide epidemiologic investigations which the commissioner of health determines are necessary to prevent disease or disability to individuals in the public educational agency or institution in which the investigation is being conducted;
17. To volunteers who are determined to have a legitimate educational interest in the data and who are conducting activities and events sponsored by or endorsed by the educational agency or institution for students or former students;
18. To the juvenile justice system, on written request that certifies that the information will not be disclosed to any other person except as authorized by law without the written consent of the parent of the student:
 - a. the following information about a student must be disclosed: a student’s full name, home address, telephone number, date of birth; a student’s school schedule, daily attendance record, and photographs, if any; and any parents’ names, home addresses, and telephone numbers;
 - b. the existence of the following information about a student, not the actual data or other information contained in the student’s education record, may be disclosed provided that a request for access must be submitted on the statutory form and it must contain an explanation of why access to the information is necessary to serve the student: (1) use of a controlled substance, alcohol, or tobacco; (2) assaultive or threatening conduct that could result in dismissal from school under the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act; (3) possession or use of weapons or look-alike weapons; (4) theft; or (5) vandalism or other damage to property. Prior to releasing this information, the principal or chief administrative officer of a school who receives such

a request must, to the extent permitted by federal law, notify the student's parent or guardian by certified mail of the request to disclose information. If the student's parent or guardian notifies the school official of an objection to the disclosure within ten (10) days of receiving certified notice, the school official must not disclose the information and instead must inform the requesting member of the juvenile justice system of the objection. If no objection from the parent or guardian is received within fourteen (14) days, the school official must respond to the request for information.

The written requests of the juvenile justice system member(s), as well as a record of any release, must be maintained in the student's file;

19. To the principal where the student attends and to any counselor directly supervising or reporting on the behavior or progress of the student if it is information from a disposition order received by a superintendent under Minnesota Statutes, section 260B.171, subdivision 3. The principal must notify the counselor immediately and must place the disposition order in the student's permanent education record. The principal also must notify immediately any teacher or administrator who directly supervises or reports on the behavior or progress of the student whom the principal believes needs the information to work with the student in an appropriate manner, to avoid being needlessly vulnerable, or to protect other persons from needless vulnerability. The principal may also notify other school district employees, substitutes, and volunteers who are in direct contact with the student if the principal determines that these individuals need the information to work with the student in an appropriate manner, to avoid being needlessly vulnerable, or to protect other persons from needless vulnerability. Such notices from the principal must identify the student, outline the offense, and describe any conditions of probation about which the school must provide information if this information is provided in the disposition order. Disposition order information received is private educational data received for the limited purpose of serving the educational needs of the student and protecting students and staff. The information may not be further disseminated by the counselor, teacher, administrator, staff member, substitute, or volunteer except as necessary to serve the student, to protect students and staff, or as otherwise required by law, and only to the student or the student's parent or guardian;
20. To the principal where the student attends if it is information from a peace officer's record of children received by a superintendent under Minnesota Statutes, section 260B.171, subdivision 5. The principal must place the information in the student's education record. The principal also must notify immediately any teacher, counselor, or administrator directly supervising the student whom the principal believes needs the information to work with the student in an appropriate manner, to avoid being needlessly vulnerable, or to protect other persons from needless vulnerability. The principal may also notify other district employees, substitutes, and volunteers who are in direct contact with the student if the principal determines that these individuals need the information to work with the student in an appropriate manner, to avoid being needlessly vulnerable, or to protect other persons from needless vulnerability. Such notices

from the principal must identify the student and describe the alleged offense if this information is provided in the peace officer's notice. Peace officer's record information received is private educational data received for the limited purpose of serving the educational needs of the student and protecting students and staff. The information must not be further disseminated by the counselor, teacher administrator, staff member, substitute, or volunteer except to communicate with the student or the student's parent or guardian as necessary to serve the student, to protect students and staff, or as otherwise required by law.

The principal must delete the peace officer's record from the student's education record, destroy the data, and make reasonable efforts to notify any teacher, counselor, staff member, administrator, substitute, or volunteer who received information from the peace officer's record if the county attorney determines not to proceed with a petition or directs the student into a diversion or mediation program or if a juvenile court makes a decision on a petition and the county attorney or juvenile court notifies the superintendent of such action;

21. To the Secretary of Agriculture, or authorized representative from the Food and Nutrition Service or contractors acting on behalf of the Food and Nutrition Service, for the purposes of conducting program monitoring, evaluations, and performance measurements of state and local educational and other agencies and institutions receiving funding or providing benefits of one or more programs authorized under the National School Lunch Act or the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 for which the results will be reported in an aggregate form that does not identify any individual, on the conditions that: (a) any data collected shall be protected in a manner that will not permit the personal identification of students and their parents by other than the authorized representatives of the Secretary; and (b) any personally identifiable data shall be destroyed when the data are no longer needed for program monitoring, evaluations, and performance measurements; or
22. To an agency caseworker or other representative of a State or local child welfare agency, or tribal organization (as defined in 25 United States Code, section 5304), who has the right to access a student's case plan, as defined and determined by the State or tribal organization, when such agency or organization is legally responsible, in accordance with State or tribal law, for the care and protection of the student, provided that the education records, or the personally identifiable information contained in such records, of the student will not be disclosed by such agency or organization, except to an individual or entity engaged in addressing the student's education needs and authorized by such agency or organization to receive such disclosure and such disclosure is consistent with the State or tribal laws applicable to protecting the confidentiality of a student's education records.
23. When requested, and in accordance with requirements for parental consent in 34 Code of Federal Regulations, section 300.622(b)(2), and part 99, educational agencies or institutions may share personal student contact information and directory information for students served in special education with postsecondary transition planning and services under Minnesota Statutes, section 125A.08, paragraph (b), clause (1), whether public or private, with the Minnesota Department of Employment¹⁹¹ and Economic Development, as required for

coordination of services to students with disabilities under Minnesota Statutes, sections 125A.08, paragraph (b), clause (1); 125A.023; and 125A.027.

C. Nonpublic School Students

The school district may disclose personally identifiable information from the education records of a nonpublic school student, other than a student who receives shared time educational services, without the written consent of the parent of the student or the eligible student unless otherwise provided herein, if the disclosure is:

1. Pursuant to a valid court order;
2. Pursuant to a statute specifically authorizing access to the private data; or
3. To appropriate health authorities to the extent necessary to administer immunization programs and for bona fide epidemiological investigations which the commissioner of health determines are necessary to prevent disease or disability to individuals in the public educational agency or institution in which the investigation is being conducted.

VII. RELEASE OF DIRECTORY INFORMATION

A. Educational Data

1. Educational data designated as directory information is public data on individuals to the extent required under federal law. Directory information must be designated pursuant to the provisions of:
 - a. Minnesota Statutes, section 13.32, subdivision 5; and
 - b. 20 United States Code, section 1232g, and 34 Code of Federal Regulations, section 99.37, which were in effect on January 3, 2012.
2. The school district may not designate a student’s home address, telephone number, email address, or other personal contact information as directory information under ~~this section.~~ Minnesota Statutes, section 13.32.
3. A parent’s personal contact information must be treated as private data on individuals regardless of whether that contact information was previously designated as or treated as directory information under Minnesota Statutes, section 13.32, subdivision 2.
4. When requested, the school district must share personal contact information and directory information, whether public or private, with the Minnesota Department of Education, as required for federal reporting purposes.

B. Former Students

Unless a former student validly opted out of the release of directory information while the student was in attendance and has not rescinded the opt out request at any time, the

school district may disclose directory information from the education records generated by it regarding the former student without meeting the requirements of Paragraph C. of this section. In addition, under an explicit exclusion from the definition of an “education record,” the school district may release records that only contain information about an individual obtained after he or she is no longer a student at the school district and that are not directly related to the individual’s attendance as a student (e.g., a student’s activities as an alumnus of the school district).

C. Present Students and Parents

The school district may disclose directory information from the education records of a student and information regarding parents without prior written consent of the parent of the student or eligible student, except as provided herein.

1. When conducting the directory information designation and notice process required by federal law, the school district shall give parents and students notice of the right to refuse to let the district designate specified data about the student as directory information.
2. The school district shall give annual notice by any means that are reasonably likely to inform the parents and eligible students of:
 - a. the types of personally identifiable information regarding students and/or parents that the school district has designated as directory information;
 - b. the parent’s or eligible student’s right to refuse to let the school district designate any or all of those types of information about the student and/or the parent as directory information; and
 - c. the period of time in which a parent or eligible student has to notify the school district in writing that he or she does not want any or all of those types of information about the student and/or the parent designated as directory information.
3. Allow a reasonable period of time after such notice has been given for a parent or eligible student to inform the school district in writing that any or all of the information so designated should not be disclosed without the parent’s or eligible student’s prior written consent, except as provided in Section VI. of this policy.
4. A parent or eligible student may not opt out of the directory information disclosures to:
 - a. prevent the school district from disclosing or requiring the student to disclose the student’s name, ID, or school district e-mail address in a class in which the student is enrolled; or
 - b. prevent the school district from requiring a student to wear, to display publicly, or to disclose a student ID card or badge that exhibits information that may be designated as directory information and that has been properly

designated by the school district as directory information.

5. The school district shall not disclose or confirm directory information without meeting the written consent requirements contained in Section VI.A. of this policy if a student's social security number or other non-directory information is used alone or in combination with other data elements to identify or help identify the student or the student's records.

D. Procedure for Obtaining Nondisclosure of Directory Information

The parent's or eligible student's written notice shall be directed to the responsible authority and shall include the following:

1. Name of the student and/or parent, as appropriate;
2. Home address;
3. School presently attended by student;
4. Parent's legal relationship to student, if applicable; and
5. Specific categories of directory information to be made not public without the parent's or eligible student's prior written consent, which shall only be applicable for that school year.

E. Duration

The designation of any information as directory information about a student or parents will remain in effect for the remainder of the school year unless the parent or eligible student provides the written notifications provided herein.

VIII. DISCLOSURE OF PRIVATE RECORDS

A. Private Records

For the purposes herein, education records are records which are classified as private data on individuals by state law and which are accessible only to the student who is the subject of the data and the student's parent if the student is not an eligible student. The school district may not disclose private records or their contents except as summary data, or except as provided in Section VI. of this policy, without the prior written consent of the parent or the eligible student. The school district will use reasonable methods to identify and authenticate the identity of parents, students, school officials, and any other party to whom personally identifiable information from education records is disclosed.

B. Private Records Not Accessible to Parent

In certain cases, state law intends, and clearly provides, that certain information contained in the education records of the school district pertaining to a student be accessible to the student alone, and to the parent only under special circumstances, if at all.

1. The responsible authority may deny access to private data by a parent when a minor student who is the subject of that data requests that the responsible authority deny such access. The minor student's request must be submitted in writing setting forth the reasons for denying access to the parent and must be signed by the minor. Upon receipt of such request the responsible authority shall determine if honoring the request to deny the parent access would be in the best interest of the minor data subject. In making this determination the responsible authority shall consider the following factors:
 - a. whether the minor is of sufficient age and maturity to be able to explain the reasons for and understand the consequences of the request to deny access;
 - b. whether the personal situation of the minor is such that denying parental access may protect the minor data subject from physical or emotional harm;
 - c. whether there are grounds for believing that the minor data subject's reasons for precluding parental access are reasonably accurate;
 - d. whether the data in question is of such a nature that disclosure of it to the parent may lead to physical or emotional harm to the minor data subject; and
 - e. whether the data concerns medical, dental or other health services provided pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, sections 144.341-144.347, in which case the data may be released only if the failure to inform the parent would seriously jeopardize the health of the minor.

C. Private Records Not Accessible to Student

Students shall not be entitled to access to private data concerning financial records and statements of the student's parent or any information contained therein.

D. Military-Connected Youth Identifier

When a school district updates its enrollment forms in the ordinary course of business, the school district must include a box on the enrollment form to allow students to self-identify as a military-connected youth. For purposes of this section, a "military-connected youth" means having an immediate family member, including a parent or sibling, who is currently in the armed forces either as a reservist or on active duty or has recently retired from the armed forces. Data collected under this provision is private data on individuals, but summary data may be published by the Department of Education.

IX. DISCLOSURE OF CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS

A. Confidential Records

Confidential records are those records¹⁹⁵ and data contained therein which are made not
Page 18 of 38

public by state or federal law, and which are inaccessible to the student and the student's parents or to an eligible student.

B. Reports Under the Maltreatment of Minors Reporting Act

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, chapter 260E, written copies of reports pertaining to a neglected and/or physically and/or sexually abused child shall be accessible only to the appropriate welfare and law enforcement agencies. In respect to other parties, such data shall be confidential and will not be made available to the parent or the subject individual by the school district. The subject individual, however, may obtain a copy of the report from either the local welfare agency, county sheriff, or the local police department subject to the provisions of Minnesota Statutes, chapter 260E.

Regardless of whether a written report is made under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 260E, as soon as practicable after a school receives information regarding an incident that may constitute maltreatment of a child in a school facility, the school shall inform the parent, legal guardian, or custodian of the child that an incident occurred that may constitute maltreatment of the child, when the incident occurred, and the nature of the conduct that may constitute maltreatment.

C. Investigative Data

Data collected by the school district as part of an active investigation undertaken for the purpose of the commencement or defense of pending civil legal action, or are retained in anticipation of a pending civil legal action are classified as protected nonpublic data in the case of data not on individuals, and confidential data in the case of data on individuals.

1. The school district may make any data classified as protected non-public or confidential pursuant to this subdivision accessible to any person, agency, or the public if the school district determines that such access will aid the law enforcement process, promote public health or safety, or dispel widespread rumor or unrest.
2. A complainant has access to a statement he or she provided to the school district.
3. Parents or eligible students may have access to investigative data of which the student is the subject, but only to the extent the data is not inextricably intertwined with data about other school district students, school district employees, and/or attorney data as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 13.393.
4. Once a civil investigation becomes inactive, civil investigative data becomes public unless the release of the data would jeopardize another pending civil legal action, except for those portions of such data that are classified as not public data under state or federal law. Any civil investigative data presented as evidence in court or made part of a court record shall be public. For purposes of this provision, a civil investigation becomes inactive upon the occurrence of any of the following events:
 - a. a decision by the school district, or by the chief attorney for the school

district, not to pursue the civil legal action. However, such investigation may subsequently become active if the school district or its attorney decides to renew the civil legal action;

- b. the expiration of the time to file a complaint under the statute of limitations or agreement applicable to the civil legal action; or
- c. the exhaustion or expiration of rights of appeal by either party to the civil legal action.

5. A “pending civil legal action” for purposes of this subdivision is defined as including, but not limited to, judicial, administrative, or arbitration proceedings.

D. Chemical Abuse Records

To the extent the school district maintains records of the identity, diagnosis, prognosis, or treatment of any student which are maintained in connection with the performance of any drug abuse prevention function conducted, regulated, or directly or indirectly assisted by any department or agency of the United States, such records are classified as confidential and shall be disclosed only for the purposes and under the circumstances expressly authorized by law.

X. DISCLOSURE OF SCHOOL RECORDS PRIOR TO EXCLUSION OR EXPULSION HEARING

At a reasonable time prior to any exclusion or expulsion hearing, the student and the student’s parent or guardian or representative shall be given access to all school district records pertaining to the student, including any tests or reports upon which the action proposed by the school district may be based, pursuant to the Minnesota Pupil Fair Dismissal Act, Minnesota Statutes, section 121A.40, *et seq.*

XI. DISCLOSURE OF DATA TO MILITARY RECRUITING OFFICERS AND POST-SECONDARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

A. The school district will release the names, addresses, electronic mail address (which shall be the electronic mail addresses provided by the school district, if available, that may be released to military recruiting officers only), and home telephone numbers of students in grades 11 and 12 to military recruiting officers and post-secondary educational institutions within sixty (60) days after the date of the request unless a parent or eligible student has refused in writing to release this data pursuant to Paragraph C. below.

B. Data released to military recruiting officers under this provision:

- 1. may be used only for the purpose of providing information to students about military service, state and federal veterans’ education benefits, and other career and educational opportunities provided by the military;
- 2. cannot be further disseminated to any other person except personnel of the recruiting services of the armed forces; and

3. copying fees shall not be imposed.
- C. A parent or eligible student has the right to refuse the release of the name, address, electronic mail addresses (which shall be the electronic mail addresses provided by the school, if available, that may be released to military recruiting officers only) or home telephone number to military recruiting officers and post-secondary educational institutions. To refuse the release of the above information to military recruiting officers and post-secondary educational institutions, a parent or eligible student must notify the responsible authority, high school principal in writing by September 1st each year. The written request must include the following information:
1. Name of student and parent, as appropriate;
 2. Home address;
 3. Student's grade level;
 4. School presently attended by student;
 5. Parent's legal relationship to student, if applicable;
 6. Specific category or categories of information which are not to be released to military recruiting officers and post-secondary educational institutions; and
 7. Specific category or categories of information which are not to be released to the public, including military recruiting officers and post-secondary educational institutions.
- D. Annually, the school district will provide public notice by any means that are reasonably likely to inform the parents and eligible students of their rights to refuse to release the names, addresses, and home phone numbers of students in grades 11 and 12 without prior consent.
- E. A parent or eligible student's refusal to release the above information to military recruiting officers and post-secondary educational institutions does not affect the school district's release of directory information to the rest of the public, which includes military recruiting officers and post-secondary educational institutions. In order to make any directory information about a student private, the procedures contained in Section VII. of this policy also must be followed. Accordingly, to the extent the school district has designated the name, address, home phone number, and grade level of students as directory information, absent a request from a parent or eligible student not to release such data, this information will be public data and accessible to members of the public, including military recruiting officers and post-secondary educational institutions.

XII. LIMITS ON REDISCLOSURE

A. Redisclosure

Consistent with the requirements herein, the school district may only disclose personally identifiable information from the education records of a student on the condition that the party to whom the information is to be disclosed will not disclose the information to any other party without the prior written consent of the parent of the student or the eligible student, except that the officers, employees, and agents of any party receiving personally identifiable information under this section may use the information, but only for the purposes for which the disclosure was made.

B. Redislosure Not Prohibited

1. Subdivision A. of this section does not prevent the school district from disclosing personally identifiable information under Section VI. of this policy with the understanding that the party receiving the information may make further disclosures of the information on behalf of the school district provided:
 - a. The disclosures meet the requirements of Section VI. of this policy; and
 - b. The school district has complied with the record-keeping requirements of Section XIII. of this policy.
2. Subdivision A. of this section does not apply to disclosures made pursuant to court orders or lawfully issued subpoenas or litigation, to disclosures of directory information, to disclosures to a parent or student or to parents of dependent students, or to disclosures concerning sex offenders and other individuals required to register under 42 United States Code, section 14071. However, the school district must provide the notification required in Section XII.D. of this policy if a redislosure is made based upon a court order or lawfully issued subpoena.

C. Classification of Disclosed Data

The information disclosed shall retain the same classification in the hands of the party receiving it as it had in the hands of the school district.

D. Notification

The school district shall inform the party to whom a disclosure is made of the requirements set forth in this section, except for disclosures made pursuant to court orders or lawfully issued subpoenas, disclosure of directory information under Section VII. of this policy, disclosures to a parent or student, or disclosures to parents of a dependent student. In the event that the Family Policy Compliance Office determines that a state or local educational authority, a federal agency headed by an official listed in 34 Code of Federal Regulations, section 99.31(a)(3), or an authorized representative of a state or local educational authority or a federal agency headed by an official listed in section 99.31(a)(3), or a third party outside of the school district improperly redisclodes personally identifiable information from education records or fails to provide notification required under this section of this policy, the school district may not allow that third party access to personally identifiable information from education records for at least five (5) years.

XIII. RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY; RECORD SECURITY; AND RECORD KEEPING**A. Responsible Authority**

The responsible authority shall be responsible for the maintenance and security of student records.

B. Record Security

The principal of each school subject to the supervision and control of the responsible authority shall be the records manager of the school, and shall have the duty of maintaining and securing the privacy and/or confidentiality of student records.

C. Plan for Securing Student Records

The building principal shall submit to the responsible authority a written plan for securing students records by September 1 of each school year. The written plan shall contain the following information:

1. A description of records maintained;
2. Titles and addresses of person(s) responsible for the security of student records;
3. Location of student records, by category, in the buildings;
4. Means of securing student records; and
5. Procedures for access and disclosure.

D. Review of Written Plan for Securing Student Records

The responsible authority shall review the plans submitted pursuant to Paragraph C. of this section for compliance with the law, this policy, and the various administrative policies of the school district. The responsible authority shall then promulgate a chart incorporating the provisions of Paragraph C. which shall be attached to and become a part of this policy.

E. Record Keeping

1. The principal shall, for each request for and each disclosure of personally identifiable information from the education records of a student, maintain a record, with the education records of the student, that indicates:
 - a. the parties who have requested or received personally identifiable information from the education records of the student;
 - b. the legitimate interests these parties had in requesting or obtaining the information; and
 - c. the names of the state and local educational authorities and federal

officials and agencies listed in Section VI.B.4. of this policy that may make further disclosures of personally identifiable information from the student's education records without consent.

2. In the event the school district discloses personally identifiable information from an education record of a student pursuant to Section XII.B. of this policy, the record of disclosure required under this section shall also include:
 - a. the names of the additional parties to which the receiving party may disclose the information on behalf of the school district;
 - b. the legitimate interests under Section VI. of this policy which each of the additional parties has in requesting or obtaining the information; and
 - c. a copy of the record of further disclosures maintained by a state or local educational authority or federal official or agency listed in Section VI.B.4. of this policy in accordance with 34 Code of Federal Regulations, section 99.32 and to whom the school district disclosed information from an education record. The school district shall request a copy of the record of further disclosures from a state or local educational authority or federal official or agency to whom education records were disclosed upon a request from a parent or eligible student to review the record of requests for disclosure.

3. Section XIII.E.1. does not apply to requests by or disclosure to a parent of a student or an eligible student, disclosures pursuant to the written consent of a parent of a student or an eligible student, requests by or disclosures to other school officials under Section VI.B.1. of this policy, to requests for disclosures of directory information under Section VII. of this policy, or to a party seeking or receiving the records as directed by a federal grand jury or other law enforcement subpoena and the issuing court or agency has ordered that the existence or the contents of the subpoena or the information provided in response to the subpoena not be disclosed or as directed by an ex parte court order obtained by the United States Attorney General (or designee not lower than an Assistant Attorney General) concerning investigations or prosecutions of an offense listed in 18 United States Code, section 2332b(g)(5)(B) or an act of domestic or international terrorism.

4. The record of requests of disclosures may be inspected by:
 - a. the parent of the student or the eligible student;
 - b. the school official or his or her assistants who are responsible for the custody of the records; and
 - c. the parties authorized by law to audit the record-keeping procedures of the school district.

5. The school district shall record the following information when it discloses personally identifiable information from education records under the health or

safety emergency exception:

- a. the articulable and significant threat to the health or safety of a student or other individual that formed the basis for the disclosure; and
 - b. the parties to whom the school district disclosed the information.
6. The record of requests and disclosures shall be maintained with the education records of the student as long as the school district maintains the student's education records.

XIV. RIGHT TO INSPECT AND REVIEW EDUCATION RECORDS

A. Parent of a Student, an Eligible Student or the Parent of an Eligible Student Who is Also a Dependent Student

The school district shall permit the parent of a student, an eligible student, or the parent of an eligible student who is also a dependent student who is or has been in attendance in the school district to inspect or review the education records of the student, except those records which are made confidential by state or federal law or as otherwise provided in Section VIII. of this policy.

B. Response to Request for Access

The school district shall respond to any request pursuant to Subdivision A. of this section immediately, if possible, or within ten (10) days of the date of the request, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays.

C. Right to Inspect and Review

The right to inspect and review education records under Subdivision A. of this section includes:

1. The right to a response from the school district to reasonable requests for explanations and interpretations of records; and
2. If circumstances effectively prevent the parent or eligible student from exercising the right to inspect and review the education records, the school district shall provide the parent or eligible student with a copy of the records requested or make other arrangements for the parent or eligible student to inspect and review the requested records.
3. Nothing in this policy shall be construed as limiting the frequency of inspection of the education records of a student with a disability by the student's parent or guardian or by the student upon the student reaching the age of majority.

D. Form of Request

Parents or eligible students shall submit to the school district a written request to inspect

education records which identify as precisely as possible the record or records he or she wishes to inspect.

E. Collection of Student Records

If a student's education records are maintained in more than one location, the responsible authority may collect copies of the records or the records themselves from the various locations so they may be inspected at one site. However, if the parent or eligible student wishes to inspect these records where they are maintained, the school district shall attempt to accommodate those wishes. The parent or eligible student shall be notified of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

F. Records Containing Information on More Than One Student

If the education records of a student contain information on more than one student, the parent or eligible student may inspect and review or be informed of only the specific information which pertains to that student.

G. Authority to Inspect or Review

The school district may presume that either parent of the student has authority to inspect or review the education records of a student unless the school district has been provided with evidence that there is a legally binding instrument or a state law or court order governing such matters as marriage dissolution, separation, or custody which provides to the contrary.

H. Fees for Copies of Records

1. The school district shall charge a reasonable fee for providing photocopies or printed copies of records unless printing a copy is the only method to provide for the inspection of data. In determining the amount of the reasonable fee, the school district shall consider the following:
 - a. the cost of materials, including paper, used to provide the copies;
 - b. the cost of the labor required to prepare the copies;
 - c. any schedule of standard copying charges established by the school district in its normal course of operations;
 - d. any special costs necessary to produce such copies from machine-based record-keeping systems, including but not limited to computers and microfilm systems; and
 - e. mailing costs.
2. If 100 or fewer pages of black and white, letter or legal size paper copies are requested, actual costs shall not be used, and, instead, the charge shall be no more than 25 cents for each page copied.

3. The cost of providing copies shall be borne by the parent or eligible student.
4. The responsible authority, however, may not impose a fee for a copy of an education record made for a parent or eligible student if doing so would effectively prevent or, in the case of a student with a disability, impair the parent or eligible student from exercising their right to inspect or review the student's education records.

XV. REQUEST TO AMEND RECORDS; PROCEDURES TO CHALLENGE DATA

A. Request to Amend Education Records

The parent of a student or an eligible student who believes that information contained in the education records of the student is inaccurate, misleading, or violates the privacy rights of the student may request that the school district amend those records.

1. The request shall be in writing, shall identify the item the requestor believes to be inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of the privacy or other rights of the student, shall state the reason for this belief, and shall specify the correction the requestor wishes the school district to make. The request shall be signed and dated by the requestor.
2. The school district shall decide whether to amend the education records of the student in accordance with the request within thirty (30) days after receiving the request.
3. If the school district decides to refuse to amend the education records of the student in accordance with the request, it shall inform the parent of the student or the eligible student of the refusal and advise the parent or eligible student of the right to a hearing under Subdivision B. of this section.

B. Right to a Hearing

If the school district refuses to amend the education records of a student, the school district, on request, shall provide an opportunity for a hearing in order to challenge the content of the student's education records to ensure that information in the education records of the student is not inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the privacy or other rights of the student. A hearing shall be conducted in accordance with Subdivision C. of this section.

1. If, as a result of the hearing, the school district decides that the information is inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the privacy or other rights of the student, it shall amend the education records of the student accordingly and so inform the parent of the student or the eligible student in writing.
2. If, as a result of the hearing, the school district decides that the information is not inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the privacy or other rights of the student, it shall inform the parent or eligible student of the right to place a statement in the record concerning the contested information in the record or

stating why he or she disagrees with the decision of the school district, or both.

3. Any statement placed in the education records of the student under Subdivision B. of this section shall:
 - a. be maintained by the school district as part of the education records of the student so long as the record or contested portion thereof is maintained by the school district; and
 - b. if the education records of the student or the contested portion thereof is disclosed by the school district to any party, the explanation shall also be disclosed to that party.

C. Conduct of Hearing

1. The hearing shall be held within a reasonable period of time after the school district has received the request, and the parent of the student or the eligible student shall be given notice of the date, place, and time reasonably in advance of the hearing.
 2. The hearing may be conducted by any individual, including an official of the school district who does not have a direct interest in the outcome of the hearing. The school board attorney shall be in attendance to present the school board's position and advise the designated hearing officer on legal and evidentiary matters.
 3. The parent of the student or eligible student shall be afforded a full and fair opportunity for hearing to present evidence relative to the issues raised under Subdivisions A. and B. of this section and may be assisted or represented by individuals of his or her choice at his or her own expense, including an attorney.
4. The school district shall make a decision in writing within a reasonable period of time after the conclusion of the hearing. The decision shall be based solely on evidence presented at the hearing and shall include a summary of evidence and reasons for the decision.

D. Appeal

The final decision of the designated hearing officer may be appealed in accordance with the applicable provisions of Minnesota Statutes, chapter 14 relating to contested cases.

XVI. PROBLEMS ACCESSING DATA

- A. The data practices compliance official is the designated employee to whom persons may direct questions or concerns regarding problems in obtaining access to data or other data practices problems.

- B. Data practices compliance official means Candace Nelis, Business Manager,
- C. Any request by an individual with a disability for reasonable modifications of the school district's policies or procedures for purposes of accessing records shall be made to the data practices compliance official.

XVII. COMPLAINTS FOR NONCOMPLIANCE WITH FERPA

A. Where to File Complaints

Complaints regarding alleged violations of rights accorded parents and eligible students by FERPA, and the rules promulgated thereunder, shall be submitted in writing to the U.S. Department of Education, Student Privacy Policy Office, 400 Maryland Avenue S.W., Washington, D.C. 20202-8520.

B. Content of Complaint

A complaint filed pursuant to this section must contain specific allegations of fact giving reasonable cause to believe that a violation of FERPA and the rules promulgated thereunder has occurred.

XVIII. WAIVER

A parent or eligible student may waive any of his or her rights provided herein pursuant to FERPA. A waiver shall not be valid unless in writing and signed by the parent or eligible student. The school district may not require such a waiver.

XIX. ANNUAL NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS

A. Contents of Notice

The school district shall give parents of students currently in attendance and eligible students currently in attendance annual notice by such means as are reasonably likely to inform the parents and eligible students of the following:

1. That the parent or eligible student has a right to inspect and review the student's education records and the procedure for inspecting and reviewing education records;
2. That the parent or eligible student has a right to seek amendment of the student's education records to ensure that those records are not inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy or other rights and the procedure for requesting amendment of records;
3. That the parent or eligible student has a right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that federal and state law and the regulations promulgated

thereunder authorize disclosure without consent;

4. That the parent or eligible student has a right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education regarding an alleged failure by the school district to comply with the requirements of FERPA and the rules promulgated thereunder;
5. The criteria for determining who constitutes a school official and what constitutes a legitimate educational interest for purposes of disclosing education records to other school officials whom the school district has determined to have legitimate educational interests; and
6. That the school district forwards education records on request to a school in which a student seeks or intends to enroll or is already enrolled as long as the disclosure is for purposes related to the student’s enrollment or transfer and that such records may include suspension and expulsion records pursuant to the federal Every Student Succeeds Act and, if applicable, a student’s history of violent behavior.

B. Notification to Parents of Students Having a Primary Home Language Other Than English

The school district shall provide for the need to effectively notify parents of students identified as having a primary or home language other than English.

C. Notification to Parents or Eligible Students Who are Disabled

The school district shall provide for the need to effectively notify parents or eligible students identified as disabled.

XX. DESTRUCTION AND RETENTION OF RECORDS

Destruction and retention of records by the school district shall be controlled by state and federal law.

XXI. COPIES OF POLICY

Copies of this policy may be obtained by parents and eligible students at the superintendent’s office.

- Legal References:**
- Minn. Stat. Ch. 13 (Minnesota Government Data Practices Act)
 - Minn. Stat. § 13.32, Subd. 5 (Directory Information)
 - Minn. Stat. § 13.393 (Attorneys)
 - Minn. Stat. Ch. 14 (Administrative Procedures Act)
 - Minn. Stat. § 120A.22 (Compulsory Instruction)
 - Minn. Stat. § 121A.40-121A.56 (The Pupil Fair Dismissal Act)
 - Minn. Stat. § 121A.75 (Receipt of Records; Sharing)
 - Minn. Stat. § 127A.852 (Military-Connected Youth Identifier)
 - Minn. Stat. § 144.341-144.347 (Consent of Minors for Health Services)
 - Minn. Stat. Ch. 256B (Medical Assistance for Needy Persons)
 - Minn. Stat. Ch. 256L (MinnesotaCare)

Minn. Stat. § 260B.171, Subds. 3 and 5 (Disposition Order and Peace Officer Records of Children)
 Minn. Stat. Ch. 260E (Reporting of Maltreatment of Minors)
 Minn. Stat. § 363A.42 (Public Records; Accessibility)
 Minn. Stat. § 480.40 (Personal Information, Dissemination)
 Minn. Stat. § 626.557 (Reporting of Maltreatment of Vulnerable Adults)
 Minn. Rules Parts 1205.0100-1205.2000 (Data Practices)
 10 U.S.C. § 503(b) and (c) (Enlistments: Recruiting Campaigns; Compilation of Directory Information)
 18 U.S.C. § 2331 (Definitions)
 18 U.S.C. § 2332b (Acts of Terrorism Transcending National Boundaries)
 20 U.S.C. § 1232g *et seq.* (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act)
 20 U.S.C. § 6301 *et seq.* (Every Student Succeeds Act)
 20 U.S.C. § 7908 (Armed Forces Recruiting Information)
 20 U.S.C. § 7917 (Transfer of School Disciplinary Records)
 25 U.S.C. § 5304 (Definitions – Tribal Organization)
 26 U.S.C. §§ 151 and 152 (Internal Revenue Code)
 42 U.S.C. § 1711 *et seq.* (Child Nutrition Act)
 42 U.S.C. § 1751 *et seq.* (Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act)
 34 C.F.R. §§ 99.1-99.67 (Family Educational Rights and Privacy)
 34 C.F.R. § 300.610-300.627 (Confidentiality of Information)
 42 C.F.R. § 2.1 *et seq.* (Confidentiality of Drug Abuse Patient Records)
Gonzaga University v. Doe, 536 U.S. 273 309 (2002)
 Dept. of Admin. Advisory Op. No. 21-008 (December 8, 2021)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 414 (Mandated Reporting of Child Neglect or Physical or Sexual Abuse)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 417 (Chemical Use and Abuse)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 506 (Student Discipline)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 519 (Interviews of Students by Outside Agencies)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 520 (Student Surveys)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 711 (Video Recording on School Buses)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 722 (Public Data Requests)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 906 (Community Notification of Predatory Offenders)
 MSBA School Law Bulletin “I” (School Records – Privacy – Access to Data)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Independent School District No. 94 gives notice to parents of students currently in attendance in the District, and eligible students currently in attendance in the District, of their rights regarding pupil records.

1. Parents and eligible students are hereby informed that they have the following rights:
 - a. That a parent or eligible student has a right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days after the day the request for access is received by the school district. A parent or eligible student should submit to the school district a written request to inspect education records which identify as precisely as possible the record or records he or she wishes to inspect. The parent or eligible student will be notified of the time and place where the records may be inspected;
 - b. That the parent or eligible student has a right to seek amendment of the student's education records to ensure that those records are not inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights. A parent or eligible student may ask the school district to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading. The request shall be in writing, identify the item the parent or eligible student believes to be inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of the privacy rights of the student, shall state the reason for this belief, and shall specify the correction the parent or eligible student wishes the school district to make. The request shall be signed by the parent or eligible student. If the school district decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the school district will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise him or her of the right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing;
 - c. That the parent or eligible student has a right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that federal and state law and the regulations promulgated thereunder authorize disclosures without consent;
 - d. That the school district may disclose education records to other school officials within the school district if the school district has determined they have legitimate educational interests. For purposes of such disclosure, a "school official" is a person employed by the school district as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel) or other employee; a person serving on the school board; a person or company with whom the school district has consulted to perform a specific task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, therapist, public information officer, or data practices compliance official); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee; or any individual assisting a school official in the performance of his or her tasks. A school official has a "legitimate educational interest" if the individual needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility and includes, but is not limited to, an interest directly related to classroom

instruction, teaching, student achievement and progress, discipline of a student, and student health and welfare and the ability to respond to a request for educational data;

- e. That the school district forwards education records on request to a school or post-secondary educational institution in which a student seeks or intends to enroll, or is already enrolled, as long as the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment, including information about disciplinary action taken as a result of any incident in which the student possessed or used a dangerous weapon, suspension and expulsion information pursuant to 20 U.S.C. § 7917, part of the federal Every Student Succeeds Act and any disposition order which adjudicates the student as delinquent for committing an illegal act on school district property and certain other illegal acts;
 - f. That the parent or eligible student has a right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education regarding an alleged failure by the school district to comply with the requirements of 20 U.S.C. § 1232g and the rules promulgated thereunder.
 - g. That the parent or eligible student has a right to obtain a copy of the school district's policy regarding the protection and privacy of pupil records; and
 - h. That copies of the school district's policy regarding the protection and privacy of school records are located on our school website.
2. Copies of the school board policy and accompanying procedures and regulations are available to parents and students upon written request to the Superintendent.
 3. Pursuant to applicable law, Independent School District No. 94 gives notice to parents of students currently in attendance in the school district, and eligible students currently in attendance in the school district, of their rights regarding "directory information."

"Directory information" includes the following information relating to a student: the student's name; photograph; date and place of birth; major field of study; dates of attendance; grade level; enrollment status; participation in officially recognized activities and sports; weight and height of members of athletic teams; degrees, honors and awards received; the most recent educational agency or institution attended by the student; and other similar information. "Directory information" also includes the name, address, and telephone number of the student's parent(s). "Directory information" does not include a student's social security number or a student's identification number (ID) if the ID may be used to access education records without use of one or more factors that authenticate the student's identity such as a personal identification number, password, or other factor known or possessed only by the authorized user. It also does not include identifying information on a student's religion, race, color, social position, or nationality.

- a. THE INFORMATION LISTED ABOVE SHALL BE PUBLIC INFORMATION WHICH THE SCHOOL DISTRICT MAY DISCLOSE FROM THE

EDUCATION RECORDS OF A STUDENT OR INFORMATION REGARDING A PARENT.

- b. SHOULD THE PARENT OF A STUDENT OR THE STUDENT SO DESIRE, ANY OR ALL OF THE LISTED INFORMATION WILL NOT BE DISCLOSED WITHOUT THE PARENT’S OR ELIGIBLE STUDENT’S PRIOR WRITTEN CONSENT EXCEPT TO SCHOOL OFFICIALS AS PROVIDED UNDER FEDERAL LAW.
- c. IN ORDER TO MAKE ANY OR ALL OF THE DIRECTORY INFORMATION LISTED ABOVE “PRIVATE” (I.E., SUBJECT TO CONSENT PRIOR TO DISCLOSURE), THE PARENT OR ELIGIBLE STUDENT MUST MAKE A WRITTEN REQUEST TO THE BUILDING PRINCIPAL WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF THE LAST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. THIS WRITTEN REQUEST MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:
 - (1) NAME OF STUDENT AND PARENT, AS APPROPRIATE;
 - (2) HOME ADDRESS;
 - (3) SCHOOL PRESENTLY ATTENDED BY STUDENT;
 - (4) PARENT’S LEGAL RELATIONSHIP TO STUDENT, IF APPLICABLE;
 - (5) SPECIFIC CATEGORY OR CATEGORIES OF DIRECTORY INFORMATION WHICH IS NOT TO BE MADE PUBLIC WITHOUT THE PARENT’S OR ELIGIBLE STUDENT’S PRIOR WRITTEN CONSENT.

- 4. Pursuant to applicable law, Independent School District No. 94 hereby gives notice to parents of students and eligible students in grades 11 and 12 of their rights regarding release of information to military recruiting officers and post-secondary educational institutions. The school district must release the names, addresses, electronic mail address (which shall be the electronic mail addresses provided by the school district, if available, that may be released to military recruiters only), and home telephone numbers of students in grades 11 and 12 to military recruiting officers and post-secondary educational institutions within sixty (60) days after the date of the request. Data released to military recruiting officers under this provision may be used only for the purpose of providing information to students about military service, state and federal veterans’ education benefits, and other career and educational opportunities provided by the military and cannot be further disseminated to any other person except personnel of the recruiting services of the armed forces.

SHOULD THE PARENT OF A STUDENT OR THE ELIGIBLE STUDENT SO DESIRE, ANY OR ALL OF THE LISTED INFORMATION WILL NOT BE DISCLOSED TO MILITARY RECRUITING OFFICERS AND POST-SECONDARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS WITHOUT PRIOR CONSENT.

IN ORDER TO REFUSE THE RELEASE OF THIS INFORMATION WITHOUT PRIOR CONSENT, THE PARENT OR ELIGIBLE STUDENT MUST MAKE A WRITTEN REQUEST TO THE RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY, [DESIGNATE TITLE OF INDIVIDUAL, HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING PRINCIPAL, BY SEPTEMBER 1st EACH YEAR. THIS WRITTEN REQUEST MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

- (1) NAME OF STUDENT AND PARENT, AS APPROPRIATE;
- (2) HOME ADDRESS;
- (3) STUDENT'S GRADE LEVEL;
- (4) SCHOOL PRESENTLY ATTENDED BY STUDENT;
- (5) PARENT'S LEGAL RELATIONSHIP TO STUDENT, IF APPLICABLE;
- (6) SPECIFIC CATEGORY OR CATEGORIES OF INFORMATION WHICH ARE NOT TO BE RELEASED TO MILITARY RECRUITING OFFICERS AND POST-SECONDARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS WITHOUT PRIOR CONSENT;
- (7) SPECIFIC CATEGORY OR CATEGORIES OF DIRECTORY INFORMATION WHICH ARE NOT TO BE RELEASED TO THE PUBLIC, INCLUDING MILITARY RECRUITING OFFICERS AND POST-SECONDARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

Notice: Refusal to release the above information to military recruiting officers and post-secondary educational institutions alone does not affect the school district's release of directory information to the public, including military recruiting officers and post-secondary educational institutions. In order to make any directory information about a student private, the procedures contained in the Directory Information section of this notice also must be followed. If you do not want your child's or eligible student's directory information released to military recruiting officers or post-secondary educational institutions, you also must notify the school district that you do not want this directory information released to any member of the public, including military recruiting officers and post-secondary educational institutions.

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 94
CLOQUET, MINNESOTA

**Cloquet School District # 94
Student Directory Information Declination Form**

Parent or Guardian: ONLY complete and return the form on the back side of this page if you DO NOT give your consent for release of School Directory Information.

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that requires the school district, with certain exceptions, to obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child’s educational records. However, the school may disclose some student information without written consent when the information is designated “Directory Information” unless you have advised the district to the contrary in accordance with district procedures.

Examples of when directory information may be released include but are not limited to the following:

- a playbill or program, showing your child’s role in a drama or music production
- the annual yearbook
- honor roll or other recognition lists published at school or in newspapers
- graduation programs
- sports statistics listed in programs, such as football which may include height and weight of team members
- school or district website

Directory Information can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent’s prior written consent. Outside organizations include but are not limited to: Institutions of higher education the student is seeking to attend (transcripts, etc.); scholarship programs; class ring manufacturers; state or federal authorities auditing, evaluating programs, or enforcing state or federal laws; a court by order of a subpoena.

For the Cloquet School District, directory information includes, but is not limited to the following:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• a student’s name• photographs/videos (not surveillance videos)• date and place of birth• dates of attendance• grade level• participation in activities and sports• awards, and special recognitions received• weight/height of athletic team participants | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• parents’ names, addresses and phone numbers• most recent previous educational agency or institution attended |
|--|---|

If you do not want the district to disclose Directory Information about your child without your prior written consent, you must notify the district in writing by September 30, or within 10 days following your child’s enrollment in a Cloquet school.

Please complete the lower portion of this form and return the entire form to your child’s school if you do not want your child’s directory information disclosed. Once the form has been received by the school administration, you will be contacted to verify that your form has been received.

Parent or Guardian: ONLY complete and return the form on the back side of this page IF you DO NOT give your consent for release of School Directory Information. Use a separate form for each child and return it to their school.

PARENT OPT-OUT FORM FOR RELEASE OF DIRECTORY INFORMATION

Name of student: _____ Date: _____

School/ Grade in which student is enrolled: _____ / _____

Name of Parent/Guardian: _____ Telephone #: _____

**GENERAL DIRECTIONS FOR OPTING OUT OF
RELEASING DIRECTORY INFORMATION**

Parent/Guardian: If opting out of release of directory information, please check only ONE of the options below. A new form must be submitted for each child for whom you may want to have opted out of release of directory information. If you are opting out of release of information to military recruiters, you must complete a separate form which may be obtained at your school’s office.

I hereby indicated that I do not want my child identified above to have his/her directory information released as per the line checked below.

___ Do not release my student’s directory information at any time.

___ Do not release my student’s directory information without my prior written consent.

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____

Address: _____
Street/Apt. # City State Zip

**PARENT OPT-OUT FORM FOR RELEASE OF DIRECTORY INFORMATION
TO MILITARY RECRUITERS**

The above form does not apply for not releasing information to military recruiters. If you do not want directory information released to military recruiters, please complete and sign this portion of the form.

By my signature below, I hereby indicate that I DO NOT my child identified above to have his/her directory information released to military recruiters.

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____

Date: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN:

IF YOU HAVE COMPLETED ANY PART OF THE ABOVE FORM, YOU MUST RETURN THIS FORM TO THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE AT YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL.

Adopted: 3/9/20, 2/24/20, 6/10/19, 4/22/19

Revised: 8/11/25, 9/9/24, 5/9/22, 10/26/2020, 3/9/20, 2/24/20, 6/10/19, 4/22/19

516 STUDENT MEDICATION AND TELEHEALTH

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to set forth the provisions that must be followed when administering nonemergency prescription medication to students at school.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The school district acknowledges that some students may require prescribed drugs or medication or telehealth during the school day. The school district's licensed school nurse, trained health clerk, principal, or teacher will administer prescribed medications, except any form of medical cannabis, in accordance with law and school district procedures.

III. DRUG AND MEDICATION REQUIREMENTS

A. Administration of Drugs and Medicine

1. The administration of medication or drugs at school requires a completed signed request from the student's parent. An oral request must be reduced to writing within two school days, provided that the school district may rely on an oral request until a written request is received.
2. Drugs and medicine subject to Minnesota Statutes, 121A.22 must be administered, to the extent possible, according to school board procedures that must be developed in consultation with:
 - a. with a licensed nurse, in a district that employs a licensed nurse under Minnesota Statutes, section 148.171;
 - b. with a licensed school nurse, in a district that employs a licensed school nurse licensed under Minnesota Rules, part 8710.6100;
 - c. with a public or private health-related organization, in a district that contracts with a public or private health or health-related organization, according to Minnesota Statutes, 121A.21; or
 - d. with the appropriate party, in a district that has an arrangement approved by the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Education, according to Minnesota Statutes, 121A.21.
3. Exclusions

The provisions on administration of drugs and medicine above do not apply to drugs or medicine that are:

- a. purchased without a prescription;
- b. used by a pupil who is 18 years old or older;
- c. used in connection with services for which a minor may give effective consent;
- d. used in situations in which, in the judgment of the school personnel, including a licensed nurse, who are present or available, the risk to the pupil's life or health is of such a nature that drugs or medicine should be given without delay;
- e. used off the school grounds;
- f. used in connection with athletics or extracurricular activities;
- g. used in connection with activities that occur before or after the regular school day;
- h. provided or administered by a public health agency to prevent or control an illness or a disease outbreak as provided under Minnesota law;
- i. prescription asthma or reactive airway disease medications can be self-administered by a student with an asthma inhaler if:
 - (1) the school district has received a written authorization each school year from the pupil's parent permitting the student to self-administer the medication;
 - (2) the inhaler is properly labeled for that student; and
 - (3) the parent has not requested school personnel to administer the medication to the student.

In a school that does not have a school nurse or school nursing services, the student's parent or guardian must submit written verification from the prescribing professional which documents that an assessment of the student's knowledge and skills to safely possess and use an asthma inhaler in a school setting has been completed.

If the school district employs a school nurse or provides school nursing services under another arrangement, the school nurse or other appropriate party must assess the student's knowledge and skills to safely possess and use an asthma inhaler in a school setting and enter into the student's school

health record a plan to implement safe possession and use of asthma inhalers.

- j. epinephrine delivery systems, consistent with Minnesota Statutes, section 121A.2205, if the parent and prescribing medical professional annually inform the pupil's school in writing that
 - (1) the pupil may possess the epinephrine or
 - (2) the pupil is unable to possess the epinephrine and requires immediate access to epinephrine delivery systems that the parent provides properly labeled to the school for the pupil as needed.
- k. For the purposes of Minnesota Statutes, 121A.22, special health treatments and health functions, such as catheterization, tracheostomy suctioning, and gastrostomy feedings, do not constitute administration of drugs or medicine.
- l. Emergency health procedures, including emergency administration of drugs and medicine are not subject to this policy.

B. Prescription Medication

1. An “Administering Prescription Medications” form must be completed annually (once per school year) and/or when a change in the prescription or requirements for administration occurs. Prescription medication as used in this policy does not include any form of medical cannabis as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 152.22, subdivision 6.
2. Prescription medication must come to school in the original container labeled for the student by a pharmacist in accordance with law and must be administered in a manner consistent with the instructions on the label.
3. The school nurse may request to receive further information about the prescription, if needed, prior to administration of the substance.
4. Prescription medications are not to be carried by the student, but will be left with the appropriate school district personnel. Exceptions to this requirement are: prescription asthma medications self-administered with an inhaler (See Paragraph III.A.3(i) above), and medications administered as noted in a written agreement between the school district and the parent or as specified in an IEP (individualized education program), Section 504 plan, or IHP (individual health plan).
5. The school must be notified immediately by the parent or student 18 years old or older in writing of any change in the student’s prescription medication administration. A new medical authorization or container label with new pharmacy instructions shall be required immediately as well.

6. The school nurse, or other designated person, shall be responsible for the filing of the Administering Prescription Medications form in the health records section of the student file. The school nurse, or other designated person, shall be responsible for providing a copy of such form to the principal and to other personnel designated to administer the medication.
7. For drugs or medicine used by children with a disability, administration may be as provided in the IEP, Section 504 plan or IHP.
8. If the administration of a drug or medication described in this section requires the school district to store the drug or medication, the parent or legal guardian must inform the school if the drug or medication is a controlled substance. For a drug or medication that is not a controlled substance, the request must include a provision designating the school district as an authorized entity to transport the drug or medication for the purpose of destruction if any unused drug or medication remains in the possession of school personnel. For a drug or medication that is a controlled substance, the request must specify that the parent or legal guardian is required to retrieve the drug or controlled substance when requested by the school.

C. Nonprescription Medication

A secondary student may possess and use nonprescription pain relief in a manner consistent with the labeling, if the school district has received written authorization from the student's parent or guardian permitting the student to self-administer the medication. The parent or guardian must submit written authorization for the student to self-administer the medication each school year. The school district may revoke a student's privilege to possess and use nonprescription pain relievers if the school district determines that the student is abusing the privilege. This provision does not apply to the possession or use of any drug or product containing ephedrine or pseudoephedrine as its sole active ingredient or as one of its active ingredients. Except as stated in this paragraph, only prescription medications are governed by this policy.

D. Possession and Use of Epinephrine Delivery Systems

1. Definitions

- a. "Administer" means the direct application of an epinephrine delivery system to the body of an individual.
- b. "Epinephrine delivery system" means a medication product approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration that automatically delivers a single, premeasured dose of epinephrine to prevent or treat a life-threatening allergic reaction.

- c. “School” means a public school under Minnesota Statutes, section 120A.22, subdivision 4, or a nonpublic school, excluding a home school, under section 120A.22, subdivision 4, that is subject to the federal Americans with Disabilities Act.
2. At the start of each school year or at the time a student enrolls in school, whichever is first, a student’s parent, school staff, including those responsible for student health care, and the prescribing medical professional must develop and implement an individualized written health plan for a student who is prescribed epinephrine delivery systems that enables the student to:
- a possess epinephrine delivery systems ; or
 - b if the parent and prescribing medical professional determine the student is unable to possess the epinephrine, have immediate access to epinephrine delivery systems in close proximity to the student at all times during the instructional day.

For the purposes of this policy, “instructional day” is defined as eight hours for each student contact day.

The plan must designate the school staff responsible for implementing the student’s health plan, including recognizing anaphylaxis and administering epinephrine delivery systems when required, consistent with state law. This health plan may be included in a student’s Section 504 plan.

Districts and schools may obtain and possess epinephrine delivery systems to be maintained and administered by school personnel, including a licensed nurse, to a student or other individual if, in good faith, it is determined that person is experiencing anaphylaxis regardless of whether the student or other individual has a prescription for an epinephrine delivery system. The administration of an epinephrine delivery system in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 121A.2207 is not the practice of medicine.

Registered nurses may administer epinephrine delivery systems in a school setting according to a condition-specific protocol as authorized under Minnesota Statutes, section 148.235, subdivision 8. Notwithstanding any limitation in Minnesota Statutes, sections 148.171 to 148.285, licensed practical nurses may administer epinephrine delivery systems in a school setting according to a condition-specific protocol that does not reference a specific patient and that specifies the circumstances under which the epinephrine delivery system is to be administered, when caring for a patient whose condition falls within the protocol.

A district or school may enter into arrangements with manufacturers of epinephrine delivery systems to obtain epinephrine delivery systems at fair-market, free, or reduced prices. A third party, other than a manufacturer or supplier, may pay for a school’s supply of epinephrine delivery systems.

The Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Health must provide a district or school with a standing order for distribution of epinephrine delivery systems under Minnesota Statutes, sections 148.235, subdivision 8 and 151.37, subdivision 2.

E. Sunscreen

A student may possess and apply a topical sunscreen product during the school day while on school property or at a school-sponsored event without a prescription, physician's note, or other documentation from a licensed health care professional. School personnel are not required to provide sunscreen or assist students in applying sunscreen.

F. Procedure regarding unclaimed drugs or medications.

1. The school district has adopted the following procedure for the collection and transport of any unclaimed or abandoned prescription drugs or medications remaining in the possession of school personnel in accordance with this policy. Before the transportation of any prescription drug or medication under this policy, the school district shall make a reasonable attempt to return the unused prescription drug or medication to the student's parent or legal guardian. Transportation of unclaimed or unused prescription drugs or medications will occur at least annually, but may occur more frequently at the discretion of the school district.
2. If the unclaimed or abandoned prescription drug is not a controlled substance as defined under Minnesota Statutes, section 152.01, subdivision 4, or is an over-the-counter medication, the school district will either designate an individual who shall be responsible for transporting the drug or medication to a designated drop-off box or collection site or request that a law enforcement agency transport the drug or medication to a drop-off box or collection site on behalf of the school district.
3. If the unclaimed or abandoned prescription drug is a controlled substance as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 152.01, subdivision 4, the school district or school personnel is prohibited from transporting the prescription drug to a drop-off box or collection site for prescription drugs identified under this paragraph. The school district must request that a law enforcement agency transport the prescription drug or medication to a collection bin that complies with Drug Enforcement Agency regulations, or if a site is not available, under the agency's procedure for transporting drugs.

IV. ACCESS TO SPACE FOR MENTAL HEALTH CARE THROUGH TELEHEALTH

- A. Beginning October 1, 2024, to the extent space is available, the school district must provide an enrolled secondary school student with access during regular school hours, and to the extent staff is available, before or after the school day on days when students receive instruction at school, to space at the school site that a student may use to receive mental health care through telehealth from a student's licensed mental health provider. A

secondary school must develop a plan with procedures to receive requests for access to the space.

- B. The space must provide a student privacy to receive mental health care.
- C. A student may use a school-issued device to receive mental health care through telehealth if such use is consistent with the district or school policy governing acceptable use of the school-issued device.
- D. A school may require a student requesting access to space under this section to submit to the school a signed and dated consent from the student's parent or guardian, or from the student if the student is age 16 or older, authorizing the student's licensed mental health provider to release information from the student's health record that is requested by the school to confirm the student is currently receiving mental health care from the provider. Such a consent is valid for the school year in which it is submitted.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 13.32 (Educational Data)
 Minn. Stat. § 121A.21 (School Health Services)
 Minn. Stat. § 121A.216 (Access to Space for Mental Health Care through Telehealth)
 Minn. Stat. § 121A.22 (Administration of Drugs and Medicine)
 Minn. Stat. § 121A.2205 (Possession and Use of Epinephrine Delivery systems; Model Policy)
 Minn. Stat. § 121A.2207 (Life-Threatening Allergies in Schools; Stock Supply of Epinephrine Delivery systems)
 Minn. Stat. § 121A.221 (Possession and Use of Asthma Inhalers by Asthmatic Students)
 Minn. Stat. § 121A.222 (Possession and Use of Nonprescription Pain Relievers by Secondary Students)
 Minn. Stat. § 121A.223 (Possession and Use of Sunscreen)
 Minn. Stat. § 148.171 (Definitions; Title)
 Minn. Stat. § 151.212 (Label of Prescription Drug Containers)
 Minn. Stat. § 152.01 (Definitions)
 Minn. Stat. § 152.22 (Definitions)
 Minn. Stat. § 152.23 (Limitations)
 Minn. Rule 8710.6100 (School Nurse)
 20 U.S.C. § 1400 *et seq.* (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act)
 29 U.S.C. § 794 *et seq.* (Rehabilitation Act of 1973, § 504)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 418 (Drug-Free Workplace/Drug-Free School)

Adopted: 3/9/20, 2/24/20, 6/10/19, 4/22/19

Revised: 8/11/25, 9/9/24, 5/9/22, 10/26/2020, 3/9/20, 2/24/20, 6/10/19, 4/22/19

516 STUDENT MEDICATION AND TELEHEALTH

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to set forth the provisions that must be followed when administering nonemergency prescription medication to students at school.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The school district acknowledges that some students may require prescribed drugs or medication or telehealth during the school day. The school district's licensed school nurse, trained health clerk, principal, or teacher will administer prescribed medications, except any form of medical cannabis, in accordance with law and school district procedures.

III. DRUG AND MEDICATION REQUIREMENTS

A. Administration of Drugs and Medicine

1. The administration of medication or drugs at school requires a completed signed request from the student's parent. An oral request must be reduced to writing within two school days, provided that the school district may rely on an oral request until a written request is received.
2. Drugs and medicine subject to Minnesota Statutes, 121A.22 must be administered, to the extent possible, according to school board procedures that must be developed in consultation with:
 - a. with a licensed nurse, in a district that employs a licensed nurse under Minnesota Statutes, section 148.171;
 - b. with a licensed school nurse, in a district that employs a licensed school nurse licensed under Minnesota Rules, part 8710.6100;
 - c. with a public or private health-related organization, in a district that contracts with a public or private health or health-related organization, according to Minnesota Statutes, 121A.21; or
 - d. with the appropriate party, in a district that has an arrangement approved by the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Education, according to Minnesota Statutes, 121A.21.
3. Exclusions

The provisions on administration of drugs and medicine above do not apply to drugs or medicine that are:

- a. purchased without a prescription;
- b. used by a pupil who is 18 years old or older;
- c. used in connection with services for which a minor may give effective consent;
- d. used in situations in which, in the judgment of the school personnel, including a licensed nurse, who are present or available, the risk to the pupil's life or health is of such a nature that drugs or medicine should be given without delay;
- e. used off the school grounds;
- f. used in connection with athletics or extracurricular activities;
- g. used in connection with activities that occur before or after the regular school day;
- h. provided or administered by a public health agency to prevent or control an illness or a disease outbreak as provided under Minnesota law;
- i. prescription asthma or reactive airway disease medications can be self-administered by a student with an asthma inhaler if:
 - (1) the school district has received a written authorization each school year from the pupil's parent permitting the student to self-administer the medication;
 - (2) the inhaler is properly labeled for that student; and
 - (3) the parent has not requested school personnel to administer the medication to the student.

In a school that does not have a school nurse or school nursing services, the student's parent or guardian must submit written verification from the prescribing professional which documents that an assessment of the student's knowledge and skills to safely possess and use an asthma inhaler in a school setting has been completed.

If the school district employs a school nurse or provides school nursing services under another arrangement, the school nurse or other appropriate party must assess the student's knowledge and skills to safely possess and use an asthma inhaler in a school setting and enter into the student's school

health record a plan to implement safe possession and use of asthma inhalers.

- j. epinephrine **delivery systems**, consistent with Minnesota Statutes, section 121A.2205, if the parent and prescribing medical professional annually inform the pupil's school in writing that
 - (1) the pupil may possess the epinephrine or
 - (2) the pupil is unable to possess the epinephrine and requires immediate access to epinephrine **delivery systems** that the parent provides properly labeled to the school for the pupil as needed.
- k. For the purposes of Minnesota Statutes, 121A.22, special health treatments and health functions, such as catheterization, tracheostomy suctioning, and gastrostomy feedings, do not constitute administration of drugs or medicine.
- l. Emergency health procedures, including emergency administration of drugs and medicine are not subject to this policy.

B. Prescription Medication

1. An “Administering Prescription Medications” form must be completed annually (once per school year) and/or when a change in the prescription or requirements for administration occurs. Prescription medication as used in this policy does not include any form of medical cannabis as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 152.22, subdivision 6.
2. Prescription medication must come to school in the original container labeled for the student by a pharmacist in accordance with law and must be administered in a manner consistent with the instructions on the label.
3. The school nurse may request to receive further information about the prescription, if needed, prior to administration of the substance.
4. Prescription medications are not to be carried by the student, but will be left with the appropriate school district personnel. Exceptions to this requirement are: prescription asthma medications self-administered with an inhaler (See Paragraph III.A.3(i) above), and medications administered as noted in a written agreement between the school district and the parent or as specified in an IEP (individualized education program), Section 504 plan, or IHP (individual health plan).
5. The school must be notified immediately by the parent or student 18 years old or older in writing of any change in the student’s prescription medication administration. A new medical authorization or container label with new pharmacy instructions shall be required immediately as well.

6. The school nurse, or other designated person, shall be responsible for the filing of the Administering Prescription Medications form in the health records section of the student file. The school nurse, or other designated person, shall be responsible for providing a copy of such form to the principal and to other personnel designated to administer the medication.
7. For drugs or medicine used by children with a disability, administration may be as provided in the IEP, Section 504 plan or IHP.
8. If the administration of a drug or medication described in this section requires the school district to store the drug or medication, the parent or legal guardian must inform the school if the drug or medication is a controlled substance. For a drug or medication that is not a controlled substance, the request must include a provision designating the school district as an authorized entity to transport the drug or medication for the purpose of destruction if any unused drug or medication remains in the possession of school personnel. For a drug or medication that is a controlled substance, the request must specify that the parent or legal guardian is required to retrieve the drug or controlled substance when requested by the school.

C. Nonprescription Medication

A secondary student may possess and use nonprescription pain relief in a manner consistent with the labeling, if the school district has received written authorization from the student's parent or guardian permitting the student to self-administer the medication. The parent or guardian must submit written authorization for the student to self-administer the medication each school year. The school district may revoke a student's privilege to possess and use nonprescription pain relievers if the school district determines that the student is abusing the privilege. This provision does not apply to the possession or use of any drug or product containing ephedrine or pseudoephedrine as its sole active ingredient or as one of its active ingredients. Except as stated in this paragraph, only prescription medications are governed by this policy.

D. Possession and Use of Epinephrine Delivery Systems

1. **Definitions**

- a. "Administer" means the direct application of an epinephrine delivery system to the body of an individual.
- b. "Epinephrine delivery system" means a medication product approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration that automatically delivers a single, premeasured dose of epinephrine to prevent or treat a life-threatening allergic reaction.

- c. “School” means a public school under Minnesota Statutes, section 120A.22, subdivision 4, or a nonpublic school, excluding a home school, under section 120A.22, subdivision 4, that is subject to the federal Americans with Disabilities Act.
2. At the start of each school year or at the time a student enrolls in school, whichever is first, a student’s parent, school staff, including those responsible for student health care, and the prescribing medical professional must develop and implement an individualized written health plan for a student who is prescribed epinephrine **delivery systems** that enables the student to:
- a possess epinephrine **delivery systems** ; or
 - b if the parent and prescribing medical professional determine the student is unable to possess the epinephrine, have immediate access to epinephrine **delivery systems** in close proximity to the student at all times during the instructional day.

For the purposes of this policy, “instructional day” is defined as eight hours for each student contact day.

The plan must designate the school staff responsible for implementing the student’s health plan, including recognizing anaphylaxis and administering epinephrine **delivery systems** when required, consistent with state law. This health plan may be included in a student’s Section 504 plan.

Districts and schools may obtain and possess epinephrine **delivery systems** to be maintained and administered by school personnel, including a licensed nurse, to a student or other individual if, in good faith, it is determined that person is experiencing anaphylaxis regardless of whether the student or other individual has a prescription for an epinephrine **delivery system**. The administration of an epinephrine **delivery system** in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 121A.2207 is not the practice of medicine.

Registered nurses may administer epinephrine **delivery systems** in a school setting according to a condition-specific protocol as authorized under Minnesota Statutes, section 148.235, subdivision 8. Notwithstanding any limitation in Minnesota Statutes, sections 148.171 to 148.285, licensed practical nurses may administer epinephrine **delivery systems** in a school setting according to a condition-specific protocol that does not reference a specific patient and that specifies the circumstances under which the epinephrine delivery system is to be administered, when caring for a patient whose condition falls within the protocol.

A district or school may enter into arrangements with manufacturers of epinephrine **delivery systems** to obtain epinephrine **delivery systems** at fair-market, free, or reduced prices. A third party, other than a manufacturer or supplier, may pay for a school’s supply of epinephrine delivery systems.

The Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Health must provide a district or school with a standing order for distribution of epinephrine delivery systems under Minnesota Statutes, sections 148.235, subdivision 8 and 151.37, subdivision 2.

E. Sunscreen

A student may possess and apply a topical sunscreen product during the school day while on school property or at a school-sponsored event without a prescription, physician's note, or other documentation from a licensed health care professional. School personnel are not required to provide sunscreen or assist students in applying sunscreen.

F. Procedure regarding unclaimed drugs or medications.

1. The school district has adopted the following procedure for the collection and transport of any unclaimed or abandoned prescription drugs or medications remaining in the possession of school personnel in accordance with this policy. Before the transportation of any prescription drug or medication under this policy, the school district shall make a reasonable attempt to return the unused prescription drug or medication to the student's parent or legal guardian. Transportation of unclaimed or unused prescription drugs or medications will occur at least annually, but may occur more frequently at the discretion of the school district.
2. If the unclaimed or abandoned prescription drug is not a controlled substance as defined under Minnesota Statutes, section 152.01, subdivision 4, or is an over-the-counter medication, the school district will either designate an individual who shall be responsible for transporting the drug or medication to a designated drop-off box or collection site or request that a law enforcement agency transport the drug or medication to a drop-off box or collection site on behalf of the school district.
3. If the unclaimed or abandoned prescription drug is a controlled substance as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 152.01, subdivision 4, the school district or school personnel is prohibited from transporting the prescription drug to a drop-off box or collection site for prescription drugs identified under this paragraph. The school district must request that a law enforcement agency transport the prescription drug or medication to a collection bin that complies with Drug Enforcement Agency regulations, or if a site is not available, under the agency's procedure for transporting drugs.

IV. ACCESS TO SPACE FOR MENTAL HEALTH CARE THROUGH TELEHEALTH

- A. Beginning October 1, 2024, to the extent space is available, the school district must provide an enrolled secondary school student with access during regular school hours, and to the extent staff is available, before or after the school day on days when students receive instruction at school, to space at the school site that a student may use to receive mental health care through telehealth from a student's licensed mental health provider. A

secondary school must develop a plan with procedures to receive requests for access to the space.

- B. The space must provide a student privacy to receive mental health care.
- C. A student may use a school-issued device to receive mental health care through telehealth if such use is consistent with the district or school policy governing acceptable use of the school-issued device.
- D. A school may require a student requesting access to space under this section to submit to the school a signed and dated consent from the student's parent or guardian, or from the student if the student is age 16 or older, authorizing the student's licensed mental health provider to release information from the student's health record that is requested by the school to confirm the student is currently receiving mental health care from the provider. Such a consent is valid for the school year in which it is submitted.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 13.32 (Educational Data)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.21 (School Health Services)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.216 (Access to Space for Mental Health Care through Telehealth)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.22 (Administration of Drugs and Medicine)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.2205 (Possession and Use of Epinephrine **Delivery systems**; Model Policy)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.2207 (Life-Threatening Allergies in Schools; Stock Supply of Epinephrine **Delivery systems**)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.221 (Possession and Use of Asthma Inhalers by Asthmatic Students)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.222 (Possession and Use of Nonprescription Pain Relievers by Secondary Students)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.223 (Possession and Use of Sunscreen)
Minn. Stat. § 148.171 (Definitions; Title)
Minn. Stat. § 151.212 (Label of Prescription Drug Containers)
Minn. Stat. § 152.01 (Definitions)
Minn. Stat. § 152.22 (Definitions)
Minn. Stat. § 152.23 (Limitations)
Minn. Rule 8710.6100 (School Nurse)
20 U.S.C. § 1400 *et seq.* (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act)
29 U.S.C. § 794 *et seq.* (Rehabilitation Act of 1973, § 504)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 418 (Drug-Free Workplace/Drug-Free School)

Adopted: 3/9/20, 2/24/20, 4/22/19, 2,14/11, 2/9/98

Revised: 8/11/25, 8/14/23, 11/28/22, 3/9/20, 2/24/20, 4/22/19, 2/14/11, 2/9/98

534 SCHOOL MEALS POLICY

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that students receive healthy and nutritious meals through the school district's nutrition program and that school district employees, families, and students have a shared understanding of expectations regarding meal charges. The policy of the school district is to provide meals to students in a respectful manner and to maintain the dignity of students by prohibiting lunch shaming or otherwise ostracizing the student. The policy seeks to allow students to receive the nutrition they need to stay focused during the school day and minimize identification of students with insufficient funds to pay for a la carte items or second meals as well as to maintain the financial integrity of the school nutrition program.

II. PAYMENT OF MEALS

- A. Students have use of a meal account. When the balance reaches zero a student shall not be allowed to charge a la carte items until the negative account balance is paid. Payments may be made using electronic payment option, cash or check. Payments will be accepted during meal service or may be dropped off at school office identifying student account.
- B. Free School Meals Program
1. The free school meals program is created within the Minnesota Department of Education
 2. Each school that participates in the United States Department of Agriculture National School Lunch program and has an Identified Student Percentage below the federal percentage determined for all meals to be reimbursed at the free rate via the Community Eligibility Provision must participate in the free school meals program.
 3. Each school that participates in the United States Department of Agriculture National School Lunch program and has an Identified Student Percentage at or above the federal percentage determined for all meals to be reimbursed at the free rate must participate in the federal Community Eligibility Provision in order to participate in the free school meals program.
 4. Each school that participates in the free school meals program must:
 - a. participate in the United States Department of Agriculture School Breakfast Program and the United States Department of Agriculture National School Lunch Program; and
 - b. provide to all students at no cost up to two federally reimbursable meals per school day, with a maximum of one free breakfast and one free lunch.

- c. A student who has been determined eligible for free and reduced-price meals must always be served a reimbursable meal even if the student has an outstanding debt.
- C. Once a meal has been placed on a student's tray or otherwise served to a student, the meal may not be subsequently withdrawn from the student by the cashier or other school official, whether or not the student has an outstanding meals balance.
- D. A student will not be allowed to charge a snack item, when purchasing the item would result in a negative account balance.
- E. If a parent or guardian chooses to send in one payment that is to be divided between sibling accounts, the parent or guardian must specify how the funds are to be distributed to the students' accounts. Funds may not be transferred between sibling accounts unless written permission is received from the parent or guardian.
- F. A student may purchase a second breakfast at the nonprogram price if the student has already selected a reimbursable breakfast.
- G. A student may purchase a second lunch at the nonprogram price if the student has already selected a reimbursable lunch.

III. LOW OR NEGATIVE ACCOUNT BALANCES – NOTIFICATION

- A. The school district will make reasonable efforts to notify families when meal account balances are low or fall below zero.
- B. Reminders for payment of outstanding student meal balances will not demean or stigmatize any student participating in the school lunch program, including, but not limited to, dumping meals, withdrawing a meal that has been served, announcing or listing students' names publicly, providing alternative meals not specifically related to dietary needs; providing nonreimbursable meals; or affixing stickers, stamps, or pins.

IV. UNPAID MEAL CHARGES

- A. The school district will make reasonable efforts to communicate with families to resolve the matter of unpaid charges. Where appropriate, families may be encouraged to apply for free or reduced-price meals for their children.
- B. The school district will make reasonable efforts to collect unpaid meal charges classified as delinquent debt. Unpaid meal charges are designated as delinquent debt when payment is overdue, the debt is considered collectable, and efforts are being made to collect it.
- B. Negative balances of more than \$10.00 not paid prior to the student's last day of attending classes, will be turned over to the superintendent or superintendent's designee for collection. In some instances, the school district does use a collection agency to collect unpaid school meal debts after reasonable efforts first have been made by the school district

to collect the debt. Collection options may include, but are not limited to, use of collection agencies, claims in the conciliation court, or any other legal method permitted by law.

- D. The school district may not enlist the assistance of non-school district employees, such as volunteers, to engage in debt collection efforts.
- E. The school district will not impose any other restriction prohibited under Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.37 due to unpaid student meal balances. The school district will not limit a student’s participation in any school activities, graduation ceremonies, field trips, athletics, activity clubs, or other extracurricular activities or access to materials, technology, or other items provided to students due to an unpaid student meal balance.

V. COMMUNICATION OF POLICY

- A. This policy and any pertinent supporting information shall be provided in writing (i.e., mail, email, back-to-school packet, student handbook, etc.) to:
 - 1. all households at or before the start of each school year;
 - 2. students and families who transfer into the school district, at the time of enrollment; and
 - 3. all school district personnel who are responsible for enforcing this policy.
- B. The school district will post this policy on the school district’s website, or the website of the organization where the meal is served, in addition to providing the required written notification described above.
- C. If the school district contracts with a third party for its meal services, it will provide the vendor with its school meals policy. The school district will ensure that any third-party provider with whom the school district enters into either an original or modified contract after July 1, 2021, adheres to the school district’s school meals policy.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 123B.37 (Prohibited Fees)
 Minn. Stat. § 124D.111 (School Meals Policies; Lunch Aid; Food Service Accounting)
 42 U.S.C. § 1751 *et seq.* (Healthy and Hunger-Free Kids Act)
 7 C.F.R. § 210 *et seq.* (School Lunch Program Regulations)
 7 C.F.R. § 220.8 (School Breakfast Program Regulations)
 USDA Policy Memorandum SP 46-2016, Unpaid Meal Charges: Local Meal Charge Policies (2016)
 USDA Policy Memorandum SP 47-2016, Unpaid Meal Charges: Clarification on Collection of Delinquent Meal Payments (2016)
 USDA Policy Memorandum SP 23-2017, Unpaid Meal Charges: Guidance and Q&A

Cross References: None

Adopted: 3/9/20, 2/24/20, 4/22/19, 2,14/11, 2/9/98

Revised: 8/11/25, 8/14/23, 11/28/22, 3/9/20, 2/24/20, 4/22/19, 2/14/11, 2/9/98

534 SCHOOL MEALS POLICY

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II. PAYMENT OF MEALS

- A. Students have use of a meal account. When the balance reaches zero a student shall not be allowed to charge a la carte items until the negative account balance is paid. Payments may be made using electronic payment option, cash or check. Payments will be accepted during meal service or may be dropped off at school office identifying student account.

~~If the school district participates in the United States Department of Agriculture National School Lunch program and has an Identified Student Percentage below the federal percentage determined for all meals to be reimbursed at the free rate via the Community Eligibility Provision must participate in the free school meals program.~~

B. Free School Meals Program

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- a. participate in the United States Department of Agriculture School Breakfast Program and the United States Department of Agriculture National School Lunch Program; and
- b. provide to all students at no cost up to two federally reimbursable meals per school day, with a maximum of one free breakfast and one free lunch.
- c. A student who has been determined eligible for free and reduced-price meals must always be served a reimbursable meal even if the student has an outstanding debt.
- ~~B. A school that participates in the United States Department of Agriculture National School Lunch program and has an Identified Student Percentage at or above the federal percentage determined for all meals to be reimbursed at the free rate must participate in the federal Community Eligibility Provision in order to participate in the free school meals program.~~
- ~~C. Each school that participates in the free school meals program must:

 - (1) ~~participate in the United States Department of Agriculture School Breakfast Program and the United States Department of Agriculture National School Lunch Program; and~~
 - (2) ~~provide to all students at no cost up to two federally reimbursable meals per school day, with a maximum of one free breakfast and one free lunch.~~~~
- ~~CD.~~ Once a meal has been placed on a student’s tray or otherwise served to a student, the meal may not be subsequently withdrawn from the student by the cashier or other school official, whether or not the student has an outstanding meals balance.
- ~~DE.~~ A student will not be allowed to charge a snack item, when purchasing the item would result in a negative account balance.
- ~~EF.~~ If a parent or guardian chooses to send in one payment that is to be divided between sibling accounts, the parent or guardian must specify how the funds are to be distributed to the students’ accounts. Funds may not be transferred between sibling accounts unless written permission is received from the parent or guardian.
- ~~F. A student may purchase a second breakfast at the nonprogram price if the student has already selected a reimbursable breakfast.~~
- ~~G. A student may purchase a second lunch at the nonprogram price if the student has already selected a reimbursable lunch.~~

III. LOW OR NEGATIVE ACCOUNT BALANCES – NOTIFICATION

- ~~A. A.~~ ~~_____~~ The school district will make reasonable efforts to notify families when meal account balances are low or fall below zero.

- B. Reminders for payment of outstanding student meal balances will not demean or stigmatize any student participating in the school lunch program, including, but not limited to, dumping meals, withdrawing a meal that has been served, announcing or listing students' names publicly, providing alternative meals not specifically related to dietary needs; providing nonreimbursable meals; or affixing stickers, stamps, or pins.

IV. UNPAID MEAL CHARGES

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- B. The school district will make reasonable efforts to collect unpaid meal charges classified as delinquent debt. Unpaid meal charges are designated as delinquent debt when payment is overdue, the debt is considered collectable, and efforts are being made to collect it.
- C. Negative balances of more than \$10.00 not paid prior to the student's last day of attending classes, will be turned over to the superintendent or superintendent's designee for collection. In some instances, the school district does use a collection agency to collect unpaid school meal debts after reasonable efforts first have been made by the school district to collect the debt. Collection options may include, but are not limited to, use of collection agencies, claims in the conciliation court, or any other legal method permitted by law.
- D. The school district may not enlist the assistance of non-school district employees, such as volunteers, to engage in debt collection efforts.
- E. The school district will not impose any other restriction prohibited under Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.37 due to unpaid student meal balances. The school district will not limit a student's participation in any school activities, graduation ceremonies, field trips, athletics, activity clubs, or other extracurricular activities or access to materials, technology, or other items provided to students due to an unpaid student meal balance.

V. COMMUNICATION OF POLICY

- A. This policy and any pertinent supporting information shall be provided in writing (i.e., mail, email, back-to-school packet, student handbook, etc.) to:
 1. all households at or before the start of each school year;
 2. students and families who transfer into the school district, at the time of enrollment; and
 3. all school district personnel who are responsible for enforcing this policy.
- B. The school district will post this policy on the school district's website, or the website of the organization where the meal is served, in addition to providing the required written notification described above.

- C. If the school district contracts with a third party for its meal services, it will provide the vendor with its school meals policy. The school district will ensure that any third-party provider with whom the school district enters into either an original or modified contract after July 1, 2021, adheres to the school district's school meals policy.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 123B.37 (Prohibited Fees)
Minn. Stat. § 124D.111 (School Meals Policies; Lunch Aid; Food Service Accounting)
42 U.S.C. § 1751 *et seq.* (Healthy and Hunger-Free Kids Act)
7 C.F.R. § 210 *et seq.* (School Lunch Program Regulations)
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USDA Policy Memorandum SP 46-2016, Unpaid Meal Charges: Local Meal Charge Policies (2016)
USDA Policy Memorandum SP 47-2016, Unpaid Meal Charges: Clarification on Collection of Delinquent Meal Payments (2016)
USDA Policy Memorandum SP 23-2017, Unpaid Meal Charges: Guidance and Q&A

Cross References: None

Adopted: 8/14/23

Revised: 8/11/25

621 LITERACY AND THE READ ACT

I. PURPOSE

This policy aligns with Minnesota law established in the Read Act and on other topics related to reading.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The school district recognizes the centrality of reading in a student's educational experience.

III. DEFINITIONS

- A. "Evidence-based" means the instruction or item described is based on reliable, trustworthy, and valid evidence and has demonstrated a record of success in increasing students' reading competency in the areas of phonological and phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary development, reading fluency, and reading comprehension. Evidence-based literacy instruction is explicit, systematic, and includes phonological and phonemic awareness, phonics and decoding, spelling, fluency, vocabulary, oral language, and comprehension that can be differentiated to meet the needs of individual students. Evidence-based instruction does not include the three-cueing system, as defined in subdivision 16.
- B. "Fluency" means the ability of students to read text accurately, automatically, and with proper expression.
- C. "Foundational reading skills" includes phonological and phonemic awareness, phonics and decoding, and fluency. Foundational reading skills appropriate to each grade level must be mastered in kindergarten, grade 1, grade 2, and grade 3. Struggling readers in grades 4 and above who do not demonstrate mastery of grade-level foundational reading skills must continue to receive explicit, systematic instruction to reach mastery.
- D. "Literacy specialist" means a person licensed by the Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board as a teacher of reading, a special education teacher, or a kindergarten through grade 6 teacher, who has completed professional development approved by the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) in structured literacy. A literacy specialist employed by the department under Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.123, subdivision 7, or by a district as a literacy lead, is not required to complete the approved training before August 30, 2025.

- E. "Literacy lead" means a literacy specialist with expertise in working with educators as adult learners. A district literacy lead must support the district's implementation of the Read Act; provide support to school-based coaches; support the implementation of structured literacy, interventions, curriculum delivery, and teacher training; assist with the development of personal learning plans; and train paraprofessionals and other support staff to support classroom literacy instruction. A literacy lead may be employed by one district, jointly by two or more districts, or may provide services to districts through a partnership with the regional service cooperatives or another district.
- F. "Multitiered system of support" or "MTSS" means a systemic, continuous improvement framework for ensuring positive social, emotional, behavioral, developmental, and academic outcomes for every student. The MTSS framework provides access to layered tiers of culturally and linguistically responsive, evidence-based practices and relies on the understanding and belief that every student can learn and thrive. Through an MTSS at the core (Tier 1), supplemental (Tier 2), and intensive (Tier 3) levels, educators provide high quality, evidence-based instruction and intervention that is matched to a student's needs; progress is monitored to inform instruction and set goals and data is used for educational decision making.
- G. "Oral language," also called "expressive language" or "receptive language," includes speaking and listening, and consists of five components: phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics.
- H. "Phonemic awareness" means the ability to notice, think about, and manipulate individual sounds in spoken syllables and words.
- I. "Phonics instruction" means the explicit, systematic, and direct instruction of the relationships between letters and the sounds they represent and the application of this knowledge in reading and spelling.
- J. "Progress monitoring" means using data collected to inform whether interventions are working. Progress monitoring involves ongoing monitoring of progress that quantifies rates of improvement and informs instructional practice and the development of individualized programs using state-approved screening that is reliable and valid for the intended purpose.
- K. "Reading comprehension" means a function of word recognition skills and language comprehension skills. It is an active process that requires intentional thinking during which meaning is constructed through interactions between the text and reader. Comprehension skills are taught explicitly by demonstrating, explaining, modeling, and implementing specific cognitive strategies to help beginning readers derive meaning through intentional, problem-solving thinking processes.

- L. "Structured literacy" means an approach to reading instruction in which teachers carefully structure important literacy skills, concepts, and the sequence of instruction to facilitate children's literacy learning and progress. Structured literacy is characterized by the provision of systematic, explicit, sequential, and diagnostic instruction in phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and oral language development, and reading comprehension. This approach is consistent with the principles identified in the science of reading and is designed to ensure all students develop strong foundational literacy skills.
- M. "Three-cueing system," also known as "meaning structure visual (MSV)," means a method that teaches students to use meaning, structure and syntax, and visual cues when attempting to read an unknown word.
- N. "Vocabulary development" means the process of acquiring new words. A robust vocabulary improves all areas of communication, including listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Vocabulary growth is directly related to school achievement and is a strong predictor for reading success.

IV. READING SCREENER; PARENT NOTIFICATION AND INVOLVEMENT

- A. The school district must administer an approved reading screener to students in kindergarten through grade 3 within the first six weeks of the school year, by February 15 each year, and again within the last six weeks of the school year. The screener must be one of the screening tools approved by MDE.
- B. The school district must identify any screener it uses in the district's annual literacy plan, and submit screening data with the annual literacy plan by June 15.
- C. Schools, after administering each screener, must follow the language access plan under Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.32 and give the parent of each student who is not reading at or above grade level information from the screener about:
 - 1. the student's reading proficiency as measured by a screener approved by MDE;
 - 2. reading-related services currently being provided to the student and the student's progress; and
 - 3. strategies for parents to use at home in helping their student succeed in becoming grade-level proficient in reading in English and in their native language.
- D. For students enrolled in dual language immersion programs, the school district must measure the student's reading proficiency in English or in the program's partner language, if available, according to Article V below. Following its language access

plan under Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.32, the school district must notify families with timely information about students' reading proficiency, including how the student's reading proficiency is assessed, any reading-related services or supports provided to the student and the student's progress, and strategies for families to use at home in helping students succeed in becoming grade-level proficient in reading in English or the partner language. The dual language immersion program may provide information about national research on reading proficiency for students in dual language immersion programs in the parent notification.

- E. The school district may not use this section to deny a student's right to a special education evaluation.

V. IDENTIFICATION AND REPORT

- A. Students enrolled in kindergarten, grade 1, grade 2, and grade 3, including multilingual learners and students receiving special education services, and students enrolled in dual language immersion programs, must be universally screened for mastery of foundational reading skills, including phonemic awareness, phonics, decoding, fluency, oral language, and for characteristics of dyslexia as measured by a screening tool approved by MDE. The screening for characteristics of dyslexia may be integrated with universal screening for mastery of foundational skills and expressive or receptive language mastery. The screening tool used must be a valid and reliable universal screener that is highly correlated with foundational reading skills. For students reading at grade level, beginning in the winter of grade 2, the oral reading fluency screener may be used to assess reading difficulties, including characteristics of dyslexia, without requiring a separate screening of each subcomponent of foundational reading skills.
- B. The school district must submit data on student performance in kindergarten, grade 1, grade 2, and grade 3 on foundational reading skills, including phonemic awareness, phonics, decoding, fluency, and oral language to MDE in the annual local literacy plan submission due on June 15.
- C. For students enrolled in dual language immersion programs:
 1. if students are screened in the partner language, they must be screened at the same interval as the screenings in English under paragraph A above;
 2. if the program provides instruction in foundational reading skills in English, the students receiving that instruction must be screened in English;
 3. if the program provides instruction in foundational reading skills in the partner language, the students receiving that instruction must be screened in the partner language;
 4. if no screener is available in the partner language, the school district must

identify how students' reading proficiency is assessed and how the school district determines and provides targeted reading instruction in the partner language and supports to students identified as needing additional support in developing mastery of foundational reading skills; and

5. the partner language screening tool must be approved by the school district for kindergarten through grade 3 students.
- D. Students in grades 4 and above, including multilingual learners and students receiving special education services, who are not reading at grade level must be screened for reading difficulties, including characteristics of dyslexia, using a screening tool approved by MDE and must continue to receive evidence-based instruction, interventions, and progress monitoring until the students achieve grade-level proficiency. A parent, in consultation with a teacher, may opt a student out of the literacy screener if the parent and teacher decide that continuing to screen would not be beneficial to the student. In such limited cases, the student must continue to receive progress monitoring and literacy interventions.
- E. Reading screeners in English, and in the predominant languages of school district students where practicable, must identify and evaluate students' areas of academic need related to literacy. The school district also must monitor the progress and provide reading instruction appropriate to the specific needs of multilingual learners. The school district must use an approved, developmentally appropriate, and culturally responsive screener and annually report summary screener results to the MDE Commissioner ("Commissioner") by June 15 in the form and manner determined by the Commissioner.
- F. The school district must include in its local literacy plan a summary of the district's efforts to screen, identify, and provide interventions to students who demonstrate characteristics of dyslexia as measured by a screening tool approved by MDE. With respect to students screened or identified under paragraph (a), the report must include:
1. a summary of the school district's efforts to screen for characteristics of reading difficulties, including dyslexia;
 2. the number of students universally screened for that reporting year;
 3. the number of students demonstrating characteristics of dyslexia for that year; and
 4. an explanation of how students identified under this subdivision are provided with alternate instruction and interventions under Minnesota Statutes, section 125A.56, subdivision 1.

VI. INTERVENTION

- A. For each student identified under the screening identification process, the school district shall provide aligned and targeted reading intervention to accelerate student growth and reach the goal of reading at or above grade level by the end of the current grade and school year.
- B. The school district must implement progress monitoring, as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.119, for a student not reading at grade level.
- C. The school district must use evidence-based curriculum and intervention materials at each grade level that are designed to ensure student mastery of phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary development, reading fluency, and reading comprehension. Starting July 1, 2023, if the school district purchases new literacy curriculum, or literacy intervention or supplementary materials, the curriculum or materials must be evidence-based as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.119.
- D. If a student does not read at or above grade level by the end of the current school year, the school district must continue to provide aligned and targeted reading intervention as defined by the MTSS framework until the student reads at grade level. School district intervention methods shall encourage family engagement and, where possible, collaboration with appropriate school and community programs that specialize in evidence-based instructional practices and measure mastery of foundational reading skills, including phonemic awareness, phonics, decoding, fluency, and oral language.
- E. By the 2025-2026 school year, intervention programs must be taught by an intervention teacher or special education teacher who has successfully completed training in evidence-based reading instruction approved by MDE. Intervention may include but is not limited to requiring student attendance in summer school, intensified reading instruction that may require that the student be removed from the regular classroom for part of the school day, extended-day programs, or programs that strengthen students' cultural connections.
- F. The school district must determine the format of the personal learning plan in collaboration with the student's educators and other appropriate professionals. The school must develop the learning plan in consultation with the student's parent or guardian. The personal learning plan must include targeted instruction that is evidence-based and ongoing progress monitoring, and address knowledge gaps and skill deficiencies through strategies such as specific exercises and practices during and outside of the regular school day, group interventions, periodic assessments or screeners, and reasonable timelines. The personal learning plan may include grade retention, if it is in the student's best interest; a student may not be retained solely due to delays in literacy or not demonstrating grade-level proficiency. A school must maintain and regularly update and modify the personal learning plan until the

student reads at grade level. This paragraph does not apply to a student under an individualized education program.

VII. LOCAL LITERACY PLAN

- A. The school district must adopt a local literacy plan to have every child reading at or above grade level every year beginning in kindergarten and to support multilingual learners and students receiving special education services in achieving their individualized reading goals. The school district must update and submit the plan to the Commissioner by June 15 each year. The plan must be consistent with the Read Act, and include the following:
1. a process to assess students' foundational reading skills, oral language, and level of reading proficiency and the screeners used, by school site and grade level, under Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.123;
 2. a process to notify and involve parents;
 3. a description of how schools in the school district will determine the targeted reading instruction that is evidence-based and includes an intervention strategy for a student and the process for intensifying or modifying the reading strategy in order to obtain measurable reading progress;
 4. evidence-based intervention methods for students who are not reading at or above grade level and progress monitoring to provide information on the effectiveness of the intervention;
 5. identification of staff development needs, including a plan to meet those needs;
 6. the curricula used by school site and grade level and, if applicable, the district plan and timeline for adopting evidence-based curricula and materials starting in the 2025-2026 school year;
 7. a statement of whether the school district has adopted an MTSS framework;
 8. student data using the measures of foundational literacy skills and mastery identified by MDE for the following students:
 - a. students in kindergarten through grade 3;
 - b. students who demonstrate characteristics of dyslexia; and
 - c. students in grades 4 to 12 who are identified as not reading at grade level.

9. the number of teachers and other staff that have completed training approved by the department;
 10. the number of teachers and other staff proposed for training in structured literacy;
 11. how the district used funding provided under the Read Act to implement the requirements of the Read Act;
 12. beginning as soon as practicable after the end of fiscal year 2026, how the district used literacy aid funding received under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.98; and
 13. beginning on December 31, 2025, for a district with a dual language immersion program:
 - a. the program’s partner language;
 - b. grade levels included in the program;
 - c. the language used to screen students’ foundational reading skills;
 - d. the percentage of grade 3 students taking the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments; and
 - e. the number of students in the program in grades 4 to 12 who are identified as not reading at grade level.
- B. Annually by June 15, the school district must post its literacy plan on the official school district website and submit it to the Commissioner using the template developed by the Commissioner.
- C. The school district must use a streamlined template developed by the Commissioner for local literacy plans that meets the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.12, subdivision 4a, and requires all reading instruction and teacher training in reading instruction to be evidence-based.

VIII. STAFF TRAINING

- A. The district must provide training from a menu of approved evidence-based training programs to the following teachers and staff by July 1, 2026:
1. reading intervention teachers working with students in kindergarten through grade 12;
 2. all classroom teachers of students in kindergarten through grade 3 and

children in prekindergarten programs;

3. kindergarten through grade 12 special education teachers responsible for foundational reading instruction;
 4. curriculum directors;
 5. instructional support staff, contractors, and volunteers who assist in providing reading interventions under the oversight and monitoring of a trained licensed teacher;
 6. employees who select literacy instructional materials for a district; and
 7. teachers holding English as a second language teaching licenses.
- B. The school district must provide training from a menu of approved evidence-based training programs to the following teachers by July 1, 2027:
1. teachers who provide foundational reading instruction to students in grades 4 to 12;
 2. teachers who provide instruction to students in a state-approved alternative program; and
 3. teachers who provide instruction to students in dual language immersion programs.

The Commissioner may grant a school district an extension to these deadlines.

- C. By August 30, 2025, the school district must employ or contract with a literacy lead, or be actively supporting a designated literacy specialist through the process of becoming a literacy lead. The school board may satisfy the requirements of this subdivision by contracting with another school board or cooperative unit under Minnesota Statutes, section 123A.24 for the services of a literacy lead by August 30, 2025. The school district literacy lead must collaborate with school district administrators and staff to support the school district's implementation of requirements under the Read Act.
- D. Training provided by the following may satisfy the professional development requirements under this Article:
1. a certified trained facilitator; or
 2. a training program that MDE has determined meets the professional development requirements under the Read Act.

IX. STAFF DEVELOPMENT

- A. The school district must provide training programs on evidence-based reading instruction to teachers and instructional staff in accordance with subdivision 1, paragraph (b). The training must include teaching in the areas of phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary development, reading fluency, reading comprehension, and culturally and linguistically responsive pedagogy.
- B. The school district shall use the data under Article V. above to identify the staff development needs so that:
1. elementary teachers are able to implement explicit, systematic, evidence-based instruction in the five reading areas of phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension with emphasis on mastery of foundational reading skills as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.119 and other literacy-related areas including writing until the student achieves grade-level reading and writing proficiency;
 2. elementary teachers have sufficient training to provide students with evidence-based reading and oral language instruction that meets students' developmental, linguistic, and literacy needs using the intervention methods or programs selected by the school district for the identified students;
 3. licensed teachers employed by the school district have regular opportunities to improve reading and writing instruction;
 4. licensed teachers recognize students' diverse needs in cross-cultural settings and are able to serve the oral language and linguistic needs of students who are multilingual learners by maximizing strengths in their native languages in order to cultivate students' English language development, including academic language development, and build academic literacy; and
 5. licensed teachers are well trained in culturally responsive pedagogy that enables students to master content, develop skills to access content, and build relationships.
- C. The school district must provide staff in early childhood programs sufficient training to provide children in early childhood programs with explicit, systematic instruction in phonological and phonemic awareness; oral language, including listening comprehension; vocabulary; and letter-sound correspondence.

X. LITERACY AID USES

The school district must use its literacy aid to meet the requirements and goals adopted in the school district's local literacy plan.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 120B.119 (Read Act Definitions)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.12 (Read Act Goal and Interventions)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.123 (Read Act Implementation)
Minn. Stat. § 123A.24 (Withdrawing from a Cooperative Unit; Appealing Denial of Membership)
Minn. Stat. § 124D.68 (Graduation Incentives Program)
Minn. Stat. § 124D.98 (Literacy Incentive Aid)
Minn. Stat. § 125A.56 (Alternate Instruction Required before Assessment Referral)

Cross References: None

Adopted: 8/14/23

Revised: 8/11/25

621 LITERACY AND THE READ ACT

I. PURPOSE

This policy aligns with Minnesota law established in the Read Act and on other topics related to reading.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The school district recognizes the centrality of reading in a student's educational experience.

III. DEFINITIONS

- A. "Evidence-based" means the instruction or item described is based on reliable, trustworthy, and valid evidence and has demonstrated a record of success in increasing students' reading competency in the areas of phonological and phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary development, reading fluency, and reading comprehension. Evidence-based literacy instruction is explicit, systematic, and includes phonological and phonemic awareness, phonics and decoding, spelling, fluency, vocabulary, oral language, and comprehension that can be differentiated to meet the needs of individual students. Evidence-based instruction does not include the three-cueing system, as defined in subdivision 16.
- B. "Fluency" means the ability of students to read text accurately, automatically, and with proper expression.
- C. "Foundational reading skills" includes phonological and phonemic awareness, phonics and decoding, and fluency. Foundational reading skills appropriate to each grade level must be mastered in kindergarten, grade 1, grade 2, and grade 3. Struggling readers in grades 4 and above who do not demonstrate mastery of grade-level foundational reading skills must continue to receive explicit, systematic instruction to reach mastery.
- D. "Literacy specialist" means a person licensed by the Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board as a teacher of reading, a special education teacher, or a kindergarten through grade 6 teacher, who has completed professional development approved by the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) in structured literacy. A literacy specialist employed by the department under Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.123, subdivision 7, or by a district as a literacy lead, is not required to complete the approved training before August 30, 2025.
- E. "Literacy lead" means a literacy specialist with expertise in working with educators

as adult learners. A district literacy lead must support the district's implementation of the Read Act; provide support to school-based coaches; support the implementation of structured literacy, interventions, curriculum delivery, and teacher training; assist with the development of personal learning plans; and train paraprofessionals and other support staff to support classroom literacy instruction. A literacy lead may be employed by one district, jointly by two or more districts, or may provide services to districts through a partnership with the regional service cooperatives or another district.

- F. "Multitiered system of support" or "MTSS" means a systemic, continuous improvement framework for ensuring positive social, emotional, behavioral, developmental, and academic outcomes for every student. The MTSS framework provides access to layered tiers of culturally and linguistically responsive, evidence-based practices and relies on the understanding and belief that every student can learn and thrive. Through an MTSS at the core (Tier 1), supplemental (Tier 2), and intensive (Tier 3) levels, educators provide high quality, evidence-based instruction and intervention that is matched to a student's needs; progress is monitored to inform instruction and set goals and data is used for educational decision making.
- G. "Oral language," also called "~~spoken~~ expressive language," or "receptive language," includes speaking and listening, and consists of five components: phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics.
- H. "Phonemic awareness" means the ability to notice, think about, and manipulate individual sounds in spoken syllables and words.
- I. "Phonics instruction" means the explicit, systematic, and direct instruction of the relationships between letters and the sounds they represent and the application of this knowledge in reading and spelling.
- J. "Progress monitoring" means using data collected to inform whether interventions are working. Progress monitoring involves ongoing monitoring of progress that quantifies rates of improvement and informs instructional practice and the development of individualized programs using state-approved screening that is reliable and valid for the intended purpose.
- K. "Reading comprehension" means a function of word recognition skills and language comprehension skills. It is an active process that requires intentional thinking during which meaning is constructed through interactions between the text and reader. Comprehension skills are taught explicitly by demonstrating, explaining, modeling, and implementing specific cognitive strategies to help beginning readers derive meaning through intentional, problem-solving thinking processes.

- L. "Structured literacy" means an approach to reading instruction in which teachers carefully structure important literacy skills, concepts, and the sequence of instruction to facilitate children's literacy learning and progress. Structured literacy is characterized by the provision of systematic, explicit, sequential, and diagnostic instruction in phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and oral language development, and reading comprehension. This approach is consistent with the principles identified in the science of reading and is designed to ensure all students develop strong foundational literacy skills.
- M. "Three-cueing system," also known as "meaning structure visual (MSV)," means a method that teaches students to use meaning, structure and syntax, and visual cues when attempting to read an unknown word.
- N. "Vocabulary development" means the process of acquiring new words. A robust vocabulary improves all areas of communication, including listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Vocabulary growth is directly related to school achievement and is a strong predictor for reading success.

IV. READING SCREENER; PARENT NOTIFICATION AND INVOLVEMENT

- A. The school district must administer an approved ~~evidence-based~~ reading screener to students in kindergarten through grade 3 within the first six weeks of the school year, by February 15 each year, and again within the last six weeks of the school year. The screener must be one of the screening tools approved by MDE.
- B. The school district must identify any screener it uses in the district's annual literacy plan, and submit screening data with the annual literacy plan by June 15.
- C. Schools, at least biannually after administering each screener, must follow the language access plan under Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.32 and must give the parent of each student who is not reading at or above grade level ~~timely~~ information from the screener about:
1. the student's reading proficiency as measured by a screener approved by MDE;
 2. reading-related services currently being provided to the student and the student's progress; and
 3. strategies for parents to use at home in helping their student succeed in becoming grade-level proficient in reading in English and in their native language.
- D. For students enrolled in dual language immersion programs, the school district must measure the student's reading proficiency in English or in the program's partner language, if available, according to Article V below. Following its language access

plan under Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.32, the school district must notify families with timely information about students' reading proficiency, including how the student's reading proficiency is assessed, any reading-related services or supports provided to the student and the student's progress, and strategies for families to use at home in helping students succeed in becoming grade-level proficient in reading in English or the partner language. The dual language immersion program may provide information about national research on reading proficiency for students in dual language immersion programs in the parent notification.

- E. The school district may not use this section to deny a student's right to a special education evaluation.

V. IDENTIFICATION AND REPORT

- A. Students enrolled in kindergarten, grade 1, grade 2, and grade 3, including multilingual learners and students receiving special education services, and students enrolled in dual language immersion programs, must be universally screened for mastery of foundational reading skills, including phonemic awareness, phonics, decoding, fluency, oral language, and for characteristics of dyslexia as measured by a screening tool approved by MDE. The screening for characteristics of dyslexia may be integrated with universal screening for mastery of foundational skills and ~~oral~~ expressive or receptive language mastery. The screening tool used must be a valid and reliable universal screener that is highly correlated with foundational reading skills. For students reading at grade level, beginning in the winter of grade 2, the oral reading fluency screener may be used to assess reading difficulties, including characteristics of dyslexia, without requiring a separate screening of each subcomponent of foundational reading skills.
- B. The school district must submit data on student performance in kindergarten, grade 1, grade 2, and grade 3 on foundational reading skills, including phonemic awareness, phonics, decoding, fluency, and oral language to MDE in the annual local literacy plan submission due on June 15.
- C. For students enrolled in dual language immersion programs:
1. if students are screened in the partner language, they must be screened at the same interval as the screenings in English under paragraph A above;
 2. if the program provides instruction in foundational reading skills in English, the students receiving that instruction must be screened in English;
 3. if the program provides instruction in foundational reading skills in the partner language, the students receiving that instruction must be screened in the partner language;

4. if no screener is available in the partner language, the school district must identify how students' reading proficiency is assessed and how the school district determines and provides targeted reading instruction in the partner language and supports to students identified as needing additional support in developing mastery of foundational reading skills; and
5. the partner language screening tool must be approved by the school district for kindergarten through grade 3 students.

D. Students in grades 4 and above, including multilingual learners and students receiving special education services, who ~~do not demonstrate mastery of foundational reading skills, including phonemic awareness, phonics, decoding, fluency, and oral language, are not reading at grade level~~ must be screened for reading difficulties, including characteristics of dyslexia, using a screening tool approved by MDE ~~for characteristics of dyslexia~~ and must continue to receive evidence-based instruction, interventions, and progress monitoring until the students achieve grade-level proficiency. A parent, in consultation with a teacher, may opt a student out of the literacy screener if the parent and teacher decide that continuing to screen would not be beneficial to the student. In such limited cases, the student must continue to receive progress monitoring and literacy interventions.

E. Reading screeners in English, and in the predominant languages of school district students where practicable, must identify and evaluate students' areas of academic need related to literacy. The school district also must monitor the progress and provide reading instruction appropriate to the specific needs of multilingual learners. The school district must use an approved, developmentally appropriate, and culturally responsive screener and annually report summary screener results to the MDE Commissioner ("Commissioner") by June 15 in the form and manner determined by the Commissioner.

F. The school district must include in its local literacy plan a summary of the district's efforts to screen, identify, and provide interventions to students who demonstrate characteristics of dyslexia as measured by a screening tool approved by MDE. With respect to students screened or identified under paragraph (a), the report must include:

1. a summary of the school district's efforts to screen for characteristics of reading difficulties, including dyslexia;
2. the number of students universally screened for that reporting year;
3. the number of students demonstrating characteristics of dyslexia for that year; and
4. an explanation of how students identified under this subdivision are provided with alternate instruction and interventions under Minnesota Statutes, section 125A.56, subdivision 1.

VI. INTERVENTION

- A. For each student identified under the screening identification process, the school district shall provide [aligned and targeted](#) reading intervention to accelerate student growth and reach the goal of reading at or above grade level by the end of the current grade and school year.
- B. The school district must implement progress monitoring, as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.119, for a student not reading at grade level.
- C. The school district must use evidence-based curriculum and intervention materials at each grade level that are designed to ensure student mastery of phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary development, reading fluency, and reading comprehension. Starting July 1, 2023, if the school district purchases new literacy curriculum, or literacy intervention or supplementary materials, the curriculum or materials must be evidence-based as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.119.
- D. If a student does not read at or above grade level by the end of the current school year, the school district must continue to provide [aligned and targeted](#) reading intervention [as defined by the MTSS framework](#) until the student reads at grade level. School district intervention methods shall encourage family engagement and, where possible, collaboration with appropriate school and community programs that specialize in evidence-based instructional practices and measure mastery of foundational reading skills, including phonemic awareness, phonics, decoding, fluency, and oral language.
- E. By the 2025-2026 school year, intervention programs must be taught by an intervention teacher or special education teacher who has successfully completed training in evidence-based reading instruction approved by MDE. Intervention may include but is not limited to requiring student attendance in summer school, intensified reading instruction that may require that the student be removed from the regular classroom for part of the school day, extended-day programs, or programs that strengthen students' cultural connections.
- F. The school district must determine the format of the personal learning plan in collaboration with the student's educators and other appropriate professionals. The school must develop the learning plan in consultation with the student's parent or guardian. The personal learning plan must include targeted instruction that is evidence-based and ongoing progress monitoring, and address knowledge gaps and skill deficiencies through strategies such as specific exercises and practices during and outside of the regular school day, group interventions, periodic assessments or screeners, and reasonable timelines. The personal learning plan may include grade retention, if it is in the student's best interest; a student may not be retained solely due to delays in literacy or not demonstrating grade-level proficiency. A school must maintain and regularly update and modify the personal learning plan until the

student reads at grade level. This paragraph does not apply to a student under an individualized education program.

VII. LOCAL LITERACY PLAN

- A. The school district must adopt a local literacy plan to have every child reading at or above grade level every year beginning in kindergarten and to support multilingual learners and students receiving special education services in achieving their individualized reading goals. The school district must update and submit the plan to the Commissioner by June 15 each year. The plan must be consistent with the Read Act, and include the following:
1. a process to assess students' foundational reading skills, oral language, and level of reading proficiency and the screeners used, by school site and grade level, under Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.123;
 2. a process to notify and involve parents;
 3. a description of how schools in the school district will determine the targeted reading instruction that is evidence-based and includes an intervention strategy for a student and the process for intensifying or modifying the reading strategy in order to obtain measurable reading progress;
 4. evidence-based intervention methods for students who are not reading at or above grade level and progress monitoring to provide information on the effectiveness of the intervention;
 5. identification of staff development needs, including a plan to meet those needs;
 6. the curricula used by school site and grade level and, if applicable, the district plan and timeline for adopting evidence-based curricula and materials starting in the 2025-2026 school year;
 7. a statement of whether the school district has adopted an MTSS framework;
 8. student data using the measures of foundational literacy skills and mastery identified by MDE for the following students:
 - a. students in kindergarten through grade 3;
 - b. students who demonstrate characteristics of dyslexia; and
 - c. students in grades 4 to 12 who are identified as not reading at grade level.; ~~and~~

9. the number of teachers and other staff that have completed training approved by the department;
10. the number of teachers and other staff proposed for training in structured literacy;
11. how the district used funding provided under the Read Act to implement the requirements of the Read Act;
12. beginning as soon as practicable after the end of fiscal year 2026, how the district used literacy aid funding received under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.98; and
13. beginning on December 31, 2025, for a district with a dual language immersion program:
 - a. the program's partner language;
 - b. grade levels included in the program;
 - c. the language used to screen students' foundational reading skills;
 - d. the percentage of grade 3 students taking the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments; and
 - e. the number of students in the program in grades 4 to 12 who are identified as not reading at grade level.

B. Annually by June 15, the school district must post its literacy plan on the official school district website and submit it to the Commissioner using the template developed by the Commissioner beginning June 15, 2024.

C. The school district must use a streamlined template developed by the Commissioner for local literacy plans that meets the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.12, subdivision 4a, and requires all reading instruction and teacher training in reading instruction to be evidence-based.

VIII. STAFF TRAINING

A. Beginning July 1, 2024, a school district must provide access to the training required under Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.123, subdivision 5. The district must provide training from a menu of approved evidence-based training programs to the following teachers and staff by July 1, 2026: to:

1. reading intervention teachers working with students in kindergarten through grade 12;

2. all classroom teachers of students in kindergarten through grade 3 and children in prekindergarten programs;
3. kindergarten through grade 12 special education teachers responsible for foundational reading instruction;
4. curriculum directors;
5. instructional support staff, contractors, and volunteers who assist in providing reading interventions under the oversight and monitoring of a trained licensed teacher; who provide reading instruction; and
6. employees who select literacy instructional materials for a district; and
7. teachers holding English as a second language teaching licenses.

B. The school district must provide training from a menu of approved evidence-based training programs to the following teachers by July 1, 2027:

1. teachers who provide foundational reading instruction to students in grades 4 to 12;
2. teachers who provide instruction to students in a state-approved alternative program; and
3. teachers who provide instruction to students in dual language immersion programs.

~~-all reading intervention teachers, literacy specialists, and other teachers and staff identified in Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.12, subdivision 1, paragraph (b), by July 1, 2025; and by July 1, 2027, to other teachers in the school district, prioritizing teachers who work with students with disabilities, English learners, and students who qualify for the graduation incentives program under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.68.~~ The Commissioner may grant a school district an extension to these deadlines.

C. By August 30, 2025, the school district must employ or contract with a literacy lead, or be actively supporting a designated literacy specialist through the process of becoming a literacy lead. The school board may satisfy the requirements of this subdivision by contracting with another school board or cooperative unit under Minnesota Statutes, section 123A.24 for the services of a literacy lead by August 30, 2025. The school district literacy lead must collaborate with school district administrators and staff to support the school district's implementation of requirements under the Read Act.

D. Training provided by the following may satisfy the professional development requirements under this Article:

1. a certified trained facilitator; or
2. a training program that MDE has determined meets the professional development requirements under the Read Act.

IX. STAFF DEVELOPMENT

- A. The school district must provide training programs on evidence-based reading instruction to teachers and instructional staff in accordance with subdivision 1, paragraph (b). The training must include teaching in the areas of phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary development, reading fluency, reading comprehension, and culturally and linguistically responsive pedagogy.
- B. The school district shall use the data under Article V. above to identify the staff development needs so that:
 1. elementary teachers are able to implement explicit, systematic, evidence-based instruction in the five reading areas of phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension with emphasis on mastery of foundational reading skills as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.119 and other literacy-related areas including writing until the student achieves grade-level reading and writing proficiency;
 2. elementary teachers have sufficient training to provide students with evidence-based reading and oral language instruction that meets students' developmental, linguistic, and literacy needs using the intervention methods or programs selected by the school district for the identified students;
 3. licensed teachers employed by the school district have regular opportunities to improve reading and writing instruction;
 4. licensed teachers recognize students' diverse needs in cross-cultural settings and are able to serve the oral language and linguistic needs of students who are multilingual learners by maximizing strengths in their native languages in order to cultivate students' English language development, including ~~oral~~ academic language development, and build academic literacy; and
 5. licensed teachers are well trained in culturally responsive pedagogy that enables students to master content, develop skills to access content, and build relationships.
- C. The school district must provide staff in early childhood programs sufficient training to provide children in early childhood programs with explicit, systematic

instruction in phonological and phonemic awareness; oral language, including listening comprehension; vocabulary; and letter-sound correspondence.

X. LITERACY ~~INCENTIVE~~ AID USES

The school district must use its literacy ~~incentive~~ aid to ~~support implementation of evidence-based reading instruction meet the requirements and goals adopted in the school district's local literacy plan.~~ The following are eligible uses of literacy incentive aid:

- ~~1. training for kindergarten through grade 3 teachers, early childhood educators, special education teachers, reading intervention teachers working with students in kindergarten through grade 12, curriculum directors, and instructional support staff that provide reading instruction, on using evidence-based screening and progress monitoring tools;~~
- ~~2. evidence-based training using a training program approved by MDE;~~
- ~~3. employing or contracting with a literacy lead, as defined in Minnesota Statutes, _____ section _____ 120B.119;~~
- ~~4. materials, training, and ongoing coaching to ensure reading interventions under Minnesota Statutes, section 125A.56, subdivision 1, are evidence-based; and costs of substitute teachers to allow teachers to complete required training during the teachers' contract day.~~

[NOTE: The 2025 Minnesota legislature amended Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.98 to enact these changes.]

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 120B.119 (Read Act Definitions)
 Minn. Stat. § 120B.12 (Read Act Goal and Interventions)
 Minn. Stat. § 120B.123 (Read Act Implementation)
 Minn. Stat. § 123A.24 (Withdrawing from a Cooperative Unit; Appealing Denial of Membership)
 Minn. Stat. § 124D.68 (Graduation Incentives Program)
 Minn. Stat. § 124D.98 (Literacy Incentive Aid)
 Minn. Stat. § 125A.56 (Alternate Instruction Required before Assessment Referral)

Cross References: None

Adopted: 4/9/96

Revised: 8/11/25, 9/9/24

707 TRANSPORTATION OF PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide for the transportation of students consistent with the requirements of law.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

- A. The policy of the school district is to provide for the transportation of students in a manner which will protect their health, welfare, and safety.
- B. The school district recognizes that transportation is an essential part of the school district services to students and parents but further recognizes that transportation by school bus is a privilege and not a right for an eligible student.

III. DEFINITIONS

- A. “Child with a disability” includes every child identified under federal and state special education law as deaf or hard of hearing, blind or visually impaired, deafblind, or having a speech or language impairment, a physical impairment, other health disability, developmental cognitive disability, an emotional or behavioral disorder, specific learning disability, autism spectrum disorder, traumatic brain injury, or severe multiple impairments, and who needs special education and related services, as determined by the rules of the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Education (“Commissioner”). A licensed physician, an advanced practice nurse, a physician assistant, or a licensed psychologist is qualified to make a diagnosis and determination of attention deficit disorder or attention deficit hyperactivity disorder for purposes of identifying a child with a disability. In addition, every child under age three, and at the school district’s discretion from age three to seven, who needs special instruction and services, as determined by the rules of the Commissioner, because the child has a substantial delay or has an identifiable physical or mental condition known to hinder normal development is a child with a disability. A child with a short-term or temporary physical or emotional illness or disability, as determined by the rules of the Commissioner, is not a child with a disability.
- B. “Home” is the legal residence of the child. In the discretion of the school district, “home” also may be defined as a licensed day care facility, school day care facility, a respite care facility, the residence of a relative, or the residence of a person chosen by the student’s parent or guardian as the home of a student for part or all of the day, if requested by the student’s parent or guardian, or an afterschool program for children operated by a political subdivision of the state, if the facility, residence, or program is within the attendance area of the school the student attends. Unless otherwise specifically provided by law, a homeless student is a resident of the school district if enrolled in the school district.

- C. “Homeless student” means a student, including a migratory student, who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and includes: students who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; are abandoned in hospitals; are awaiting foster care placement; have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings; are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings, and migratory children who qualify as homeless because they are living in any of the preceding listed circumstances.
- D. “Nonpublic school” means any school, church, or religious organization, or home school wherein a resident of Minnesota may legally fulfill the compulsory instruction requirements of Minnesota Statutes, section 120A.22, which is located within the state, and which meets the requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.
- E. “Nonresident student” is a student who attends school in the school district and resides in another district, defined as the “nonresident district.” In those instances when the divorced or legally separated parents or parents residing separately share joint physical custody of a student and the parents reside in different school districts, the student shall be a resident of the school district designated by the student’s parents. When parental rights have been terminated by court order, the legal residence of a student placed in a residential or foster facility for care and treatment is the district in which the student resides.
- F. “Pupil support services” are health, counseling, and guidance services provided by the public school in the same district where the nonpublic school is located.
- G. “School of origin,” for purposes of determining the residence of a homeless student, is the school that the student attended when permanently housed or the school in which the student was last enrolled.
- H. “Shared time basis” is a program where students attend public school for part of the regular school day and who otherwise fulfill the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, section 120A.22 by attendance at a nonpublic school.
- I. “Student” means any student or child attending or required to attend any school as provided in Minnesota law and who is a resident or child of a resident of Minnesota.

IV. ELIGIBILITY

- A. Upon the request of a parent or guardian, the school district shall provide transportation to and from school, at the expense of the school district, for all resident students who reside two miles or more from the school, except for those students whose transportation privileges have been revoked or have been voluntarily surrendered by the student’s parent or guardian.

- B. The school district may, in its discretion, also provide transportation to any student to and from school, at the expense of the school district, for any other purpose deemed appropriate by the school board.
- C. In the discretion of the school district, transportation along regular school bus routes may also be provided, where space is available, to any person where such use of a bus does not interfere with the transportation of students. The cost of providing such transportation must be paid by those individuals using these services or some third-party payor. Bus transportation also may be provided along school bus routes when space is available for participants in early childhood family education programs and school readiness programs if these services do not result in an increase in the school district's expenditures for transportation
- D. For purposes of stabilizing enrollment and reducing mobility, the school district may, in its discretion, establish a full-service school zone and may provide transportation for students attending a school in that full-service school zone. A full-service school zone may be established for a school that is located in an area with higher than average crime or other social and economic challenges and that provides education, health or human services, or other parental support in collaboration with a city, county, state, or nonprofit agency.

V. TRANSPORTATION OF NONRESIDENT STUDENTS

- A. If requested by the parent of a nonresident student, the school district shall provide transportation to a nonresident student within its borders at the same level of service that is provided to resident students.
- B. If the school district decides to transport a nonresident student within the student's resident district, the school district will notify the student's resident district of its decision, in writing, prior to providing transportation.
- C. When divorced or legally separated parents or parents residing separately reside in different school districts and share physical custody of a student, the parents shall be responsible for the transportation of the student to the border of the school district during those times when the student is residing with the parent in the nonresident school district.
- D. The school district may provide transportation to allow a student who attends a high-need English language learner program and who resides within the transportation attendance area of the program to continue in the program until the student completes the highest grade level offered by the program.

VI. TRANSPORTATION OF RESIDENT STUDENTS TO NONDISTRICT SCHOOLS

- A. In general, the school district shall not provide transportation between a resident student's home and the border of a nonresident district where the student attends school under the Enrollment Options Program. A parent may be reimbursed by the nonresident district for the costs of transportation from the pupil's residence to the border of the nonresident district if the student is from a family whose income is at or below the poverty level, as determined by the federal government. The reimbursement may not exceed the pupil's

actual cost of transportation or 15 cents per mile traveled, whichever is less. Reimbursement may not be paid for more than 250 miles per week (Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.03, subdivision 8).

- B. Resident students shall be eligible for transportation to and from a nonresident school district at the expense of the school district, if in the discretion of the school district, inadequate room, distance to school, unfavorable road conditions, or other facts or conditions make attendance in the resident student's own district unreasonably difficult or impracticable. The school district, in its discretion, may also provide for transportation of resident students to schools in other districts for grades and departments not maintained in the district, including high school, for the whole or a part of the year or for resident students who attend school in a building rented or leased by the school district in an adjacent district.
- C. In general, the school district is not responsible for transportation for any resident student attending school in an adjoining state under a reciprocity agreement but may provide such transportation services at its discretion.

VII. SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS/STUDENTS WITH A DISABILITY/ STUDENTS WITH TEMPORARY DISABILITIES

- A. Upon a request of a parent or guardian, the board must provide necessary transportation, consistent with Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.92, subdivision 1(b)(4), for a resident child with disabilities not yet enrolled in kindergarten for the provision of special instruction and services. Special instruction and services for a child with disabilities not yet enrolled in kindergarten include an individualized education program (IEP) team placement in an early childhood program when that placement is necessary to address the child's level of functioning and needs.
- B. Resident students with disabilities who are transported on a special route for the purpose of attending an approved special education program shall be entitled to special transportation at the expense of the school district or the day training and habilitation program attended by the student. The school district shall determine the type of vehicle used to transport students with a disability on the basis of the disabling condition and applicable laws. This provision shall not be applicable to parents who transport their own child under a contract with the school district.
- C. Resident students with a disability who are boarded and lodged at Minnesota state academies for educational purposes, but who also are enrolled in a public school within the school district, shall be provided transportation, by the school district to and from said board and lodging facilities, at the expense of the school district.
- D. If a resident student with a disability attends a public school located in a contiguous school district and the school district of attendance does not provide special instruction and services, the school district shall provide necessary transportation for the student between the school district boundary and the educational facility where special instruction and services are provided within the school district. The school district may provide necessary transportation of the student between its boundary and the school attended in the

contiguous district, but shall not pay the cost of transportation provided outside the school district boundary.

- E. When a student with a disability or a student with a short-term or temporary disability is temporarily placed for care and treatment in a day program located in another school district and the student continues to live within the school district during the care and treatment, the school district shall provide the transportation, at the expense of the school district, to that student. The school district may establish reasonable restrictions on transportation, except if a Minnesota court or agency orders the child placed at a day care and treatment program and the school district receives a copy of the order, then the school district must provide transportation to and from the program unless the court or agency orders otherwise. Transportation shall only be provided by the school district during regular operating hours of the school district.
- F. When a nonresident student with a disability or a student with a short-term or temporary disability is temporarily placed in a residential program within the school district, including correctional facilities operated on a fee-for-service basis and state institutions, for care and treatment, the school district shall provide the necessary transportation at the expense of the school district. Where a joint powers entity enters into a contract with a privately owned and operated residential facility for the provision of education programs for special education students, the joint powers entity shall provide the necessary transportation.
- G. Each driver and aide assigned to a vehicle transporting students with a disability will be provided with appropriate training for the students in their care, will assist students with their safe ingress and egress from the bus, will ensure the proper use of protective safety devices, and will be provided with access to emergency health care information as required by law.
- H. Any parent of a student with a disability who believes that the transportation services provided for that child are not in compliance with the applicable law may utilize the alternative dispute resolution and due process procedures provided for in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 125A.

VIII. HOMELESS STUDENTS

- A. Homeless students shall be provided with transportation services comparable to other students in the school district.
- B. Upon request by the student's parent, guardian, or homeless education liaison, the school district shall provide transportation for a homeless student as follows:
 - 1. A resident student who becomes homeless and is residing in a public or private shelter location or has other non-shelter living arrangements within the school district shall be provided transportation to and from the student's school of origin and the shelter or other non-shelter location on the same basis as transportation services are provided to other students in the school district.

2. A resident student who becomes homeless and is residing in a public or private shelter location or has other non-shelter living arrangements outside of the school district shall be provided transportation to and from the student's school of origin and the shelter or other non-shelter location on the same basis as transportation services are provided to other students in the school district, unless the school district and the school district in which the student is temporarily placed agree that the school district in which the student is temporarily placed shall provide transportation.
3. If a nonresident student is homeless and is residing in a public or private homeless shelter or has other non-shelter living arrangements within the school district, the school district may provide transportation services between the shelter or non-shelter location and the student's school of origin outside of the school district upon agreement with the school district in which the school of origin is located.
4. A homeless nonresident student enrolled under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.08, subdivision 2a, must be provided transportation from the student's district of residence to and from the school of enrollment.

IX. AVAILABILITY OF SERVICES

Transportation shall be provided on all regularly scheduled school days or make-up days. Transportation will not be provided during the summer school break. Transportation may be provided for summer instructional programs for students with a disability or in conjunction with a learning year program. Transportation between home and school may also be provided, in the discretion of the school district, on staff development days.

X. MANNER OF TRANSPORTATION

The scheduling of routes, establishment of the location of bus stops, manner and method of transportation, control and discipline of school children, the determination of fees, and any other matter relating thereto shall be within the sole discretion, control and management of the school board. The school district may, in its discretion, provide room and board, in lieu of transportation, to a student who may be more economically and conveniently provided for by that means.

XI. RESTRICTIONS

Transportation by the school district is a privilege and not a right for an eligible student. A student's eligibility to ride a school bus may be revoked for a violation of school bus safety or conduct policies, or violation of any other law governing student conduct on a school bus pursuant to the school district's discipline policy. Revocation of a student's bus riding privilege is not an exclusion, expulsion, or suspension under the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act. Revocation procedures for a student who is an individual with a disability under 20 United States Code, section 1415 (Individuals with Disabilities Act), 29 United States Code, section 794 (the Rehabilitation Act), and 42 United States Code, section 12132, (Americans with Disabilities Act) are governed by these provisions.

XII. FEES

- A. In its discretion, the school district may charge fees for transportation of students to and from extracurricular activities conducted at locations other than school, where attendance is optional.
- B. The school district may charge fees for transportation of students to and from school when authorized by law. If the school district charges fees for transportation of students to and from school, guidelines shall be established for that transportation to ensure that no student is denied transportation solely because of inability to pay. The school district also may waive fees for transportation if the student's parent is serving in, or within the past year has served in, active military service as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 190.05.
- C. The school district may charge reasonable fees for transportation of students to and from post-secondary institutions for students enrolled under the post-secondary enrollment options program. Families who qualify for mileage reimbursement may use their state mileage reimbursement to pay this fee
- D. Where, in its discretion, the school district provides transportation to and from an instructional community-based employment station that is part of an approved occupational experience vocational program, the school district may require the payment of reasonable fees for transportation from students who receive remuneration for their participation in these programs.

Legal References:

Minn. Stat. § 120A.22 (Compulsory Instruction)
 Minn. Stat. §§ 121A.40-121A.56 (Pupil Fair Dismissal Act)
 Minn. Stat. § 121A.59 (Bus Transportation a Privilege Not a Right)
 Minn. Stat. § 123B.36 (Authorized Fees)
 Minn. Stat. § 123B.41 (Definitions)
 Minn. Stat. § 123B.44 (Provision of Pupil Support Services)
 Minn. Stat. § 123B.84 (Policy)
 Minn. Stat. § 123B.88 (Independent School Districts; Transportation)
 Minn. Stat. § 123B.92 (Transportation Aid Entitlement)
 Minn. Stat. § 124D.03 (Enrollment Options Program)
 Minn. Stat. § 124D.04 (Options for Enrolling in Adjoining States)
 Minn. Stat. § 124D.041 (Reciprocity with Adjoining States)
 Minn. Stat. § 124D.08 (School Board's Approval to Enroll in Nonresident District; Exceptions)
 Minn. Stat. Ch. 125A (Special Education and Special Programs)
 Minn. Stat. § 125A.02 (Child with a Disability Defined)
 Minn. Stat. § 125A.12 (Attendance in Another District)
 Minn. Stat. § 125A.15 (Placement in Another District; Responsibility)
 Minn. Stat. § 125A.51 (Placement of Children Without Disabilities; Education and Transportation)
 Minn. Stat. § 125A.515 (Placement of Students; Approval of Education Program)
 Minn. Stat. § 125A.65 (Attendance at Academies for the Deaf and Blind)
 Minn. Stat. § 126C.01 (Definitions)

Minn. Stat. § 127A.47 (Payments to Resident and Nonresident Districts)
Minn. Stat. § 190.05 (Definitions)
Minn. Rules Part 7470.1600 (Transporting Pupils with Disability)
Minn. Rules Part 7470.1700 (Drivers and Aides for Pupils with Disability)
20 U.S.C. § 1415 (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act)
29 U.S.C. § 794 (Rehabilitation Act of 1973, § 504)
42 U.S.C. § 2000d (Prohibition against Exclusion from Participation in, Denial of Benefits of, and Discrimination under Federally Assisted Programs on Ground of Race, Color, or National Origin)
42 U.S.C. § 11431 *et seq.* (McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act of 2001)
42 U.S.C. § 12132 *et seq.* (Americans with Disabilities Act)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 708 (Transportation of Nonpublic School Students)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 709 (Student Transportation Safety Policy)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 710 (Extracurricular Transportation)

Adopted: 4/9/96

Revised: 8/11/25, 9/9/24

707 TRANSPORTATION OF PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide for the transportation of students consistent with the requirements of law.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

- A. The policy of the school district is to provide for the transportation of students in a manner which will protect their health, welfare, and safety.
- B. The school district recognizes that transportation is an essential part of the school district services to students and parents but further recognizes that transportation by school bus is a privilege and not a right for an eligible student.

III. DEFINITIONS

- A. “Child with a disability” includes every child identified under federal and state special education law as deaf or hard of hearing, blind or visually impaired, deafblind, or having a speech or language impairment, a physical impairment, other health disability, developmental cognitive disability, an emotional or behavioral disorder, specific learning disability, autism spectrum disorder, traumatic brain injury, or severe multiple impairments, and who needs special education and related services, as determined by the rules of the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Education (“Commissioner”). A licensed physician, an advanced practice nurse, a physician assistant, or a licensed psychologist is qualified to make a diagnosis and determination of attention deficit disorder or attention deficit hyperactivity disorder for purposes of identifying a child with a disability. In addition, every child under age three, and at the school district’s discretion from age three to seven, who needs special instruction and services, as determined by the rules of the Commissioner, because the child has a substantial delay or has an identifiable physical or mental condition known to hinder normal development is a child with a disability. A child with a short-term or temporary physical or emotional illness or disability, as determined by the rules of the Commissioner, is not a child with a disability.
- B. “Home” is the legal residence of the child. In the discretion of the school district, “home” also may be defined as a licensed day care facility, school day care facility, a respite care facility, the residence of a relative, or the residence of a person chosen by the student’s parent or guardian as the home of a student for part or all of the day, if requested by the student’s parent or guardian, or an afterschool program for children operated by a political subdivision of the state, if the facility, residence, or program is within the attendance area of the school the student attends. Unless otherwise specifically provided by law, a homeless student is a resident of the school district if enrolled in the school district.

- C. “Homeless student” means a student, including a migratory student, who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and includes: students who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; are abandoned in hospitals; are awaiting foster care placement; have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings; are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings, and migratory children who qualify as homeless because they are living in any of the preceding listed circumstances.
- D. “Nonpublic school” means any school, church, or religious organization, or home school wherein a resident of Minnesota may legally fulfill the compulsory instruction requirements of Minnesota Statutes, section 120A.22, which is located within the state, and which meets the requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.
- E. “Nonresident student” is a student who attends school in the school district and resides in another district, defined as the “nonresident district.” In those instances when the divorced or legally separated parents or parents residing separately share joint physical custody of a student and the parents reside in different school districts, the student shall be a resident of the school district designated by the student’s parents. When parental rights have been terminated by court order, the legal residence of a student placed in a residential or foster facility for care and treatment is the district in which the student resides.
- F. “Pupil support services” are health, counseling, and guidance services provided by the public school in the same district where the nonpublic school is located.
- G. “School of origin,” for purposes of determining the residence of a homeless student, is the school that the student attended when permanently housed or the school in which the student was last enrolled.
- H. “Shared time basis” is a program where students attend public school for part of the regular school day and who otherwise fulfill the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, section 120A.22 by attendance at a nonpublic school.
- I. “Student” means any student or child attending or required to attend any school as provided in Minnesota law and who is a resident or child of a resident of Minnesota.

IV. ELIGIBILITY

- A. Upon the request of a parent or guardian, the school district shall provide transportation to and from school, at the expense of the school district, for all resident students who reside two miles or more from the school, except for those students whose transportation privileges have been revoked or have been voluntarily surrendered by the student’s parent or guardian.
- B. The school district may, in its discretion, also provide transportation to any student to and from school, at the expense of the school district, for any other purpose deemed appropriate

by the school board.

- C. In the discretion of the school district, transportation along regular school bus routes may also be provided, where space is available, to any person where such use of a bus does not interfere with the transportation of students. The cost of providing such transportation must be paid by those individuals using these services or some third-party payor. Bus transportation also may be provided along school bus routes when space is available for participants in early childhood family education programs and school readiness programs if these services do not result in an increase in the school district's expenditures for transportation
- D. For purposes of stabilizing enrollment and reducing mobility, the school district may, in its discretion, establish a full-service school zone and may provide transportation for students attending a school in that full-service school zone. A full-service school zone may be established for a school that is located in an area with higher than average crime or other social and economic challenges and that provides education, health or human services, or other parental support in collaboration with a city, county, state, or nonprofit agency.

V. TRANSPORTATION OF NONRESIDENT STUDENTS

- A. If requested by the parent of a nonresident student, the school district shall provide transportation to a nonresident student within its borders at the same level of service that is provided to resident students.
- B. If the school district decides to transport a nonresident student within the student's resident district, the school district will notify the student's resident district of its decision, in writing, prior to providing transportation.
- C. When divorced or legally separated parents or parents residing separately reside in different school districts and share physical custody of a student, the parents shall be responsible for the transportation of the student to the border of the school district during those times when the student is residing with the parent in the nonresident school district.
- D. The school district may provide transportation to allow a student who attends a high-need English language learner program and who resides within the transportation attendance area of the program to continue in the program until the student completes the highest grade level offered by the program.

VI. TRANSPORTATION OF RESIDENT STUDENTS TO NONDISTRICT SCHOOLS

- A. In general, the school district shall not provide transportation between a resident student's home and the border of a nonresident district where the student attends school under the Enrollment Options Program. A parent may be reimbursed by the nonresident district for the costs of transportation from the pupil's residence to the border of the nonresident district if the student is from a family whose income is at or below the poverty level, as determined by the federal government. The reimbursement may not exceed the pupil's actual cost of transportation or 15 cents per mile traveled, whichever is less. Reimbursement may not be paid for more than 250 miles per week (Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.03, subdivision 8).

- B. Resident students shall be eligible for transportation to and from a nonresident school district at the expense of the school district, if in the discretion of the school district, inadequate room, distance to school, unfavorable road conditions, or other facts or conditions make attendance in the resident student's own district unreasonably difficult or impracticable. The school district, in its discretion, may also provide for transportation of resident students to schools in other districts for grades and departments not maintained in the district, including high school, for the whole or a part of the year or for resident students who attend school in a building rented or leased by the school district in an adjacent district.
- C. In general, the school district is not responsible for transportation for any resident student attending school in an adjoining state under a reciprocity agreement but may provide such transportation services at its discretion.

VII. SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS/STUDENTS WITH A DISABILITY/ STUDENTS WITH TEMPORARY DISABILITIES

- A. Upon a request of a parent or guardian, the board must provide necessary transportation, consistent with Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.92, subdivision 1(b)(4), for a resident child with a disability not yet enrolled in kindergarten for the provision of special instruction and services. Special instruction and services for a child with a disability not yet enrolled in kindergarten include an individualized education program (IEP) team placement in an early childhood program when that placement is necessary to address the child's level of functioning and needs.
- B. Resident students with a disability ~~whose disabling conditions are such that the student cannot be safely transported on the regular school bus and/or school bus route and/or when the student is who are~~ transported on a special route for the purpose of attending an approved special education program shall be entitled to special transportation at the expense of the school district or the day training and habilitation program attended by the student. The school district shall determine the type of vehicle used to transport students with a disability on the basis of the disabling condition and applicable laws. This provision shall not be applicable to parents who transport their own child under a contract with the school district.
- C. Resident students with a disability who are boarded and lodged at Minnesota state academies for educational purposes, but who also are enrolled in a public school within the school district, shall be provided transportation, by the school district to and from said board and lodging facilities, at the expense of the school district.
- D. If a resident student with a disability attends a public school located in a contiguous school district and the school district of attendance does not provide special instruction and services, the school district shall provide necessary transportation for the student between the school district boundary and the educational facility where special instruction and services are provided within the school district. The school district may provide necessary transportation of the student between its boundary and the school attended in the contiguous district, but shall not pay the cost of transportation provided outside the school district boundary.

- E. When a student with a disability or a student with a short-term or temporary disability is temporarily placed for care and treatment in a day program located in another school district and the student continues to live within the school district during the care and treatment, the school district shall provide the transportation, at the expense of the school district, to that student. The school district may establish reasonable restrictions on transportation, except if a Minnesota court or agency orders the child placed at a day care and treatment program and the school district receives a copy of the order, then the school district must provide transportation to and from the program unless the court or agency orders otherwise. Transportation shall only be provided by the school district during regular operating hours of the school district.
- F. When a nonresident student with a disability or a student with a short-term or temporary disability is temporarily placed in a residential program within the school district, including correctional facilities operated on a fee-for-service basis and state institutions, for care and treatment, the school district shall provide the necessary transportation at the expense of the school district. Where a joint powers entity enters into a contract with a privately owned and operated residential facility for the provision of education programs for special education students, the joint powers entity shall provide the necessary transportation.
- G. Each driver and aide assigned to a vehicle transporting students with a disability will be provided with appropriate training for the students in their care, will assist students with their safe ingress and egress from the bus, will ensure the proper use of protective safety devices, and will be provided with access to emergency health care information as required by law.
- H. Any parent of a student with a disability who believes that the transportation services provided for that child are not in compliance with the applicable law may utilize the alternative dispute resolution and due process procedures provided for in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 125A.

VIII. HOMELESS STUDENTS

- A. Homeless students shall be provided with transportation services comparable to other students in the school district.
- B. Upon request by the student's parent, guardian, or homeless education liaison, the school district shall provide transportation for a homeless student as follows:
 1. A resident student who becomes homeless and is residing in a public or private shelter location or has other non-shelter living arrangements within the school district shall be provided transportation to and from the student's school of origin and the shelter or other non-shelter location on the same basis as transportation services are provided to other students in the school district.
 2. A resident student who becomes homeless and is residing in a public or private shelter location or has other non-shelter living arrangements outside of the school district shall be provided transportation to and from the student's school of origin and the shelter or other non-shelter location on the same basis as transportation

services are provided to other students in the school district, unless the school district and the school district in which the student is temporarily placed agree that the school district in which the student is temporarily placed shall provide transportation.

3. If a nonresident student is homeless and is residing in a public or private homeless shelter or has other non-shelter living arrangements within the school district, the school district may provide transportation services between the shelter or non-shelter location and the student's school of origin outside of the school district upon agreement with the school district in which the school of origin is located.
4. A homeless nonresident student enrolled under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.08, subdivision 2a, must be provided transportation from the student's district of residence to and from the school of enrollment.

IX. AVAILABILITY OF SERVICES

Transportation shall be provided on all regularly scheduled school days or make-up days. Transportation will not be provided during the summer school break. Transportation may be provided for summer instructional programs for students with a disability or in conjunction with a learning year program. Transportation between home and school may also be provided, in the discretion of the school district, on staff development days.

X. MANNER OF TRANSPORTATION

The scheduling of routes, establishment of the location of bus stops, manner and method of transportation, control and discipline of school children, the determination of fees, and any other matter relating thereto shall be within the sole discretion, control and management of the school board. The school district may, in its discretion, provide room and board, in lieu of transportation, to a student who may be more economically and conveniently provided for by that means.

XI. RESTRICTIONS

Transportation by the school district is a privilege and not a right for an eligible student. A student's eligibility to ride a school bus may be revoked for a violation of school bus safety or conduct policies, or violation of any other law governing student conduct on a school bus pursuant to the school district's discipline policy. Revocation of a student's bus riding privilege is not an exclusion, expulsion, or suspension under the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act. Revocation procedures for a student who is an individual with a disability under 20 United States Code, section 1415 (Individuals with Disabilities Act), 29 United States Code, section 794 (the Rehabilitation Act), and 42 United States Code, section 12132, (Americans with Disabilities Act) are governed by these provisions.

XII. FEES

- A. In its discretion, the school district may charge fees for transportation of students to and from extracurricular activities conducted at locations other than school, where attendance is optional.

- B. The school district may charge fees for transportation of students to and from school when authorized by law. If the school district charges fees for transportation of students to and from school, guidelines shall be established for that transportation to ensure that no student is denied transportation solely because of inability to pay. The school district also may waive fees for transportation if the student’s parent is serving in, or within the past year has served in, active military service as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 190.05.

- C. The school district may charge reasonable fees for transportation of students to and from post-secondary institutions for students enrolled under the post-secondary enrollment options program. Families who qualify for mileage reimbursement may use their state mileage reimbursement to pay this fee

- D. Where, in its discretion, the school district provides transportation to and from an instructional community-based employment station that is part of an approved occupational experience vocational program, the school district may require the payment of reasonable fees for transportation from students who receive remuneration for their participation in these programs.

Legal References:

- Minn. Stat. § 120A.22 (Compulsory Instruction)
- Minn. Stat. §§ 121A.40-121A.56 (Pupil Fair Dismissal Act)
- Minn. Stat. § 121A.59 (Bus Transportation a Privilege Not a Right)
- Minn. Stat. § 123B.36 (Authorized Fees)
- Minn. Stat. § 123B.41 (Definitions)
- Minn. Stat. § 123B.44 (Provision of Pupil Support Services)
- Minn. Stat. § 123B.84 (Policy)
- Minn. Stat. § 123B.88 (Independent School Districts; Transportation)
- Minn. Stat. § 123B.92 (Transportation Aid Entitlement)
- Minn. Stat. § 124D.03 (Enrollment Options Program)
- Minn. Stat. § 124D.04 (Options for Enrolling in Adjoining States)
- Minn. Stat. § 124D.041 (Reciprocity with Adjoining States)
- Minn. Stat. § 124D.08 (School Board’s Approval to Enroll in Nonresident District; Exceptions)
- Minn. Stat. Ch. 125A (Special Education and Special Programs)
- Minn. Stat. § 125A.02 (Children with a Disability Defined)
- Minn. Stat. § 125A.12 (Attendance in Another District)
- Minn. Stat. § 125A.15 (Placement in Another District; Responsibility)
- Minn. Stat. § 125A.51 (Placement of Children Without Disabilities; Education and Transportation)
- Minn. Stat. § 125A.515 (Placement of Students; Approval of Education Program)
- Minn. Stat. § 125A.65 (Attendance at Academies for the Deaf and Blind)
- Minn. Stat. § 126C.01 (Definitions)
- Minn. Stat. § 127A.47 (Payments to Resident and Nonresident Districts)
- Minn. Stat. § 190.05 (Definitions)
- Minn. Rules Part 7470.1600 (Transporting Pupils with Disability)
- Minn. Rules Part 7470.1700 (Drivers and Aides for Pupils with Disability)
- 20 U.S.C. § 1415 (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act)
- 29 U.S.C. § 794 (Rehabilitation Act of 1973, § 504)
- 42 U.S.C. § 2000d (Prohibition against Exclusion from Participation in,

CLOQUET PUBLIC SCHOOLS - - DISTRICT POLICY #707

Denial of Benefits of, and Discrimination under Federally Assisted Programs on Ground of Race, Color, or National Origin)

42 U.S.C. § 11431 *et seq.* (McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act of 2001)

42 U.S.C. § 12132 *et seq.* (Americans with Disabilities Act)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 708 (Transportation of Nonpublic School Students)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 709 (Student Transportation Safety Policy)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 710 (Extracurricular Transportation)

Adopted: 1/27/20, 10/11/94

Revised: 8/11/25, 9/9/24, 8/14/23, 6/12/23, 1/27/20, 11/25/19

709 STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SAFETY POLICY

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide safe transportation for students and to educate students on safety issues and the responsibilities of school bus ridership.

II. PLAN FOR STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SAFETY TRAINING

A. School Bus Safety Week

The school district may designate a school bus safety week. The National School Bus Safety Week is the third week in October.

B. Student School Bus Safety Training

1. The school district shall provide students enrolled in grades kindergarten (K) through 10 with age-appropriate school bus safety training of the following concepts:
 - a. transportation by school bus is a privilege, not a right;
 - b. school district policies for student conduct and school bus safety;
 - c. appropriate conduct while on the bus;
 - d. the danger zones surrounding a school bus;
 - e. procedures for safely boarding and leaving a school bus;
 - f. procedures for safe vehicle lane crossing; and
 - g. school bus evacuation and other emergency procedures.
2. All students in grades K through 6 who are transported by school bus and are enrolled during the first or second week of school must receive the school bus safety training by the end of the third week of school. All students in grades 7 through 10 who are transported by school bus and are enrolled during the first or second week of school must receive the school bus safety training or receive bus safety instruction materials by the end of the sixth week of school, if they have not previously received school bus training. Students in grades K through 10 who enroll in a school after the second week of school,

are transported by school bus, and have not received training in their previous school districts shall undergo school bus safety training or receive bus safety instructional materials within 4 weeks of their first day of attendance.

3. The school district and a nonpublic school with students transported by school bus at public expense must provide students enrolled in grades K through 3 school bus safety training twice during the school year.
4. Students taking driver's training instructional classes must receive training in the laws and proper procedures for operating a motor vehicle in the vicinity of a school bus as required by Minnesota Statutes section 169.446, subdivision 2.
5. The school district and a nonpublic school with students transported by school bus at public expense must conduct a school bus evacuation drill at least once during the school year.
6. The school district will make reasonable accommodations in training for students known to speak English as a second language and students with disabilities.
7. The school district may provide kindergarten students with school bus safety training before the first day of school.
8. The school district shall adopt and make available for public review a curriculum for transportation safety education.
9. Nonpublic school students transported by the school district will receive school bus safety training by their nonpublic school. The nonpublic schools may use the school district's school transportation safety education curriculum. Upon request by the school district superintendent, the nonpublic school must certify to the school district's school transportation safety director that all students enrolled in grades K through 10 have received the appropriate training.

C. Active Transportation Safety Training

1. Training required
 - a. The school district must provide public school pupils enrolled in kindergarten through grade 3 with age-appropriate active transportation safety training. At a minimum, the training must include pedestrian safety, including crossing roads.
 - b. The school district must provide pupils enrolled in grades 4 through 8 with age-appropriate active transportation safety training. At a minimum, the training must include:

- (1) pedestrian safety, including crossing roads safely using the searching left, right, left for vehicles in traffic technique; and
 - (2) bicycle safety, including relevant traffic laws, use and proper fit of protective headgear, bicycle parts and safety features, and safe biking techniques.
 - (3) electric-assisted bicycle safety, including that a person under the age of 15 is not allowed to operate an electric-assisted bicycle.
2. Instruction
- a. The school district may provide active transportation safety training through distance learning.
 - b. The district and a nonpublic school must make reasonable accommodations for the active transportation safety training of pupils known to speak English as a second language and pupils with disabilities.

III. CONDUCT ON SCHOOL BUSES AND CONSEQUENCES FOR MISBEHAVIOR

- A. Riding the school bus is a privilege, not a right. The school district's general student behavior rules are in effect for all students on school buses, including nonpublic and charter school students.
 - B. Consequences for school bus/bus stop misconduct will be imposed by the school district under adopted administrative discipline procedures. In addition, all school bus/bus stop misconduct will be reported to the school district's transportation safety director. Serious misconduct may be reported to local law enforcement.
1. School Bus and Bus Stop Rules. The school district school bus safety rules are to be posted on every bus. If these rules are broken, the school district's discipline procedures are to be followed. In most circumstances, consequences are progressive and may include suspension of bus privileges. It is the school bus driver's responsibility to report unacceptable behavior to the school district's Transportation Office/School Office.
 2. Rules at the Bus Stop
 - a. Get to your bus stop 5 minutes before your scheduled pick up time. The school bus driver will not wait for late students.
 - b. Respect the property of others while waiting at your bus stop.
 - c. Keep your arms, legs, and belongings to yourself.
 - d. Use appropriate language.

- e. Stay away from the street, road, or highway when waiting for the bus.
- f. Wait until the bus stops before approaching the bus.
- g. After getting off the bus, move away from the bus.
- h. If you must cross the street, always cross in front of the bus where the driver can see you. Wait for the driver to signal to you before crossing the street.
- i. No fighting, harassment, intimidation, or horseplay.
- j. No use of alcohol, tobacco, or drugs.

3. Rules on the Bus

- a. Immediately follow the directions of the driver.
- b. Sit in your seat facing forward.
- c. Talk quietly and use appropriate language.
- d. Keep all parts of your body inside the bus.
- e. Keep your arms, legs, and belongings to yourself.
- f. No fighting, harassment, intimidation, or horseplay.
- g. Do not throw any object.
- h. No eating, drinking, or use of alcohol, tobacco, or drugs.
- i. Do not bring any weapons or dangerous objects on the school bus.
- j. Do not damage the bus.

4. Consequences

- a. Consequences for school bus/bus stop misconduct will apply to all regular and late routes. Decisions regarding a student's ability to ride the bus in connection with cocurricular and extracurricular events (for example, field trips or competitions) will be in the sole discretion of the school district. Parents or guardians will be notified of any suspension of bus privileges.

(1) Elementary (K-6)

1st offense – warning

2nd offense – 3 school-day suspension from riding the bus

3rd offense – 5 school-day suspension from riding the bus

4th offense – 10 school-day suspension from riding the bus/meeting with parent

Further offenses – individually considered. Students may be suspended for longer periods of time, including the remainder of the school year.

(2) Secondary (7-12)

1st offense – warning

2nd offense – 5 school-day suspension from riding the bus

3rd offense – 10 school-day suspension from riding the bus

4th offense – 20 school-day suspension from riding the bus/meeting with parent

5th offense – suspended from riding the bus for the remainder of the school year

Note: When any student goes 60 transportation days without a report, the student's consequences may start over at the first offense.

(3) Other Discipline

Based on the severity of a student's conduct, more serious consequences may be imposed at any time. Depending on the

nature of the offense, consequences such as suspension or expulsion from school also may result from school bus/bus stop misconduct.

(4) Records

Records of school bus/bus stop misconduct will be forwarded to the individual school building and will be retained in the same manner as other student discipline records. Reports of student misbehavior on a school bus or in a bus-loading or unloading area that are reasonably believed to cause an immediate and substantial danger to the student or surrounding persons or property shall be provided by the school district to local law enforcement and the Department of Public Safety in accordance with state and federal law.

(5) Vandalism/Bus Damage

Students damaging school buses will be responsible for the damages. Failure to pay such damages (or make arrangements to pay) within 2 weeks may result in the loss of bus privileges until damages are paid.

(6) Notice

School bus and bus stop rules and consequences for violations of these rules will be reviewed with students annually and copies of these rules will be made available to students. School bus rules are to be posted on each school bus.

(7) Criminal Conduct

In cases involving criminal conduct (for example, assault, weapons, drug possession, or vandalism), the appropriate school district personnel and local law enforcement officials will be informed.

IV. PARENT AND GUARDIAN INVOLVEMENT**A. Parent and Guardian Notification**

The school district school bus and bus stop rules will be provided to each family. Parents and guardians are asked to review the rules with their children.

B. Parents/Guardians Responsibilities for Transportation Safety

Parents/Guardians are responsible to:

1. Become familiar with school district rules, policies, regulations, and the principles of school bus safety, and thoroughly review them with their children;
2. Support safe riding and walking practices, and recognize that students are responsible for their actions;
3. Communicate safety concerns to their school administrators;
4. Monitor bus stops, if possible;
5. Have their children to the bus stop 5 minutes before the bus arrives;
6. Have their children properly dressed for the weather; and
7. Have a plan in case the bus is late.

V. SCHOOL BUS DRIVER DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. School bus drivers shall have a valid Class A, B, or C Minnesota driver's license with a school bus endorsement. A person possessing a valid driver's license, without a school bus endorsement, may drive a type III vehicle set forth in Sections VII.B. and VII.C., below. Drivers with a valid Class D driver's license, without a school bus endorsement, may operate a "type A-I" school bus as set forth in Section VII.D., below.
- B. The school district shall conduct mandatory drug and alcohol testing of all school district bus drivers and bus driver applicants in accordance with state and federal law and school district policy.
- C. A school bus driver, with the exception of a driver operating a type A-I school bus or type III vehicle, who has a commercial driver's license and who is convicted of a criminal offense, a serious traffic violation, or of violating any other state or local law relating to motor vehicle traffic control, other than a parking violation, in any type of motor vehicle in a state or jurisdiction other than Minnesota, shall notify the Minnesota Division of Driver and Vehicle Services (Division) of the conviction within 30 days of the conviction. For purposes of this paragraph, a "serious traffic violation" means a conviction of any of the following offenses:
1. excessive speeding, involving any single offense for any speed of 15 miles per hour or more above the posted speed limit;
 2. reckless driving;
 3. improper or erratic traffic lane changes;
 4. following the vehicle ahead too closely;
 5. a violation of state or local law, relating to motor vehicle traffic control, arising in connection with a fatal accident;
 6. driving a commercial vehicle without obtaining a commercial driver's license or without having a commercial driver's license in the driver's possession;
 7. driving a commercial vehicle without the proper class of commercial driver's license and/or endorsements for the specific vehicle group being operated or for the passengers or type of cargo being transported;
 8. a violation of a state or local law prohibiting texting while driving a commercial vehicle; and
 9. a violation of a state or local law prohibiting the use of a hand-held mobile telephone while driving a commercial vehicle.
- D. A school bus driver, with the exception of a driver operating a type A-I school bus or type III vehicle, who has a commercial driver's license and who is convicted of violating, in any type of motor vehicle, a Minnesota state or local law relating to motor vehicle traffic control, other than a parking violation, shall notify the person's employer of the conviction within 30 days of conviction. The notification shall be in writing and shall contain all the information set forth in Attachment A accompanying this policy.

- E. A school bus driver, with the exception of a driver operating a type A-I school bus or type III vehicle, who has a Minnesota commercial driver's license suspended, revoked, or cancelled by the state of Minnesota or any other state or jurisdiction and who loses the right to operate a commercial vehicle for any period or who is disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle for any period shall notify the person's employer of the suspension, revocation, cancellation, lost privilege, or disqualification. Such notification shall be made before the end of the business day following the day the employee received notice of the suspension, revocation, cancellation, lost privilege, or disqualification. The notification shall be in writing and shall contain all the information set forth in Attachment B accompanying this policy.
- F. A person who operates a type III vehicle and who sustains a conviction as described in Section VII.C.1.g. (i.e., driving while impaired offenses), VII.C.1.h. (i.e., felony, controlled substance, criminal sexual conduct offenses, or offenses for surreptitious observation, indecent exposure, use of minor in a sexual performance, or possession of child pornography or display of pornography to a minor), or VII.C.1.i. (multiple moving violations) while employed by the entity that owns, leases, or contracts for the school bus, shall report the conviction to the person's employer within 10 days of the date of the conviction. The notification shall be in writing and shall contain all the information set forth in Attachment C accompanying this policy.

VI. SCHOOL BUS DRIVER TRAINING

A. Training

1. All new school bus drivers shall be provided with pre-service training, including in-vehicle (actual driving) instruction, before transporting students and shall meet the competency testing specified in the Minnesota Department of Public Safety Model School Bus Driver Training Manual. All school bus drivers shall receive in-service training annually. For purposes of this section, "annually" means at least once every 380 days from the initial or previous evaluation and at least once every 380 days from the initial or previous license verification. The school district shall retain on file an annual individual school bus driver "evaluation certification" form for each school district driver as contained in the Model School Bus Driver Training Manual.
2. All bus drivers operating a type III vehicle will be provided with annual training and certification as set forth in Section VII.C.1.b., below, by either the school district or the entity from whom such services are contracted by the school district.

B. Evaluation

School bus drivers with a Class D license will be evaluated annually and all other bus drivers will be assessed periodically for the following competencies:

1. Safely operate the type of school bus the driver will be driving;
2. Understand student behavior, including issues relating to students with disabilities;
3. Ensure orderly conduct of students on the bus and handling incidents of misconduct appropriately;
4. Know and understand relevant laws, rules of the road, and local school bus safety policies;
5. Handle emergency situations; and
6. Safely load and unload students.

The evaluation must include completion of an individual “school bus driver evaluation form” (road test evaluation) as contained in the Model School Bus Driver Training Manual.

VII. OPERATING RULES AND PROCEDURES

A. General Operating Rules

1. School buses shall be operated in accordance with state traffic and school bus safety laws and the procedures contained in the Minnesota Department of Public Safety Model School Bus Driver Training Manual.
2. Only students assigned to the school bus by the school district shall be transported. The number of students or other authorized passengers transported in a school bus shall not be more than the legal capacity for the bus. No person shall be allowed to stand when the bus is in motion.
3. The parent/guardian may designate, pursuant to school district policy, a day care facility, respite care facility, the residence of a relative, or the residence of a person chosen by the parent or guardian as the address of the student for transportation purposes. The address must be in the attendance area of the assigned school and meet all other eligibility requirements.
4. Bus drivers must minimize, to the extent practical, the idling of school bus engines and exposure of children to diesel exhaust fumes.
5. To the extent practical, the school district will designate school bus loading/unloading zones at a sufficient distance from school air-intake systems to avoid diesel fumes from being drawn into the systems.

6. A bus driver may not operate a school bus while communicating over, or otherwise operating, a cellular phone for personal reasons, whether hand-held or hands free, when the vehicle is in motion or a part of traffic. For purposes of this paragraph, “school bus” has the meaning given in Minnesota Statutes section 169.011, subdivision 71. In addition, “school bus” also includes type III vehicles when driven by employees or agents of the school district. “Cellular phone” means a cellular, analog, wireless, or digital telephone capable of sending or receiving telephone or text messages without an access line for service.

B. Type III Vehicles

1. Type III vehicles are restricted to passenger cars, station wagons, vans, and buses having a maximum manufacturer’s rated seating capacity of 10 or fewer people including the driver and a gross vehicle weight rating of 10,000 pounds or less. A van or bus converted to a seating capacity of 10 or fewer and placed in service on or after August 1, 1999, must have been originally manufactured to comply with the passenger safety standards.
2. Type III vehicles must be painted a color other than national school bus yellow.
3. Type III vehicles shall be state inspected in accordance with legal requirements.
4. Vehicles model year 2007 or older must not be used as type III vehicles to transport school children, except those vehicles that are manufactured to meet the structural requirements of federal motor vehicle safety standard 222, Code of Federal Regulations, title 49, part 571.
5. If a type III vehicle is school district owned, the school district name will be clearly marked on the side of the vehicle. The type III vehicle must not have the words “school bus” in any location on the exterior of the vehicle or in any interior location visible to a motorist.
6. A “type III vehicle” must not be outwardly equipped and identified as a type A, B, C, or D bus.
7. Eight-lamp warning systems and stop arms must not be installed or used on type III vehicles.
8. Type III vehicles must be equipped with mirrors as required by law.
9. Any type III vehicle may not stop traffic and may not load or unload before making a complete stop and disengaging gears by shifting into neutral or park. Any type III vehicle used to transport students must not load or unload so that a student has to cross the road, except where not possible or impractical, then the driver or assistant must escort a student across the road. If the driver escorts the student across the road, then the motor must be stopped, the ignition key removed, the brakes set, and the vehicle otherwise rendered immobile.

10. Any type III vehicle used to transport students must carry emergency equipment including:
 - a. Fire extinguisher. A minimum of one 10BC rated dry chemical type fire extinguisher is required. The extinguisher must be mounted in a bracket, and must be located in the driver's compartment and be readily accessible to the driver and passengers. A pressure indicator is required and must be easily read without removing the extinguisher from its mounted position.
 - b. First aid kit and body fluids cleanup kit. A minimum of a 10-unit first aid kit and a body fluids cleanup kit is required. They must be contained in removable, moisture- and dust-proof containers mounted in an accessible place within the driver's compartment and must be marked to indicate their identity and location.
 - c. Passenger cars and station wagons may carry a fire extinguisher, a first aid kit, and warning triangles in the trunk or trunk area of the vehicle if a label in the driver and front passenger area clearly indicates the location of these items.

11. Students will not be regularly transported in private vehicles that are not state inspected as type III vehicles. Only emergency, unscheduled transportation may be conducted in vehicles with a seating capacity of 10 or fewer without meeting the requirements for a type III vehicle. Also, parents may use a private vehicle to transport their own children under a contract with the district. The school district has no system of inspection for private vehicles.

12. All drivers of type III vehicles will be licensed drivers and will be familiar with the use of required emergency equipment. The school district will not knowingly allow a person to operate a type III vehicle if the person has been convicted of an offense that disqualifies the person from operating a school bus.

13. Type III vehicles will be equipped with child passenger restraints, and child passenger restraints will be utilized to the extent required by law.

C. Type III Vehicle Driven by Employees with a Driver's License Without a School Bus Endorsement

1. The holder of a Class A, B, C, or D driver's license, without a school bus endorsement, may operate a type III vehicle, described above, under the following conditions:
 - a. The operator is an employee of the entity that owns, leases, or contracts for the school bus, which may include the school district.

- b. The operator's employer, which may include the school district, has adopted and implemented a policy that provides for annual training and certification of the operator in:
- (1) safe operation of a type III vehicle;
 - (2) understanding student behavior, including issues relating to students with disabilities;
 - (3) encouraging orderly conduct of students on the bus and handling incidents of misconduct appropriately;
 - (4) knowing and understanding relevant laws, rules of the road, and local school bus safety policies;
 - (5) handling emergency situations;
 - (6) proper use of seat belts and child safety restraints;
 - (7) performance of pretrip vehicle inspections;
 - (8) safe loading and unloading of students, including, but not limited to:
 - (a) utilizing a safe location for loading and unloading students at the curb, on the nontraffic side of the roadway, or at off-street loading areas, driveways, yards, and other areas to enable the student to avoid hazardous conditions;
 - (b) refraining from loading and unloading students in a vehicular traffic lane, on the shoulder, in a designated turn lane, or a lane adjacent to a designated turn lane;
 - (c) avoiding a loading or unloading location that would require a student to cross a road, or ensuring that the driver or an aide personally escort the student across the road if it is not reasonably feasible to avoid such a location;
 - (d) placing the type III vehicle in "park" during loading and unloading;
 - (e) escorting a student across the road under clause (c) only after the motor is stopped, the ignition key is removed, the brakes are set, and the vehicle is otherwise rendered immobile; and

- (9) compliance with paragraph V.F. concerning reporting convictions to the employer within 10 days of the date of conviction.
- c. A background check or background investigation of the operator has been conducted that meets the requirements under Minnesota Statutes section 122A.18, subdivision 8, or Minnesota Statutes section 123B.03 for school district employees; Minnesota Statutes section 144.057 or Minnesota Statutes chapter 245C for day care employees; or Minnesota Statutes section 171.321, subdivision 3, for all other persons operating a type III vehicle under this section.
- d. Operators shall submit to a physical examination as required by Minnesota Statutes section 171.321, subdivision 2.
- e. The operator's employer requires preemployment drug testing of applicants for operator positions. Current operators must comply with the employer's policy under Minnesota Statutes section 181.951, subdivisions 2, 4, and 5. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the operator's employer may use a breathalyzer or similar device to fulfill random alcohol testing requirements.
- f. The operator's driver's license is verified annually by the entity that owns, leases, or contracts for the type III vehicle as required by Minnesota Statutes section 171.321, subdivision 5.
- g. A person who sustains a conviction, as defined under Minnesota Statutes 609.02, of violating Minnesota Statutes section 169A.25, 169A.26, 169A.27 (driving while impaired offenses), or 169A.31 (alcohol-related school bus driver offenses), or whose driver's license is revoked under Minnesota Statutes sections 169A.50 to 169A.53 of the implied consent law, or who is convicted of violating or whose driver's license is revoked under a similar statute or ordinance of another state, is precluded from operating a type III vehicle for 5 years from the date of conviction.
- h. A person who has ever been convicted of a disqualifying offense as defined in Minnesota Statutes section 171.3215, subdivision 1(c), (i.e., felony, controlled substance, criminal sexual conduct offenses, or offenses for surreptitious observation, indecent exposure, use of minor in a sexual performance, or possession of child pornography or display of pornography to a minor) may not operate a type III vehicle.
- i. A person who sustains a conviction, as defined under Minnesota Statutes section 609.02, of a moving offense in violation of Minnesota Statutes chapter 169 within 3 years of the first of 3 other moving offenses is

precluded from operating a type III vehicle for 1 year from the date of the last conviction.

- j. Students riding the type III vehicle must have training required under Minnesota Statutes section 123B.90, Subd. 2 (See Section II.B., above).
 - k. Documentation of meeting the requirements listed in this section must be maintained under separate file at the business location for each type III vehicle operator. The school district or any other entity that owns, leases, or contracts for the type III vehicle operating under this section is responsible for maintaining these files for inspection.
2. The type III vehicle must bear a current certificate of inspection issued under Minnesota Statutes section 169.451.
 3. An employee of the school district who is not employed for the sole purpose of operating a type III vehicle may, in the discretion of the school district, be exempt from paragraphs VII.C.1.d. (physical examination) and VII.C.1.e. (drug testing), above.

D. Type A-I “Activity” Buses Driven by Employees with a Driver’s License Without a School Bus Endorsement

1. The holder of a Class D driver’s license, without a school bus endorsement, may operate a type A-I school bus or a Multifunction School Activity Bus (MFSAB) under the following conditions:
 - a. The operator is an employee of the school district or an independent contractor with whom the school district contracts for the school bus and is not solely hired to provide transportation services under this paragraph.
 - b. The operator drives the school bus only from points of origin to points of destination, not including home-to-school trips to pick up or drop off students.
 - c. The operator is prohibited from using the 8-light system if the vehicle is so equipped.
 - d. The operator has submitted to a background check and physical examination as required by Minnesota Statutes section 171.321, subdivision 2.
 - e. The operator has a valid driver’s license and has not sustained a conviction of a disqualifying offense as set forth in Minnesota Statutes section 171.02, subdivisions 2a(h) - 2a(j).

- f. The operator has been trained in the proper use of child safety restraints as set forth in the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration’s “Guideline for the Safe Transportation of Pre- school Age Children in School Buses,” if child safety restraints are used by passengers, in addition to the training required in Section VI., above.
 - g. The bus has a gross vehicle weight rating of 14,500 pounds or less and is designed to transport 15 or fewer passengers, including the driver.
2. The school district shall maintain annual certification of the requirements listed in this section for each Class D license operator.
 3. A school bus operated under this section must bear a current certificate of inspection.
 4. The word “School” on the front and rear of the bus must be covered by a sign that reads “Activities” when the bus is being operated under authority of this section.

VIII. SCHOOL DISTRICT EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

- A. If possible, school bus drivers or their supervisors shall call “911” or the local emergency phone number in the event of a serious emergency.
- B. School bus drivers shall meet the emergency training requirements contained in Unit III “Crash & Emergency Preparedness” of the Minnesota Department of Public Safety Model School Bus Driver Training Manual. This includes procedures in the event of a crash (accident).
- C. School bus drivers and bus assistants for special education students requiring special transportation service because of their handicapping condition shall be trained in basic first aid procedures, shall within one (1) month after the effective date of assignment participate in a program of in-service training on the proper methods for dealing with the specific needs and problems of students with disabilities, assist students with disabilities on and off the bus when necessary for their safe ingress and egress from the bus; and ensure that protective safety devices are in use and fastened properly.
- D. Emergency Health Information shall be maintained on the school bus for students requiring special transportation service because of their handicapping condition. The information shall state:
 1. the student’s name and address;
 2. the nature of the student’s disabilities;
 3. emergency health care information; and

4. the names and telephone numbers of the student’s physician, parents, guardians, or custodians, and some person other than the student’s parents or custodians who can be contacted in case of an emergency.

IX. SCHOOL DISTRICT VEHICLE MAINTENANCE STANDARDS

- A. All school vehicles shall be maintained in safe operating conditions through a systematic preventive maintenance and inspection program adopted or approved by the school district.
- B. All school vehicles shall be state inspected in accordance with legal requirements.
- C. A copy of the current daily pre-trip inspection report must be carried in the bus. Daily pre-trip inspections shall be maintained on file in accordance with the school district’s record retention schedule. Prompt reports of defects to be immediately corrected will be submitted.
- D. Daily post-trip inspections shall be performed to check for any children or lost items remaining on the bus and for vandalism.

X. SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY DIRECTOR

The school board has designated an individual to serve as the school district’s school transportation safety director. The school transportation safety director shall have day-to- day responsibility for student transportation safety, including transportation of nonpublic school children when provided by the school district. The school transportation safety director will assure that this policy is periodically reviewed to ensure that it conforms to law. The school transportation safety director shall certify annually to the school board that each school bus driver meets the school bus driver training competencies required Minnesota Statutes section

171.321, subdivision 4. The transportation safety director also shall annually verify or ensure that the private contractor utilized by the school has verified the validity of the driver’s license of each employee who regularly transports students for the school district in a type A, B, C, or D school bus, type III vehicle, or MFSAB with the National Driver Register or the Department of Public Safety. Upon request of the school district superintendent or the superintendent of the school district where nonpublic students are transported, the school transportation safety director also shall certify to the superintendent that students have received school bus safety training in accordance with state law. The name, address and telephone number of the school transportation safety director are on file in the school district office. Any questions regarding student transportation or this policy may be addressed to the school transportation safety director.

XI. STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SAFETY COMMITTEE

The school board may establish a student transportation safety committee. The chair of the student transportation safety committee is the school district’s school transportation safety

director. The school board shall appoint the other members of the student transportation safety committee. Membership may include parents, school bus drivers, representatives of school bus companies, local law enforcement officials, other school district staff, and representatives from other units of local government.

- Legal References:**
- Minn. Stat. § 122A.18, Subd. 8 (Board to Issue Licenses)
 - Minn. Stat. § 123B.03 (Background Check)
 - Minn. Stat. § 123B.42 (Textbooks; Individual Instruction or Cooperative Learning Material; Standard Tests)
 - Minn. Stat. § 123B.88 (Independent School Districts; Transportation)
 - Minn. Stat. § 123B.885 (Diesel School Buses; Operation of Engine; Parking)
 - Minn. Stat. § 123B.90 (School Bus Safety Training)
 - Minn. Stat. § 123B.91 (School District Bus Safety Responsibilities)
 - Minn. Stat. § 123B.935 (Active Transportation Safety Training)
 - Minn. Stat. § 144.057 (Background Studies on Licensees and Other Personnel)
 - Minn. Stat. Ch. 169 (Traffic Regulations)
 - Minn. Stat. § 169.011, Subds. 15, 16, and 71 (Definitions)
 - Minn. Stat. § 169.02 (Scope)
 - Minn. Stat. § 169.443 (Safety of School Children; Bus Driver's Duties)
 - Minn. Stat. § 169.446, Subd. 2 (Safety of School Children; Training and Education Rules)
 - Minn. Stat. § 169.451 (Inspecting School and Head Start Buses; Rules; Misdemeanor)
 - Minn. Stat. § 169.454 (Type III Vehicle Standards)
 - Minn. Stat. § 169.4582 (Reportable Offense on School Buses)
 - Minn. Stat. §§ 169A.25-169A.27 (Driving While Impaired)
 - Minn. Stat. § 169A.31 (Alcohol-Related School Bus or Head Start Bus Driving)
 - Minn. Stat. §§ 169A.50-169A.53 (Implied Consent Law)
 - Minn. Stat. § 171.02, Subds. 2, 2a, and 2b (Licenses; Types, Endorsements, Restrictions)
 - Minn. Stat. § 171.168 (Notice of Violation by Commercial Driver)
 - Minn. Stat. § 171.169 (Notice of Commercial License Suspension)
 - Minn. Stat. § 171.321 (Qualifications of School Bus and Type III Vehicle Drivers)

Minn. Stat. § 171.3215, Subd. 1(c) (Canceling Bus Endorsement for Certain Offenses)

Minn. Stat. § 181.951 (Authorized Drug and Alcohol Testing)

Minn. Stat. Ch. 245C (Human Services Background Studies)

Minn. Stat. § 609.02 (Definitions)

Minn. Rules Parts 7470.1000-7470.1700 (School Bus Inspection)

49 C.F.R. Part 383 (Commercial Driver's License Standards; Requirements and Penalties)

49 C.F.R. § 383.31 (Notification of Convictions for Driver Violations)

49 C.F.R. § 383.33 (Notification of Driver's License Suspensions)

49 C.F.R. § 383.5 (Transportation Definitions)

49 C.F.R. § 383.51 (Disqualification of Drivers)

49 C.F.R. Part 571 (Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards)

Cross References:

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 416 (Drug and Alcohol Testing)

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 506 (Student Discipline)

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 515 (Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records)

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 707 (Transportation of Public Students)

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 708 (Transportation of Nonpublic Students)

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 710 (Extracurricular Transportation)

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709 STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SAFETY POLICY

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide safe transportation for students and to educate students on safety issues and the responsibilities of school bus ridership.

II. PLAN FOR STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SAFETY TRAINING

A. School Bus Safety Week

The school district may designate a school bus safety week. The National School Bus Safety Week is the third week in October.

B. Student School Bus Safety Training

1. The school district shall provide students enrolled in grades kindergarten (K) through 10 with age-appropriate school bus safety training of the following concepts:
 - a. transportation by school bus is a privilege, not a right;
 - b. school district policies for student conduct and school bus safety;
 - c. appropriate conduct while on the bus;
 - d. the danger zones surrounding a school bus;
 - e. procedures for safely boarding and leaving a school bus;
 - f. procedures for safe vehicle lane crossing; and
 - g. school bus evacuation and other emergency procedures.
2. All students in grades K through 6 who are transported by school bus and are enrolled during the first or second week of school must receive the school bus safety training by the end of the third week of school. All students in grades 7 through 10 who are transported by school bus and are enrolled during the first or second week of school must receive the school bus safety training or receive bus safety instruction materials by the end of the sixth week of school, if they have not previously received school bus training. Students in grades K through 10 who enroll in a school after the second week of school,

are transported by school bus, and have not received training in their previous school districts shall undergo school bus safety training or receive bus safety instructional materials within 4 weeks of their first day of attendance.

3. The school district and a nonpublic school with students transported by school bus at public expense must provide students enrolled in grades K through 3 school bus safety training twice during the school year.
4. Students taking driver's training instructional classes must receive training in the laws and proper procedures for operating a motor vehicle in the vicinity of a school bus as required by Minnesota Statutes section 169.446, subdivision 2.
5. The school district and a nonpublic school with students transported by school bus at public expense must conduct a school bus evacuation drill at least once during the school year.
6. The school district will make reasonable accommodations in training for students known to speak English as a second language and students with disabilities.
7. The school district may provide kindergarten students with school bus safety training before the first day of school.
8. The school district shall adopt and make available for public review a curriculum for transportation safety education.
9. Nonpublic school students transported by the school district will receive school bus safety training by their nonpublic school. The nonpublic schools may use the school district's school transportation safety education curriculum. Upon request by the school district superintendent, the nonpublic school must certify to the school district's school transportation safety director that all students enrolled in grades K through 10 have received the appropriate training.

C. Active Transportation Safety Training

1. Training required
 - a. The school district must provide public school pupils enrolled in kindergarten through grade 3 with age-appropriate active transportation safety training. At a minimum, the training must include pedestrian safety, including crossing roads.
 - b. The school district must provide pupils enrolled in grades 4 through 8 with age-appropriate active transportation safety training. At a minimum, the training must include:

- (1) pedestrian safety, including crossing roads safely using the searching left, right, left for vehicles in traffic technique; and
- (2) bicycle safety, including relevant traffic laws, use and proper fit of protective headgear, bicycle parts and safety features, and safe biking techniques.
- (3) electric-assisted bicycle safety, including that a person under the age of 15 is not allowed to operate an electric-assisted bicycle.

~~2. Deadlines.~~

- ~~a. Students under subdivision 1, paragraph (a), who are enrolled during the first or second week of school and have not previously received active transportation safety training specified in that paragraph must receive the safety training by the end of the third week of school.~~
- ~~b. Students under subdivision 1, paragraph (b), who are enrolled during the first or second week of school and have not previously received active transportation safety training specified in that paragraph must receive the safety training by the end of the sixth week of school.~~
- ~~c. Students under subdivision 1, paragraph (a) or (b), who enroll in a school after the second week of school and have not received the appropriate active transportation safety training in their previous school district must undergo the training or receive active transportation safety instructional materials within four weeks of the first day of attendance.~~
- ~~d. The school district and a nonpublic school may provide kindergarten pupils with active transportation safety training before the first day of school.~~

23. Instruction

- a. The school district may provide active transportation safety training through distance learning.
- b. The district and a nonpublic school must make reasonable accommodations for the active transportation safety training of pupils known to speak English as a second language and pupils with disabilities.

III. CONDUCT ON SCHOOL BUSES AND CONSEQUENCES FOR MISBEHAVIOR

- A. Riding the school bus is a privilege, not a right. The school district's general student behavior rules are in effect for all students on school buses, including nonpublic and charter school students.
- B. Consequences for school bus/bus stop misconduct will be imposed by the school district under adopted administrative discipline procedures. In addition, all school

bus/bus stop misconduct will be reported to the school district's transportation safety director. Serious misconduct may be reported to local law enforcement.

1. School Bus and Bus Stop Rules. The school district school bus safety rules are to be posted on every bus. If these rules are broken, the school district's discipline procedures are to be followed. In most circumstances, consequences are progressive and may include suspension of bus privileges. It is the school bus driver's responsibility to report unacceptable behavior to the school district's Transportation Office/School Office.
2. Rules at the Bus Stop
 - a. Get to your bus stop 5 minutes before your scheduled pick up time. The school bus driver will not wait for late students.
 - b. Respect the property of others while waiting at your bus stop.
 - c. Keep your arms, legs, and belongings to yourself.
 - d. Use appropriate language.
 - e. Stay away from the street, road, or highway when waiting for the bus.
 - f. Wait until the bus stops before approaching the bus.
 - g. After getting off the bus, move away from the bus.
 - h. If you must cross the street, always cross in front of the bus where the driver can see you. Wait for the driver to signal to you before crossing the street.
 - i. No fighting, harassment, intimidation, or horseplay.
 - j. No use of alcohol, tobacco, or drugs.
3. Rules on the Bus
 - a. Immediately follow the directions of the driver.
 - b. Sit in your seat facing forward.
 - c. Talk quietly and use appropriate language.
 - d. Keep all parts of your body inside the bus.
 - e. Keep your arms, legs, and belongings to yourself.

- f. No fighting, harassment, intimidation, or horseplay.
- g. Do not throw any object.
- h. No eating, drinking, or use of alcohol, tobacco, or drugs.
- i. Do not bring any weapons or dangerous objects on the school bus.
- j. Do not damage the bus.

4. Consequences

- a. Consequences for school bus/bus stop misconduct will apply to all regular and late routes. Decisions regarding a student's ability to ride the bus in connection with cocurricular and extracurricular events (for example, field trips or competitions) will be in the sole discretion of the school district. Parents or guardians will be notified of any suspension of bus privileges.

(1) Elementary (K-6)

1st offense – warning

2nd offense – 3 school-day suspension from riding the bus

3rd offense – 5 school-day suspension from riding the bus

4th offense – 10 school-day suspension from riding the bus/meeting with parent

Further offenses – individually considered. Students may be suspended for longer periods of time, including the remainder of the school year.

(2) Secondary (7-12)

1st offense – warning

2nd offense – 5 school-day suspension from riding the bus

3rd offense – 10 school-day suspension from riding the bus

4th offense – 20 school-day suspension from riding the bus/meeting with parent

5th offense – suspended from riding the bus for the remainder of the school year

Note: When any student goes 60 transportation days without a report, the student's consequences may start over at the first offense.

(3) Other Discipline

Based on the severity of a student's conduct, more serious consequences may be imposed at any time. Depending on the

nature of the offense, consequences such as suspension or expulsion from school also may result from school bus/bus stop misconduct.

(4) Records

Records of school bus/bus stop misconduct will be forwarded to the individual school building and will be retained in the same manner as other student discipline records. Reports of student misbehavior on a school bus or in a bus-loading or unloading area that are reasonably believed to cause an immediate and substantial danger to the student or surrounding persons or property shall be provided by the school district to local law enforcement and the Department of Public Safety in accordance with state and federal law.

(5) Vandalism/Bus Damage

Students damaging school buses will be responsible for the damages. Failure to pay such damages (or make arrangements to pay) within 2 weeks may result in the loss of bus privileges until damages are paid.

(6) Notice

School bus and bus stop rules and consequences for violations of these rules will be reviewed with students annually and copies of these rules will be made available to students. School bus rules are to be posted on each school bus.

(7) Criminal Conduct

In cases involving criminal conduct (for example, assault, weapons, drug possession, or vandalism), the appropriate school district personnel and local law enforcement officials will be informed.

IV. PARENT AND GUARDIAN INVOLVEMENT**A. Parent and Guardian Notification**

The school district school bus and bus stop rules will be provided to each family. Parents and guardians are asked to review the rules with their children.

B. Parents/Guardians Responsibilities for Transportation Safety

Parents/Guardians are responsible to:

1. Become familiar with school district rules, policies, regulations, and the principles of school bus safety, and thoroughly review them with their children;
2. Support safe riding and walking practices, and recognize that students are responsible for their actions;
3. Communicate safety concerns to their school administrators;
4. Monitor bus stops, if possible;
5. Have their children to the bus stop 5 minutes before the bus arrives;
6. Have their children properly dressed for the weather; and
7. Have a plan in case the bus is late.

V. **SCHOOL BUS DRIVER DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

- A. School bus drivers shall have a valid Class A, B, or C Minnesota driver's license with a school bus endorsement. A person possessing a valid driver's license, without a school bus endorsement, may drive a type III vehicle set forth in Sections VII.B. and VII.C., below. Drivers with a valid Class D driver's license, without a school bus endorsement, may operate a "type A-I" school bus as set forth in Section VII.D., below.
- B. The school district shall conduct mandatory drug and alcohol testing of all school district bus drivers and bus driver applicants in accordance with state and federal law and school district policy.
- C. A school bus driver, with the exception of a driver operating a type A-I school bus or type III vehicle, who has a commercial driver's license and who is convicted of a criminal offense, a serious traffic violation, or of violating any other state or local law relating to motor vehicle traffic control, other than a parking violation, in any type of motor vehicle in a state or jurisdiction other than Minnesota, shall notify the Minnesota Division of Driver and Vehicle Services (Division) of the conviction within 30 days of the conviction. For purposes of this paragraph, a "serious traffic violation" means a conviction of any of the following offenses:
 1. excessive speeding, involving any single offense for any speed of 15 miles per hour or more above the posted speed limit;
 2. reckless driving;
 3. improper or erratic traffic lane changes;
 4. following the vehicle ahead too closely;

5. a violation of state or local law, relating to motor vehicle traffic control, arising in connection with a fatal accident;
 6. driving a commercial vehicle without obtaining a commercial driver's license or without having a commercial driver's license in the driver's possession;
 7. driving a commercial vehicle without the proper class of commercial driver's license and/or endorsements for the specific vehicle group being operated or for the passengers or type of cargo being transported;
 8. a violation of a state or local law prohibiting texting while driving a commercial vehicle; and
 9. a violation of a state or local law prohibiting the use of a hand-held mobile telephone while driving a commercial vehicle.
- D. A school bus driver, with the exception of a driver operating a type A-I school bus or type III vehicle, who has a commercial driver's license and who is convicted of violating, in any type of motor vehicle, a Minnesota state or local law relating to motor vehicle traffic control, other than a parking violation, shall notify the person's employer of the conviction within 30 days of conviction. The notification shall be in writing and shall contain all the information set forth in Attachment A accompanying this policy.
- E. A school bus driver, with the exception of a driver operating a type A-I school bus or type III vehicle, who has a Minnesota commercial driver's license suspended, revoked, or cancelled by the state of Minnesota or any other state or jurisdiction and who loses the right to operate a commercial vehicle for any period or who is disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle for any period shall notify the person's employer of the suspension, revocation, cancellation, lost privilege, or disqualification. Such notification shall be made before the end of the business day following the day the employee received notice of the suspension, revocation, cancellation, lost privilege, or disqualification. The notification shall be in writing and shall contain all the information set forth in Attachment B accompanying this policy.
- F. A person who operates a type III vehicle and who sustains a conviction as described in Section VII.C.1.g. (i.e., driving while impaired offenses), VII.C.1.h. (i.e., felony, controlled substance, criminal sexual conduct offenses, or offenses for surreptitious observation, indecent exposure, use of minor in a sexual performance, or possession of child pornography or display of pornography to a minor), or VII.C.1.i. (multiple moving violations) while employed by the entity that owns, leases, or contracts for the school bus, shall report the conviction to the person's employer within 10 days of the date of the conviction. The notification shall be in writing and shall contain all the information set forth in Attachment C accompanying this policy.

VI. SCHOOL BUS DRIVER TRAINING

A. Training

1. All new school bus drivers shall be provided with pre-service training, including in-vehicle (actual driving) instruction, before transporting students and shall meet the competency testing specified in the Minnesota Department of Public Safety Model School Bus Driver Training Manual. All school bus drivers shall receive in-service training annually. For purposes of this section, “annually” means at least once every 380 days from the initial or previous evaluation and at least once every 380 days from the initial or previous license verification. The school district shall retain on file an annual individual school bus driver “evaluation certification” form for each school district driver as contained in the Model School Bus Driver Training Manual.
2. All bus drivers operating a type III vehicle will be provided with annual training and certification as set forth in Section VII.C.1.b., below, by either the school district or the entity from whom such services are contracted by the school district.

B. Evaluation

School bus drivers with a Class D license will be evaluated annually and all other bus drivers will be assessed periodically for the following competencies:

1. Safely operate the type of school bus the driver will be driving;
2. Understand student behavior, including issues relating to students with disabilities;
3. Ensure orderly conduct of students on the bus and handling incidents of misconduct appropriately;
4. Know and understand relevant laws, rules of the road, and local school bus safety policies;
5. Handle emergency situations; and
6. Safely load and unload students.

The evaluation must include completion of an individual “school bus driver evaluation form” (road test evaluation) as contained in the Model School Bus Driver Training Manual.

VII. OPERATING RULES AND PROCEDURES**A. General Operating Rules**

1. School buses shall be operated in accordance with state traffic and school bus safety laws and the procedures contained in the Minnesota Department of Public Safety Model School Bus Driver Training Manual.
2. Only students assigned to the school bus by the school district shall be transported. The number of students or other authorized passengers transported in a school bus shall not be more than the legal capacity for the bus. No person shall be allowed to stand when the bus is in motion.
3. The parent/guardian may designate, pursuant to school district policy, a day care facility, respite care facility, the residence of a relative, or the residence of a person chosen by the parent or guardian as the address of the student for transportation purposes. The address must be in the attendance area of the assigned school and meet all other eligibility requirements.
4. Bus drivers must minimize, to the extent practical, the idling of school bus engines and exposure of children to diesel exhaust fumes.
5. To the extent practical, the school district will designate school bus loading/unloading zones at a sufficient distance from school air-intake systems to avoid diesel fumes from being drawn into the systems.
6. A bus driver may not operate a school bus while communicating over, or otherwise operating, a cellular phone for personal reasons, whether hand-held or hands free, when the vehicle is in motion or a part of traffic. For purposes of this paragraph, "school bus" has the meaning given in Minnesota Statutes section 169.011, subdivision 71. In addition, "school bus" also includes type III vehicles when driven by employees or agents of the school district. "Cellular phone" means a cellular, analog, wireless, or digital telephone capable of sending or receiving telephone or text messages without an access line for service.

B. Type III Vehicles

1. Type III vehicles are restricted to passenger cars, station wagons, vans, and buses having a maximum manufacturer's rated seating capacity of 10 or fewer people including the driver and a gross vehicle weight rating of 10,000 pounds or less. A van or bus converted to a seating capacity of 10 or fewer and placed in service on or after August 1, 1999, must have been originally manufactured to comply with the passenger safety standards.
2. Type III vehicles must be painted a color other than national school bus yellow.
3. Type III vehicles shall be state inspected in accordance with legal requirements.

4. Vehicles model year 2007 or older must not be used as type III vehicles to transport school children, except those vehicles that are manufactured to meet the structural requirements of federal motor vehicle safety standard 222, Code of Federal Regulations, title 49, part 571.
5. If a type III vehicle is school district owned, the school district name will be clearly marked on the side of the vehicle. The type III vehicle must not have the words “school bus” in any location on the exterior of the vehicle or in any interior location visible to a motorist.
6. A “type III vehicle” must not be outwardly equipped and identified as a type A, B, C, or D bus.
7. Eight-lamp warning systems and stop arms must not be installed or used on type III vehicles.
8. Type III vehicles must be equipped with mirrors as required by law.
9. Any type III vehicle may not stop traffic and may not load or unload before making a complete stop and disengaging gears by shifting into neutral or park. Any type III vehicle used to transport students must not load or unload so that a student has to cross the road, except where not possible or impractical, then the driver or assistant must escort a student across the road. If the driver escorts the student across the road, then the motor must be stopped, the ignition key removed, the brakes set, and the vehicle otherwise rendered immobile.
10. Any type III vehicle used to transport students must carry emergency equipment including:
 - a. Fire extinguisher. A minimum of one 10BC rated dry chemical type fire extinguisher is required. The extinguisher must be mounted in a bracket, and must be located in the driver’s compartment and be readily accessible to the driver and passengers. A pressure indicator is required and must be easily read without removing the extinguisher from its mounted position.
 - b. First aid kit and body fluids cleanup kit. A minimum of a 10-unit first aid kit and a body fluids cleanup kit is required. They must be contained in removable, moisture- and dust-proof containers mounted in an accessible place within the driver’s compartment and must be marked to indicate their identity and location.
 - c. Passenger cars and station wagons may carry a fire extinguisher, a first aid kit, and warning triangles in the trunk or trunk area of the vehicle if a label in the driver and front passenger area clearly indicates the location of these items.
11. Students will not be regularly transported in private vehicles that are not state inspected as type III vehicles. Only emergency, unscheduled transportation may be

conducted in vehicles with a seating capacity of 10 or fewer without meeting the requirements for a type III vehicle. Also, parents may use a private vehicle to transport their own children under a contract with the district. The school district has no system of inspection for private vehicles.

12. All drivers of type III vehicles will be licensed drivers and will be familiar with the use of required emergency equipment. The school district will not knowingly allow a person to operate a type III vehicle if the person has been convicted of an offense that disqualifies the person from operating a school bus.
13. Type III vehicles will be equipped with child passenger restraints, and child passenger restraints will be utilized to the extent required by law.

C. Type III Vehicle Driven by Employees with a Driver's License Without a School Bus Endorsement

1. The holder of a Class A, B, C, or D driver's license, without a school bus endorsement, may operate a type III vehicle, described above, under the following conditions:
 - a. The operator is an employee of the entity that owns, leases, or contracts for the school bus, which may include the school district.
 - b. The operator's employer, which may include the school district, has adopted and implemented a policy that provides for annual training and certification of the operator in:
 - (1) safe operation of a type III vehicle;
 - (2) understanding student behavior, including issues relating to students with disabilities;
 - (3) encouraging orderly conduct of students on the bus and handling incidents of misconduct appropriately;
 - (4) knowing and understanding relevant laws, rules of the road, and local school bus safety policies;
 - (5) handling emergency situations;
 - (6) proper use of seat belts and child safety restraints;
 - (7) performance of pretrip vehicle inspections;
 - (8) safe loading and unloading of students, including, but not limited to:

- (a) utilizing a safe location for loading and unloading students at the curb, on the nontraffic side of the roadway, or at off-street loading areas, driveways, yards, and other areas to enable the student to avoid hazardous conditions;
 - (b) refraining from loading and unloading students in a vehicular traffic lane, on the shoulder, in a designated turn lane, or a lane adjacent to a designated turn lane;
 - (c) avoiding a loading or unloading location that would require a student to cross a road, or ensuring that the driver or an aide personally escort the student across the road if it is not reasonably feasible to avoid such a location;
 - (d) placing the type III vehicle in “park” during loading and unloading;
 - (e) escorting a student across the road under clause (c) only after the motor is stopped, the ignition key is removed, the brakes are set, and the vehicle is otherwise rendered immobile; and
- (9) compliance with paragraph V.F. concerning reporting convictions to the employer within 10 days of the date of conviction.
- c. A background check or background investigation of the operator has been conducted that meets the requirements under Minnesota Statutes section 122A.18, subdivision 8, or Minnesota Statutes section 123B.03 for school district employees; Minnesota Statutes section 144.057 or Minnesota Statutes chapter 245C for day care employees; or Minnesota Statutes section 171.321, subdivision 3, for all other persons operating a type III vehicle under this section.
 - d. Operators shall submit to a physical examination as required by Minnesota Statutes section 171.321, subdivision 2.
 - e. The operator’s employer requires preemployment drug testing of applicants for operator positions. Current operators must comply with the employer’s policy under Minnesota Statutes section 181.951, subdivisions 2, 4, and 5. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the operator’s employer may use a breathalyzer or similar device to fulfill random alcohol testing requirements.
 - f. The operator’s driver’s license is verified annually by the entity that owns, leases, or contracts for the type III vehicle as required by Minnesota Statutes section 171.321, subdivision 5.

- g. A person who sustains a conviction, as defined under Minnesota Statutes 609.02, of violating Minnesota Statutes section 169A.25, 169A.26, 169A.27 (driving while impaired offenses), or 169A.31 (alcohol-related school bus driver offenses), or whose driver’s license is revoked under Minnesota Statutes sections 169A.50 to 169A.53 of the implied consent law, or who is convicted of violating or whose driver’s license is revoked under a similar statute or ordinance of another state, is precluded from operating a type III vehicle for 5 years from the date of conviction.
 - h. A person who has ever been convicted of a disqualifying offense as defined in Minnesota Statutes section 171.3215, subdivision 1(c), (i.e., felony, controlled substance, criminal sexual conduct offenses, or offenses for surreptitious observation, indecent exposure, use of minor in a sexual performance, or possession of child pornography or display of pornography to a minor) may not operate a type III vehicle.
 - i. A person who sustains a conviction, as defined under Minnesota Statutes section 609.02, of a moving offense in violation of Minnesota Statutes chapter 169 within 3 years of the first of 3 other moving offenses is precluded from operating a type III vehicle for 1 year from the date of the last conviction.
 - j. Students riding the type III vehicle must have training required under Minnesota Statutes section 123B.90, Subd. 2 (See Section II.B., above).
 - k. Documentation of meeting the requirements listed in this section must be maintained under separate file at the business location for each type III vehicle operator. The school district or any other entity that owns, leases, or contracts for the type III vehicle operating under this section is responsible for maintaining these files for inspection.
- 2. The type III vehicle must bear a current certificate of inspection issued under Minnesota Statutes section 169.451.
 - 3. An employee of the school district who is not employed for the sole purpose of operating a type III vehicle may, in the discretion of the school district, be exempt from paragraphs VII.C.1.d. (physical examination) and VII.C.1.e. (drug testing), above.
- D. Type A-I “Activity” Buses Driven by Employees with a Driver’s License Without a School Bus Endorsement
- 1. The holder of a Class D driver’s license, without a school bus endorsement, may operate a type A-I school bus or a Multifunction School Activity Bus (MFSAB) under the following conditions:

- a. The operator is an employee of the school district or an independent contractor with whom the school district contracts for the school bus and is not solely hired to provide transportation services under this paragraph.
 - b. The operator drives the school bus only from points of origin to points of destination, not including home-to-school trips to pick up or drop off students.
 - c. The operator is prohibited from using the 8-light system if the vehicle is so equipped.
 - d. The operator has submitted to a background check and physical examination as required by Minnesota Statutes section 171.321, subdivision 2.
 - e. The operator has a valid driver's license and has not sustained a conviction of a disqualifying offense as set forth in Minnesota Statutes section 171.02, subdivisions 2a(h) - 2a(j).
 - f. The operator has been trained in the proper use of child safety restraints as set forth in the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's "Guideline for the Safe Transportation of Pre- school Age Children in School Buses," if child safety restraints are used by passengers, in addition to the training required in Section VI., above.
 - g. The bus has a gross vehicle weight rating of 14,500 pounds or less and is designed to transport 15 or fewer passengers, including the driver.
2. The school district shall maintain annual certification of the requirements listed in this section for each Class D license operator.
 3. A school bus operated under this section must bear a current certificate of inspection.
 4. The word "School" on the front and rear of the bus must be covered by a sign that reads "Activities" when the bus is being operated under authority of this section.

VIII. SCHOOL DISTRICT EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

- A. If possible, school bus drivers or their supervisors shall call "911" or the local emergency phone number in the event of a serious emergency.
- B. School bus drivers shall meet the emergency training requirements contained in Unit III "Crash & Emergency Preparedness" of the Minnesota Department of Public Safety Model School Bus Driver Training Manual. This includes procedures in the event of a crash (accident).

- C. School bus drivers and bus assistants for special education students requiring special transportation service because of their handicapping condition shall be trained in basic first aid procedures, shall within one (1) month after the effective date of assignment participate in a program of in-service training on the proper methods for dealing with the specific needs and problems of students with disabilities, assist students with disabilities on and off the bus when necessary for their safe ingress and egress from the bus; and ensure that protective safety devices are in use and fastened properly.
- D. Emergency Health Information shall be maintained on the school bus for students requiring special transportation service because of their handicapping condition. The information shall state:
 - 1. the student's name and address;
 - 2. the nature of the student's disabilities;
 - 3. emergency health care information; and
 - 4. the names and telephone numbers of the student's physician, parents, guardians, or custodians, and some person other than the student's parents or custodians who can be contacted in case of an emergency.

IX. SCHOOL DISTRICT VEHICLE MAINTENANCE STANDARDS

- A. All school vehicles shall be maintained in safe operating conditions through a systematic preventive maintenance and inspection program adopted or approved by the school district.
- B. All school vehicles shall be state inspected in accordance with legal requirements.
- C. A copy of the current daily pre-trip inspection report must be carried in the bus. Daily pre-trip inspections shall be maintained on file in accordance with the school district's record retention schedule. Prompt reports of defects to be immediately corrected will be submitted.
- D. Daily post-trip inspections shall be performed to check for any children or lost items remaining on the bus and for vandalism.

X. SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY DIRECTOR

The school board has designated an individual to serve as the school district's school transportation safety director. The school transportation safety director shall have day-to-day responsibility for student transportation safety, including transportation of nonpublic school children when provided by the school district. The school transportation safety director will assure that this policy is periodically reviewed to ensure that it conforms to law. The school transportation safety director shall certify annually to the school board that each school bus driver meets the school bus driver training competencies required Minnesota Statutes section

171.321, subdivision 4. The transportation safety director also shall annually verify or ensure that the private contractor utilized by the school has verified the validity of the driver's license of each employee who regularly transports students for the school district in a type A, B, C, or D school bus, type III vehicle, or MFSAB with the National Driver Register or the Department of Public Safety. Upon request of the school district superintendent or the superintendent of the school district where nonpublic students are transported, the school transportation safety director also shall certify to the superintendent that students have received school bus safety training in accordance with state law. The name, address and telephone number of the school transportation safety director are on file in the school district office. Any questions regarding student transportation or this policy may be addressed to the school transportation safety director.

XI. STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SAFETY COMMITTEE

The school board may establish a student transportation safety committee. The chair of the student transportation safety committee is the school district's school transportation safety director. The school board shall appoint the other members of the student transportation safety committee. Membership may include parents, school bus drivers, representatives of school bus companies, local law enforcement officials, other school district staff, and representatives from other units of local government.

- Legal References:***
- Minn. Stat. § 122A.18, Subd. 8 (Board to Issue Licenses)
 - Minn. Stat. § 123B.03 (Background Check)
 - Minn. Stat. § 123B.42 (Textbooks; Individual Instruction or Cooperative Learning Material; Standard Tests)
 - Minn. Stat. § 123B.88 (Independent School Districts; Transportation)
 - Minn. Stat. § 123B.885 (Diesel School Buses; Operation of Engine; Parking)
 - Minn. Stat. § 123B.90 (School Bus Safety Training)
 - Minn. Stat. § 123B.91 (School District Bus Safety Responsibilities)
 - Minn. Stat. § 123B.935 (Active Transportation Safety Training)
 - Minn. Stat. § 144.057 (Background Studies on Licensees and Other Personnel)
 - Minn. Stat. Ch. 169 (Traffic Regulations)
 - Minn. Stat. § 169.011, Subds. 15, 16, and 71 (Definitions)
 - Minn. Stat. § 169.02 (Scope)
 - Minn. Stat. § 169.443 (Safety of School Children; Bus Driver's Duties)
 - Minn. Stat. § 169.446, Subd. 2 (Safety of School Children; Training and Education Rules)
 - Minn. Stat. § 169.451 (Inspecting School and Head Start Buses; Rules; Misdemeanor)

Minn. Stat. § 169.454 (Type III Vehicle Standards)
 Minn. Stat. § 169.4582 (Reportable Offense on School Buses)
 Minn. Stat. §§ 169A.25-169A.27 (Driving While Impaired)
 Minn. Stat. § 169A.31 (Alcohol-Related School Bus or Head Start Bus Driving)
 Minn. Stat. §§ 169A.50-169A.53 (Implied Consent Law)
 Minn. Stat. § 171.02, Subds. 2, 2a, and 2b (Licenses; Types, Endorsements, Restrictions)
 Minn. Stat. § 171.168 (Notice of Violation by Commercial Driver)
 Minn. Stat. § 171.169 (Notice of Commercial License Suspension)
 Minn. Stat. § 171.321 (Qualifications of School Bus and Type III Vehicle Drivers)
 Minn. Stat. § 171.3215, Subd. 1(c) (Canceling Bus Endorsement for Certain Offenses)
 Minn. Stat. § 181.951 (Authorized Drug and Alcohol Testing)
 Minn. Stat. Ch. 245C (Human Services Background Studies)
 Minn. Stat. § 609.02 (Definitions)
 Minn. Rules Parts 7470.1000-7470.1700 (School Bus Inspection)
 49 C.F.R. Part 383 (Commercial Driver's License Standards; Requirements and Penalties)
 49 C.F.R. § 383.31 (Notification of Convictions for Driver Violations)
 49 C.F.R. § 383.33 (Notification of Driver's License Suspensions)
 49 C.F.R. § 383.5 (Transportation Definitions)
 49 C.F.R. § 383.51 (Disqualification of Drivers)
 49 C.F.R. Part 571 (Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 416 (Drug and Alcohol Testing)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 506 (Student Discipline)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 515 (Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 707 (Transportation of Public Students)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 708 (Transportation of Nonpublic Students)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 710 (Extracurricular Transportation)

Adopted: 10/14/19

Revised: 9/9/24, 10/14/19, 3/20/23

722 PUBLIC DATA AND DATA SUBJECT REQUESTS

I. PURPOSE

The school district recognizes its responsibility relative to the collection, maintenance, and dissemination of public data as provided in state statutes.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The school district will comply with the requirements of the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minnesota Statutes chapter 13 (MGDPA), and Minnesota Rules parts 1205.0100-1205.2000 in responding to requests for public data.

III. DEFINITIONS

A. Confidential Data on Individuals

Data made not public by statute or federal law applicable to the data and are inaccessible to the individual subject of those data.

B. Data on Individuals

All government data in which any individual is or can be identified as the subject of that data, unless the appearance of the name or other identifying data can be clearly demonstrated to be only incidental to the data and the data are not accessed by the name or other identifying data of any individual.

C. Data Practices Compliance Officer

The data practices compliance official is the designated employee of the school district to whom persons may direct questions or concerns regarding problems in obtaining access to data or other data practices problems. The responsible authority may be the data practices compliance official.

D. Government Data

All data collected, created, received, maintained or disseminated by any government entity regardless of its physical form, storage media or conditions of use.

E. Individual

“Individual” means a natural person. In the case of a minor or an incapacitated person as defined in Minnesota Statutes section 524.5-102, subdivision 6, "individual" includes a parent or guardian or an individual acting as a parent or guardian in the absence of a parent

or guardian, except that the responsible authority shall withhold data from parents or guardians, or individuals acting as parents or guardians in the absence of parents or guardians, upon request by the minor if the responsible authority determines that withholding the data would be in the best interest of the minor.

F. Inspection

“Inspection” means the visual inspection of paper and similar types of government data. Inspection does not include printing copies by the school district, unless printing a copy is the only method to provide for inspection of the data. For data stored in electronic form and made available in electronic form on a remote access basis to the public by the school district, inspection includes remote access to the data by the public and the ability to print copies of or download the data on the public’s own computer equipment.

G. Not Public Data

Any government data classified by statute, federal law, or temporary classification as confidential, private, nonpublic, or protected nonpublic.

H. Nonpublic Data

Data not on individuals made by statute or federal law applicable to the data: (a) not accessible to the public; and (b) accessible to the subject, if any, of the data.

I. Private Data on Individuals

Data made by statute or federal law applicable to the data: (a) not public; and (b) accessible to the individual subject of those data.

J. Protected Nonpublic Data

Data not on individuals made by statute or federal law applicable to the data (a) not public and (b) not accessible to the subject of the data.

K. Public Data

All government data collected, created, received, maintained, or disseminated by the school district, unless classified by statute, temporary classification pursuant to statute, or federal law, as nonpublic or protected nonpublic; or, with respect to data on individuals, as private or confidential.

L. Public Data Not on Individuals

Data accessible to the public pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 13.03.

M. Public Data on Individuals

Data accessible to the public in accordance with the provisions of section 13.03.

N. Responsible Authority

The individual designated by the school board as the individual responsible for the collection, use, and dissemination of any set of data on individuals, government data, or summary data, unless otherwise provided by state law. Until an individual is designated by the school board, the responsible authority is the superintendent.

O. Summary Data

Statistical records and reports derived from data on individuals but in which individuals are not identified and from which neither their identities nor any other characteristic that could uniquely identify an individual is ascertainable. Unless classified pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 13.06, another statute, or federal law, summary data is public.

IV. REQUESTS FOR PUBLIC DATA

A. All requests for public data must be made in writing directed to the responsible authority.

1. A request for public data must include the following information:
 - a. Date the request is made;
 - b. A clear description of the data requested;
 - c. Identification of the form in which the data is to be provided (e.g., inspection, copying, both inspection and copying, etc.); and
 - d. Method to contact the requestor (such as phone number, address, or email address).
2. Unless specifically authorized by statute, the school district may not require persons to identify themselves, state a reason for, or justify a request to gain access to public government data. A person may be asked to provide certain identifying or clarifying information for the sole purpose of facilitating access to the data.
3. The identity of the requestor is public, if provided, but cannot be required by the government entity.
4. The responsible authority may seek clarification from the requestor if the request is not clear before providing a response to the data request.

B. The responsible authority will respond to a data request at reasonable times and places as follows:

1. The responsible authority will notify the requestor in writing as follows:
 - a. The requested data does not exist; or

- b. The requested data does exist but either all or a portion of the data is not accessible to the requestor; or
 - (1) If the responsible authority determines that the requested data is classified so that access to the requestor is denied, the responsible authority will inform the requestor of the determination in writing, as soon thereafter as possible, and shall cite the specific statutory section, temporary classification, or specific provision of federal law on which the determination is based.
 - (2) Upon the request of a requestor who is denied access to data, the responsible authority shall certify in writing that the request has been denied and cite the specific statutory section, temporary classification, or specific provision of federal law upon which the denial was based.
 - c. The requested data does exist and provide arrangements for inspection of the data, identify when the data will be available for pick-up, or indicate that the data will be sent by mail. If the requestor does not appear at the time and place established for inspection of the data or the data is not picked up within ten (10) business days after the requestor is notified, the school district will conclude that the data is no longer wanted and will consider the request closed.
2. The school district's response time may be affected by the size and complexity of the particular request, including necessary redactions of the data, and also by the number of requests made within a particular period of time.
 3. The school district will provide an explanation of technical terminology, abbreviations, or acronyms contained in the responsive data on request.
 4. The school district is not required by the MGDPA to create or collect new data in response to a data request, or to provide responsive data in a specific form or arrangement if the school district does not keep the data in that form or arrangement.
 5. The school district is not required to respond to questions that are not about a particular data request or requests for data in general.

V. REQUEST FOR SUMMARY DATA

- A. A request for the preparation of summary data shall be made in writing directed to the responsible authority.
 1. A request for the preparation of summary data must include the following information:
 - a. Date the request is made;

- b. A clear description of the data requested;
 - c. Identify the form in which the data is to be provided (e.g., inspection, copying, both inspection and copying, etc.); and
 - d. Method to contact requestor (phone number, address, or email address).
- B. The responsible authority will respond within ten (10) business days of the receipt of a request to prepare summary data and inform the requestor of the following:
 - 1. The estimated costs of preparing the summary data, if any; and
 - 2. The summary data requested; or
 - 3. A written statement describing a time schedule for preparing the requested summary data, including reasons for any time delays; or
 - 4. A written statement describing the reasons why the responsible authority has determined that the requestor's access would compromise the private or confidential data.
- C. The school district may require the requestor to pre-pay all or a portion of the cost of creating the summary data before the school district begins to prepare the summary data.

VI. DATA BY AN INDIVIDUAL DATA SUBJECT

- A. Collection and storage of all data on individuals and the use and dissemination of private and confidential data on individuals shall be limited to that necessary for the administration and management of programs specifically authorized by the legislature or local governing body or mandated by the federal government.
- B. Private or confidential data on an individual shall not be collected, stored, used, or disseminated by the school district for any purposes other than those stated to the individual at the time of collection in accordance with Minnesota Statutes section 13.04, except as provided in Minnesota Statutes section 13.05, subdivision 4.
- C. Upon request to the responsible authority or designee, an individual shall be informed whether the individual is the subject of stored data on individuals, and whether it is classified as public, private or confidential. Upon further request, an individual who is the subject of stored private or public data on individuals shall be shown the data without any charge and, if desired, shall be informed of the content and meaning of that data.
- D. After an individual has been shown the private data and informed of its meaning, the data need not be disclosed to that individual for six months thereafter unless a dispute or action pursuant to this section is pending or additional data on the individual has been collected or created.

- E. The responsible authority or designee shall provide copies of the private or public data upon request by the individual subject of the data. The responsible authority or designee may require the requesting person to pay the actual costs of making and certifying the copies.
- F. The responsible authority or designee shall comply immediately, if possible, with any request made pursuant to this subdivision, or within ten days of the date of the request, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays, if immediate compliance is not possible.
- G. An individual subject of the data may contest the accuracy or completeness of public or private data. To exercise this right, an individual shall notify in writing the responsible authority describing the nature of the disagreement. The responsible authority shall within 30 days either: (1) correct the data found to be inaccurate or incomplete and attempt to notify past recipients of inaccurate or incomplete data, including recipients named by the individual; or (2) notify the individual that the authority believes the data to be correct. Data in dispute shall be disclosed only if the individual's statement of disagreement is included with the disclosed data.
- H. The determination of the responsible authority may be appealed pursuant to the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act relating to contested cases. Upon receipt of an appeal by an individual, the commissioner shall, before issuing the order and notice of a contested case hearing required by Minnesota Statutes chapter 14, try to resolve the dispute through education, conference, conciliation, or persuasion. If the parties consent, the commissioner may refer the matter to mediation. Following these efforts, the commissioner shall dismiss the appeal or issue the order and notice of hearing.
- I. Data on individuals that have been successfully challenged by an individual must be completed, corrected, or destroyed by a government entity without regard to the requirements of Minnesota Statutes section 138.17.
- J. After completing, correcting, or destroying successfully challenged data, the school district may retain a copy of the commissioner of administration's order issued under Minnesota Statutes chapter 14 or, if no order were issued, a summary of the dispute between the parties that does not contain any particulars of the successfully challenged data.

VII. REQUESTS FOR DATA BY AN INDIVIDUAL SUBJECT OF THE DATA

- A. All requests for individual subject data must be made in writing directed to the responsible authority.
- B. A request for individual subject data must include the following information:
 1. Statement that one is making a request as a data subject for data about the individual or about a student for whom the individual is the parent or guardian;
 2. Date the request is made;
 3. A clear description of the data requested;

4. Proof that the individual is the data subject or the data subject's parent or guardian;
 5. Identification of the form in which the data is to be provided (e.g., inspection, copying, both inspection and copying, etc.); and
 6. Method to contact the requestor (such as phone number, address, or email address).
- C. The identity of the requestor of private data is private.
- D. The responsible authority may seek clarification from the requestor if the request is not clear before providing a response to the data request.
- E. Policy 515 (Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records) addresses requests of students or their parents for educational records and data.

VIII. COSTS

A. Public Data

1. The school district will charge for copies provided as follows:
 - a. 100 or fewer pages of black and white, letter or legal sized paper copies will be charged at 25 cents for a one-sided copy or 50 cents for a two-sided copy.
 - b. More than 100 pages or copies on other materials are charged based upon the actual cost of searching for and retrieving the data and making the copies or electronically sending the data, unless the cost is specifically set by statute or rule.
 - (1) The actual cost of making copies includes employee time, the cost of the materials onto which the data is copied (paper, CD, DVD, etc.), and mailing costs (if any).
 - (2) Also, if the school district does not have the capacity to make the copies, e.g., photographs, the actual cost paid by the school district to an outside vendor will be charged.
2. All charges must be paid for in cash in advance of receiving the copies.

B. Summary Data

1. Any costs incurred in the preparation of summary data shall be paid by the requestor prior to preparing or supplying the summary data.
2. The school district may assess costs associated with the preparation of summary data as follows:

- a. The cost of materials, including paper, the cost of the labor required to prepare the copies, any schedule of standard copying charges established by the school district, any special costs necessary to produce such copies from a machine-based record-keeping system, including computers and microfilm systems;
- b. The school district may consider the reasonable value of the summary data prepared and, where appropriate, reduce the costs assessed to the requestor.

C. Data Belonging to an Individual Subject

1. The responsible authority or designee may require the requesting person to pay the actual costs of making and certifying the copies.

The responsible authority shall not charge the data subject any fee in those instances where the data subject only desires to view private data.

The responsible authority or designee may require the requesting person to pay the actual costs of making and certifying the copies. Based on the factors set forth in Minnesota Rule 1205.0300, subpart 4, the school district determines that a reasonable fee would be the charges set forth in section VIII.A of this policy that apply to requests for data by the public.

2. The school district may not charge a fee to search for or to retrieve educational records of a child with a disability by the child's parent or guardian or by the child upon the child reaching the age of majority.

IX. Annual Review and Posting

- A. The responsible authority shall prepare a written data access policy and a written policy for the rights of data subjects (including specific procedures the school district uses for access by the data subject to public or private data on individuals). The responsible authority shall update the policies no later than August 1 of each year, and at any other time as necessary to reflect changes in personnel, procedures, or other circumstances that impact the public's ability to access data.
- B. Copies of the policies shall be easily available to the public by distributing free copies to the public or by posting the policies in a conspicuous place within the school district that is easily accessible to the public or by posting them on the school district's website.

Data Practices Contacts**Responsible Authority:**

Dr. Michael Cary
 Superintendent
 Cloquet Public Schools
 302 14th Street
 Cloquet, MN 55720
mcary@isd94.org
 218-879-6721, ext. 6202

Data Practices Compliance Official:

Candace Nelis
 Business Manager
 Cloquet Public Schools
 302 14th Street
 Cloquet, MN 55720
cnelis@isd94.org
 218-879-6721, ext. 6213

Data Practices Designee(s):

Candace Nelis
 Business Manager
 Cloquet Public Schools
 302 14th Street
 Cloquet, MN 55720
cnelis@isd94.org
 218-879-6721, ext. 6213

Legal References: Minn. Stat. Ch. 13 (Minnesota Government Data Practices Act)
 Minn. Stat. § 13.01 (Government Data)
 Minn. Stat. § 13.02 (Definitions)
 Minn. Stat. § 13.025 (Government Entity Obligation)
 Minn. Stat. § 13.03 (Access to Government Data)
 Minn. Stat. § 13.04 (Rights of Subjects to Data)
 Minn. Stat. § 13.05 (Duties of Responsible Authority)
 Minn. Stat. § 13.32 (Educational Data)
 Minn. Rules Part 1205.0300 (Access to Public Data)
 Minn. Rules Part 1205.0400 (Access to Private Data)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 406 (Public and Private Personnel Data)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 515 (Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records)

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 94
PUBLIC DATA REQUEST FORM**

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REQUESTOR

REQUESTOR NAME (NOT REQUIRED):	PHONE NUMBER:*
ADDRESS: *	EMAIL ADDRESS:*
DATE OF REQUEST:	
DESCRIPTION OF THE INFORMATION REQUESTED: (attach additional page if necessary)	
MANNER IN WHICH RESPONSIVE DATA IS TO BE PROVIDED:	
INSPECTION ONLY _____ COPIES ONLY** _____ BOTH INSPECTION AND COPIES _____ **	
**Inspection is free, but there is a charge for copies. Payment must be received before copies will be provided.	

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

DATE REQUEST RECEIVED:	REQUEST RECEIVED BY:
DATE OF RESPONSE:	RESPONSE PROVIDED BY:

* Requestor's name is optional. However, contact information is necessary to mail/email the data. Also, contact information is needed if the school district does not understand the request. We will not work on such a request until clarified.

Adopted: 3/30/20, 11/10/14, 12/16/96

Revised: 8/11/25, 9/9/24, 3/30/20, 11/10/14, 12/16/96

802 DISPOSITION OF OBSOLETE EQUIPMENT AND MATERIAL

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the superintendent to assist in timely disposition of obsolete equipment and material.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

Effective use of school building space, and consideration for safety of personnel, will at times require disposal of obsolete equipment and material.

III. DEFINITIONS

- A. “Contract” means an agreement entered into by the school district for the sale of supplies, materials, or equipment.
- B. “Official newspaper” is a regular issue of a qualified legal newspaper.

IV. MANNER OF DISPOSITION

A. Authorization

The superintendent shall be authorized to dispose of obsolete equipment and materials by selling it at a fair price consistent with the procedures outlined in this policy. Any sale exceeding the minimum amount for which bids are required must first be specifically authorized by the school board. The superintendent shall be authorized to properly dispose of used books, materials, and equipment deemed to have little or no value.

B. Contracts Over \$175,000

1. If the value of the equipment or materials is estimated to exceed \$175,000, sealed bids shall be solicited by two weeks’ published notice in the official newspaper. This notice shall state the time and place of receiving bids and contain a brief description of the subject matter. Additional publication in the official newspaper or elsewhere may be made as the school board shall deem necessary.
2. The sale shall be awarded to the highest responsible bidder, be duly executed in writing, and be otherwise conditioned as required by law.
3. A record shall be kept of all bids, with names of bidders and amounts of bids, and an indication of the successful bid. A bid containing an alteration or erasure of any price contained in the bid which is used in determining the highest responsible bid shall be rejected unless the alteration or erasure is corrected by being crossed out

and the correction printed in ink or typewritten adjacent thereto and initialed in ink by the person signing the bid.

4. In the case of identical high bids from two or more bidders, the school board may, at its discretion, utilize negotiated procurement methods with the tied high bidders so long as the price paid does not go below the high tied bid price. In the case where only a single bid is received, the school board may, at its discretion, negotiate a mutually agreeable contract with the bidder so long as the price paid does not fall below the original bid. If no satisfactory bid is received, the board may readvertise.
5. All bids obtained shall be kept on file for a period of at least one year after their receipt. Every contract made without compliance with the foregoing provisions shall be void.
6. Data submitted by a business to a school in response to a request for bids are private until opened. Once opened, the name of the bidder and the dollar amount specified become public; all other data are private until completion of the selection process, meaning the school has completed its evaluation and ranked the responses. After completion of the selection process, all data submitted by all bidders are public except trade secret data. If all responses are rejected prior to completion of the selection process, all data remain private, except the name of the bidder and the dollar amount specified which were made public at the bid opening for one year from the proposed opening date or until resolicitation results in completion of the selection process or until a determination is made to abandon the purchase, whichever occurs sooner, at which point the remaining data becomes public. Data created or maintained by the school district as part of the selection or evaluation process are protected as nonpublic data until completion of the selection or evaluation process. At that time, the data are public with the exception of trade secret data.

C. Contracts From \$25,000 to \$175,000

If the amount of the sale is estimated to exceed \$25,000 but not to exceed \$175,000, the contract may be made either upon sealed bids in the manner directed above or by direct negotiation, by obtaining two or more quotations for the purchase or sale when possible, and without advertising for bids or otherwise complying with the requirements of competitive bidding notice. All quotations obtained shall be kept on file for a period of at least one year after receipt.

D. Contracts \$25,000 or Less

If the amount of the sale is estimated to be \$25,000 or less, the contract may be made either upon quotation or in the open market, in the discretion of the school board. The sale in the open market may be by auction. If the contract is made on quotation, it shall be based, so far as practicable, on at least two quotations which shall be kept on file for a period of at least one year after receipt.

E. Electronic Sale of Surplus Supplies, Materials, and Equipment

Notwithstanding the other procedural requirements of this policy, the school district may contract to sell supplies, materials, and equipment which is surplus, obsolete, or unused through an electronic selling process in which purchasers compete to purchase the supplies, materials, or equipment at the highest purchase price in an open and interactive environment.

F. Notice of Quotation

Notice of procedures to receive quotations shall be given by publication or other means as appropriate to provide reasonable notice to the public.

G. Sales to Employees

No officer or employee of the school district shall sell or procure for sale or possess or control for sale to any other officer or employee of the school district any property or materials owned by the school district unless the property and materials are not needed for public purposes and are sold to a school district employee after reasonable public notice, at a public auction or by sealed response, if the employee is not directly involved in the auction or sale process. Reasonable notice shall include at least one week's published or posted notice. A school district employee may purchase no more than one motor vehicle from the school district at any one auction. This section shall not apply to the sale of property or materials acquired or produced by the school district for sale to the general public in the ordinary course of business. Nothing in this section shall prohibit an employee of the school district from selling or possessing for sale public property if the sale or possession for sale is in the ordinary course of business or the normal course of the employee's duties.

H. Exceptions for Surplus School Computers

1. A school district may bypass the requirements for competitive bidding and is not subject to any other laws relating to school district contracts if it is disposing of surplus school computer and related equipment, including a tablet device, by conveying the property and title to:
 - a. another school district;
 - b. the state department of corrections;
 - c. the board of trustees of Minnesota State Colleges and Universities;
 - d. the family of a student residing in the district whose total family income meets the federal definition of poverty; or
 - e. a charitable organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code that is registered with the attorney general's office for educational use.

2. If surplus school computers are not disposed of as described in Paragraph 1., upon adoption of a written resolution of the school board, when updating or replacing school computers, including tablet devices, used primarily by students, the school district may sell or give used computers or tablets to qualifying students at the price specified in the written resolution. A student is eligible to apply to the school board for a computer or tablet under this subdivision if the student is currently enrolled in the school and intends to enroll in the school in the year following the receipt of the computer or tablet. If more students apply for computers or tablets than are available, the school must first qualify students whose families are eligible for free or reduced-price meals and then dispose of the remaining computers or tablets by lottery.

I. Disposing of Surplus Books

Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 471.345, governing school district contracts made upon sealed bid or otherwise complying with the requirements for competitive bidding, other provisions of this section governing school district contracts, or other law to the contrary, the school district may dispose of school books, including library books, books from an individual classroom library, and textbooks including other materials accompanying a textbook. The school district may dispose of surplus books by donating them to a family of a student residing in the district or a charitable organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 13.591 (Business Data)
 Minn. Stat. § 15.054 (Sale or Purchase of State Property; Penalty)
 Minn. Stat. § 123B.29 (Sale at Auction)
 Minn. Stat. § 123B.52 (Contracts)
 Minn. Stat. § 471.345 (Uniform Municipal Contracting Law)
 Minn. Stat. § 471.85 (Property Transfer; Public Corporations)
 Minn. Stat. § 645.11 (Published Notice)

Cross References: MSBA School Law Bulletin “F” (School District Contract and Bidding Procedures)

Adopted: 3/30/20, 11/10/14, 12/16/96

Revised: 8/11/25, 9/9/24, 3/30/20, 11/10/14, 12/16/96

802 DISPOSITION OF OBSOLETE EQUIPMENT AND MATERIAL

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the superintendent to assist in timely disposition of obsolete equipment and material.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

Effective use of school building space, and consideration for safety of personnel, will at times require disposal of obsolete equipment and material.

III. DEFINITIONS

- A. “Contract” means an agreement entered into by the school district for the sale of supplies, materials, or equipment.
- B. “Official newspaper” is a regular issue of a qualified legal newspaper.

IV. MANNER OF DISPOSITION

A. Authorization

The superintendent shall be authorized to dispose of obsolete equipment and materials by selling it at a fair price consistent with the procedures outlined in this policy. Any sale exceeding the minimum amount for which bids are required must first be specifically authorized by the school board. The superintendent shall be authorized to properly dispose of used books, materials, and equipment deemed to have little or no value.

B. Contracts Over \$175,000

1. If the value of the equipment or materials is estimated to exceed \$175,000, sealed bids shall be solicited by two weeks’ published notice in the official newspaper. This notice shall state the time and place of receiving bids and contain a brief description of the subject matter. Additional publication in the official newspaper or elsewhere may be made as the school board shall deem necessary.
2. The sale shall be awarded to the highest responsible bidder, be duly executed in writing, and be otherwise conditioned as required by law.
3. A record shall be kept of all bids, with names of bidders and amounts of bids, and an indication of the successful bid. A bid containing an alteration or erasure of any price contained in the bid which is used in determining the highest responsible bid shall be rejected unless the alteration or erasure is corrected by being crossed out

and the correction printed in ink or typewritten adjacent thereto and initialed in ink by the person signing the bid.

4. In the case of identical high bids from two or more bidders, the school board may, at its discretion, utilize negotiated procurement methods with the tied high bidders so long as the price paid does not go below the high tied bid price. In the case where only a single bid is received, the school board may, at its discretion, negotiate a mutually agreeable contract with the bidder so long as the price paid does not fall below the original bid. If no satisfactory bid is received, the board may readvertise.
5. All bids obtained shall be kept on file for a period of at least one year after their receipt. Every contract made without compliance with the foregoing provisions shall be void.
6. Data submitted by a business to a school in response to a request for bids are private until opened. Once opened, the name of the bidder and the dollar amount specified become public; all other data are private until completion of the selection process, meaning the school has completed its evaluation and ranked the responses. After completion of the selection process, all data submitted by all bidders are public except trade secret data. If all responses are rejected prior to completion of the selection process, all data remain private, except the name of the bidder and the dollar amount specified which were made public at the bid opening for one year from the proposed opening date or until resolicitation results in completion of the selection process or until a determination is made to abandon the purchase, whichever occurs sooner, at which point the remaining data becomes public. Data created or maintained by the school district as part of the selection or evaluation process are protected as nonpublic data until completion of the selection or evaluation process. At that time, the data are public with the exception of trade secret data.

C. Contracts From \$25,000 to \$175,000

If the amount of the sale is estimated to exceed \$25,000 but not to exceed \$175,000, the contract may be made either upon sealed bids in the manner directed above or by direct negotiation, by obtaining two or more quotations for the purchase or sale when possible, and without advertising for bids or otherwise complying with the requirements of competitive bidding notice. All quotations obtained shall be kept on file for a period of at least one year after receipt.

D. Contracts \$25,000 or Less

If the amount of the sale is estimated to be \$25,000 or less, the contract may be made either upon quotation or in the open market, in the discretion of the school board. The sale in the open market may be by auction. If the contract is made on quotation, it shall be based, so far as practicable, on at least two quotations which shall be kept on file for a period of at least one year after receipt.

E. Electronic Sale of Surplus Supplies, Materials, and Equipment

Notwithstanding the other procedural requirements of this policy, the school district may contract to sell supplies, materials, and equipment which is surplus, obsolete, or unused through an electronic selling process in which purchasers compete to purchase the supplies, materials, or equipment at the highest purchase price in an open and interactive environment.

F. Notice of Quotation

Notice of procedures to receive quotations shall be given by publication or other means as appropriate to provide reasonable notice to the public.

G. Sales to Employees

No officer or employee of the school district shall sell or procure for sale or possess or control for sale to any other officer or employee of the school district any property or materials owned by the school district unless the property and materials are not needed for public purposes and are sold to a school district employee after reasonable public notice, at a public auction or by sealed response, if the employee is not directly involved in the auction or sale process. Reasonable notice shall include at least one week's published or posted notice. A school district employee may purchase no more than one motor vehicle from the school district at any one auction. This section shall not apply to the sale of property or materials acquired or produced by the school district for sale to the general public in the ordinary course of business. Nothing in this section shall prohibit an employee of the school district from selling or possessing for sale public property if the sale or possession for sale is in the ordinary course of business or the normal course of the employee's duties.

H. Exceptions for Surplus School Computers

1. A school district may bypass the requirements for competitive bidding and is not subject to any other laws relating to school district contracts if it is disposing of surplus school computer and related equipment, including a tablet device, by conveying the property and title to:
 - a. another school district;
 - b. the state department of corrections;
 - c. the board of trustees of Minnesota State Colleges and Universities;
 - d. the family of a student residing in the district whose total family income meets the federal definition of poverty; or
 - e. a charitable organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code that is registered with the attorney general's office for educational use.
2. If surplus school computers are not disposed of as described in Paragraph 1., upon

adoption of a written resolution of the school board, when updating or replacing school computers, including tablet devices, used primarily by students, the school district may sell or give used computers or tablets to qualifying students at the price specified in the written resolution. A student is eligible to apply to the school board for a computer or tablet under this subdivision if the student is currently enrolled in the school and intends to enroll in the school in the year following the receipt of the computer or tablet. If more students apply for computers or tablets than are available, the school must first qualify students whose families are eligible for free or reduced-price meals and then dispose of the remaining computers or tablets by lottery.

I. Disposing of Surplus Books

Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 471.345, governing school district contracts made upon sealed bid or otherwise complying with the requirements for competitive bidding, other provisions of this section governing school district contracts, or other law to the contrary, the school district may dispose of school books, including library books, books from an individual classroom library, and textbooks including other materials accompanying a textbook. The school district may dispose of surplus books by donating them to a family of a student residing in the district or a charitable organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 13.591 (Business Data)
Minn. Stat. § 15.054 (Sale or Purchase of State Property; Penalty)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.29 (Sale at Auction)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.52 (Contracts)
Minn. Stat. § 471.345 (Uniform Municipal Contracting Law)
Minn. Stat. § 471.85 (Property Transfer; Public Corporations)
Minn. Stat. § 645.11 (Published Notice)

Cross References: MSBA School Law Bulletin “F” (School District Contract and Bidding Procedures)

Adopted: 6/12/00

Revised: 8/11/25, 9/9/24, 8/14/23

806 CRISIS MANAGEMENT POLICY

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Model Crisis Management Policy is to act as a guide for school district and building administrators, school employees, students, school board members, and community members to address a wide range of potential crisis situations in the school district. The step-by-step procedures suggested by this Policy will provide guidance to each school building in drafting crisis management plans to coordinate protective actions prior to, during, and after any type of emergency or potential crisis situation. Each school district should develop tailored building-specific crisis management plans for each school building in the school district, and sections or procedures may be added or deleted in those crisis management plans based on building needs.

The school district will, to the extent possible, engage in ongoing emergency planning within the school district and with emergency responders and other relevant community organizations. The school district will ensure that relevant emergency responders in the community have access to their building-specific crisis management plans and will provide training to school district staff to enable them to act appropriately in the event of a crisis.

II. GENERAL INFORMATION

A. The Policy and Plans

The school district's Crisis Management Policy has been created in consultation with local community response agencies and other appropriate individuals and groups that would likely be involved in the event of a school emergency. It is designed so that each building administrator can tailor a building-specific crisis management plan to meet that building's specific situation and needs.

The school district's administration and/or the administration of each building shall present tailored building-specific crisis management plans to the school board for review and approval. The building-specific crisis management plans will include general crisis procedures and crisis-specific procedures. Upon approval by the school board, such crisis management plans shall be an addendum to this Crisis Management Policy. This Policy and the plans will be maintained and updated on an annual basis.

B. Elements of the District Crisis Management Policy

1. General Crisis Procedures. The Crisis Management Policy includes general crisis procedures for securing buildings, classroom evacuation, building evacuation, campus evacuation, and sheltering. The Policy designates the individual(s) who will determine when these actions will be taken. These district-wide procedures may be modified by building administrators when creating their building-specific crisis management plans. A communication system will be in place to enable the

designated individual to be contacted at all times in the event of a potential crisis, setting forth the method to contact the designated individual, the provision of at least two designees when the contact person is unavailable, and the method to convey contact information to the appropriate staff persons. The alternative designees may include members of the emergency first responder response team. A secondary method of communication should be included in the plan for use when the primary method of communication is inoperable. Each building in the school district will have access to a copy of the Comprehensive School Safety Guide (2011 Edition) to assist in the development of building-specific crisis management plans.

All general crisis procedures will address specific procedures for the safe evacuation of children and employees with special needs such as physical, sensory, motor, developmental, and mental health challenges.

- a. Lock-Down Procedures. Lock-down procedures will be used in situations where harm may result to persons inside the school building, such as a shooting, hostage incident, intruder, trespass, disturbance, or when determined to be necessary by the building administrator or his or her designee. The building administrator or designee will announce the lock-down over the public address system or other designated system. Code words will not be used. Provisions for emergency evacuation will be maintained even in the event of a lock-down. Each building administrator will submit lock-down procedures for their building as part of the building-specific crisis management plan.
- b. Evacuation Procedures. Evacuations of classrooms and buildings shall be implemented at the discretion of the building administrator or his or her designee. Each building's crisis management plan will include procedures for transporting students and staff a safe distance from harm to a designated safe area until released by the building administrator or designee. Safe areas may change based upon the specific emergency situation. The evacuation procedures should include specific procedures for children with special needs, including children with limited mobility (wheelchairs, braces, crutches, etc.), visual impairments, hearing impairments, and other sensory, developmental, or mental health needs. The evacuation procedures should also address transporting necessary medications for students that take medications during the school day.
- c. Sheltering Procedures. Sheltering provides refuge for students, staff, and visitors within the school building during an emergency. Shelters are safe areas that maximize the safety of inhabitants. Safe areas may change based upon the specific emergency. The building administrator or his or her designee will announce the need for sheltering over the public address system or other designated system. Each building administrator will submit sheltering procedures for his or her building as part of the building-specific crisis management plan.

2. Crisis-Specific Procedures. The Crisis Management Policy includes crisis-specific procedures for crisis situations that may occur during the school day or at school-sponsored events and functions. These district-wide procedures are designed to enable building administrators to tailor response procedures when creating building-specific crisis management plans.
3. School Emergency Response Teams
 - a. Composition. The building administrator in each school building will select a school emergency response team that will be trained to respond to emergency situations. All school emergency response team members will receive on-going training to carry out the building's crisis management plans and will have knowledge of procedures, evacuation routes, and safe areas. For purposes of student safety and accountability, to the extent possible, school emergency response team members will not have direct responsibility for the supervision of students. Team members must be willing to be actively involved in the resolution of crises and be available to assist in any crisis situation as deemed necessary by the building administrator. Each building will maintain a current list of school emergency response team members which will be updated annually. The building administrator, and his or her alternative designees, will know the location of that list in the event of a school emergency. A copy of the list will be kept on file in the school district office, or in a secondary location in single building school districts.
 - b. Leaders. The building administrator or his or her designee will serve as the leader of the school emergency response team and will be the primary contact for emergency response officials. In the event the primary designee is unavailable, the designee list should include more than one alternative designee and may include members of the emergency response team. When emergency response officials are present, they may elect to take command and control of the crisis. It is critical in this situation that school officials assume a resource role and be available as necessary to emergency response officials.

III. PREPARATION BEFORE AN EMERGENCY

A. Communication

1. District Employees. Teachers generally have the most direct contact with students on a day-to-day basis. As a result, they must be aware of their role in responding to crisis situations. This also applies to non-teaching school personnel who have direct contact with students. All staff shall be aware of the school district's Crisis Management Policy and their own building's crisis management plan. Each school's building-specific crisis management plan shall include the method and dates of dissemination of the plan to its staff. Employees will receive a copy of the relevant building-specific crisis management plans and shall receive periodic training on plan implementation.

2. Students and Parents. Students and parents shall be made aware of the school district's Crisis Management Policy and relevant tailored crisis management plans for each school building. Each school district's building-specific crisis management plan shall set forth how students and parents are made aware of the district and school-specific plans. Students shall receive specific instruction on plan implementation and shall participate in a required number of drills and practice sessions throughout the school year.

B. Planning and Preparing for Fire

1. Designate a safe area at least 50 feet away from the building to enable students and staff to evacuate. The safe area should not interfere with emergency responders or responding vehicles and should not be in an area where evacuated persons are exposed to any products of combustion. (Depending on the wind direction, where the building on fire is located, the direction from which the fire is arriving, and the location of fire equipment, the distance may need to be extended.)
2. Each building's facility diagram and site plan shall be available in appropriate areas of the building and shall identify the most direct evacuation routes to the designated safe areas both inside and outside of the building. The facility diagram and site plan must identify the location of the fire alarm control panel, fire alarms, fire extinguishers, hoses, water spigots, and utility shut offs.
3. Teachers and staff will receive training on the location of the primary emergency evacuation routes and alternate routes from various points in the building. During fire drills, students and staff will practice evacuations using primary evacuation routes and alternate routes.
4. Certain employees, such as those who work in hazardous areas in the building, will receive training on the locations and proper use of fire extinguishers and protective clothing and equipment.
5. Fire drills will be conducted periodically without warning at various times of the day and under different circumstances, e.g., lunchtime, recess, and during assemblies. State law requires a minimum of five fire drills each school year, consistent with Minnesota Statutes section 299F.30. See Minnesota Statutes, section 121A.035.
6. A record of fire drills conducted at the building will be maintained in the building administrator's office.
7. The school district will have prearranged sites for emergency sheltering and transportation as needed.
8. The school district will determine which staff will remain in the building to perform essential functions if safe to do so (e.g., switchboard, building engineer, etc.). The school district also will designate an administrator or his or her designee to meet local fire or law enforcement agents upon their arrival.

C. Facility Diagrams and Site Plans

All school buildings will have a facility diagram and site plan that includes the location of primary and secondary evacuation routes, exits, designated safe areas inside and outside of the building, and the location of fire alarm control panel, fire alarms, fire extinguishers, hoses, water spigots, and utility shut offs. All facility diagrams and site plans will be updated regularly and whenever a major change is made to a building. Facility diagrams and site plans will be maintained by the building administrator and will be easily accessible and on file in the school district office. Facility diagrams and site plans will be provided to first responders, such as fire and law enforcement personnel.

D. Emergency Telephone Numbers

Each building will maintain a current list of emergency telephone numbers and the names and addresses of local, county, and state personnel who may be involved in a crisis situation. The list will include telephone numbers for local police, fire, ambulance, hospital, the Poison Control Center, county and state emergency management agencies, local public works departments, local utility companies, the public health nurse, mental health/suicide hotlines, and the county welfare agency. A copy of this list will be kept on file in the school district office, or at a secondary location for single building school districts and will be updated annually.

School district employees will receive training on how to make emergency contacts, including 911 calls, when the school district's main telephone number and location is electronically conveyed to emergency personnel instead of the specific building in need of emergency services.

School district plans will set forth a process to internally communicate an emergency, using telephones in classrooms, intercom systems, or two-way radios, as well as the procedure to enable the staff to rapidly convey emergency information to a building designee. Each plan will identify a primary and secondary method of communication for both internal and secondary use. It is recommended that the plan include several methods of communication because computers, intercoms, telephones, and cell phones may not be operational or may be dangerous to use during an emergency.

E. Warning and Notification Systems

The school district shall maintain a warning system designed to inform students, staff, and visitors of a crisis or emergency. This system shall be maintained on a regular basis under the maintenance plan for all school buildings. The school district should consider an alternate notification system to address the needs of staff and students with special needs, such as vision or hearing.

The building administrator shall be responsible for informing students and employees of the warning system and the means by which the system is used to identify a specific crisis or emergency situation. Each school's building-specific crisis management plan will include the method and frequency of dissemination of the warning system information to students and employees.

F. Early School Closure Procedures

The superintendent will make decisions about closing school or buildings as early in the day as possible. The early school closure procedures will set forth the criteria for early school closure (e.g., weather-related, utility failure, or a crisis situation), will specify how closure decisions will be communicated to staff, students, families, and the school community (designated broadcast media, local authorities, e-mail, or district or school building web sites), and will discuss the factors to be considered in closing and reopening a school or building.

Early school closure procedures also will include a reminder to parents and guardians to listen to designated local radio and TV stations for school closing announcements, where possible.

G. Media Procedures

The superintendent has the authority and discretion to notify parents or guardians and the school community in the event of a crisis or early school closure. The superintendent will designate a spokesperson who will notify the media in the event of a crisis or early school closure. The spokesperson shall receive training to ensure that the district is in strict compliance with federal and state law relative to the release of private data when conveying information to the media.

H. Behavioral Health Crisis Intervention Procedures

Short-term behavioral health crisis intervention procedures will set forth the procedure for initiating behavioral health crisis intervention plans. The procedures will utilize available resources including the school psychologist, counselor, community behavioral health crisis intervention, or others in the community. Counseling procedures will be used whenever the superintendent or the building administrator determines it to be necessary, such as after an assault, a hostage situation, shooting, or suicide. The behavioral health crisis intervention procedures shall include the following steps:

1. Administrator will meet with relevant persons, including school psychologists and counselors, to determine the level of intervention needed for students and staff.
2. Designate specific rooms as private counseling areas.
3. Escort siblings and close friends of any victims as well as others in need of emotional support to the counseling areas.
4. Prohibit media from interviewing or questioning students or staff.
5. Provide follow-up services to students and staff who receive counseling.
6. Resume normal school routines as soon as possible.

I. Long-Term Recovery Intervention Procedures

Long-term recovery intervention procedures may involve both short-term and long-term recovery planning:

1. Physical/structural recovery.
2. Fiscal recovery.
3. Academic recovery.
4. Social/emotional recovery.

IV. ACTIVE SHOOTER DRILL

A. Definitions

1. "Active shooter drill" means an emergency preparedness drill designed to teach students, teachers, school personnel, and staff how to respond in the event of an armed intruder on campus or an armed assailant in the immediate vicinity of the school. An active shooter drill is not an active shooter simulation, nor may an active shooter drill include any sensorial components, activities, or elements which mimic a real life shooting.
2. "Active shooter simulation" means an emergency exercise including full-scale or functional exercises, designed to teach adult school personnel and staff how to respond in the event of an armed intruder on campus or an armed assailant in the immediate vicinity of the school which also incorporates sensorial components, activities, or elements mimicking a real life shooting. Activities or elements mimicking a real life shooting include, but are not limited to, simulation of tactical response by law enforcement. An active shooter simulation is not an active shooter drill.
3. "Evidence-based" means a program or practice that demonstrates any of the following:
 - a. a statistically significant effect on relevant outcomes based on any of the following:
 - i. strong evidence from one or more well designed and well implemented experimental studies;
 - ii. moderate evidence from one or more well designed and well implemented quasi-experimental studies; or
 - iii. promising evidence from one or more well designed and well implemented correlational studies with statistical controls for selection bias; or

- b. a rationale based on high-quality research findings or positive evaluations that the program or practice is likely to improve relevant outcomes, including the ongoing efforts to examine the effects of the program or practice.
- 4. "Full-scale exercise" means an operations-based exercise that is typically the most complex and resource-intensive of the exercise types and often involves multiple agencies, jurisdictions, organizations, and real-time movement of resources.
- 5. "Functional exercises" means an operations-based exercise designed to assess and evaluate capabilities and functions while in a realistic, real-time environment, however, movement of resources is usually simulated.

B. Criteria

An active shooter drill conducted according to Minnesota Statutes, section 121A.037 with students in early childhood through grade 12 must be:

- 1. accessible;
- 2. developmentally appropriate and age appropriate, including using appropriate safety language and vocabulary;
- 3. culturally aware;
- 4. trauma-informed; and
- 5. inclusive of accommodations for students with mobility restrictions, sensory needs, developmental or physical disabilities, mental health needs, and auditory or visual limitations.

C. Student Mental Health and Wellness

Active shooter drill protocols must include a reasonable amount of time immediately following the drill for teachers to debrief with their students. The opportunity to debrief must be provided to students before regular classroom activity may resume. During the debrief period, students must be allowed to access any mental health services available on campus, including counselors, school psychologists, social workers, or cultural liaisons. An active shooter drill must not be combined or conducted consecutively with any other type of emergency preparedness drill. An active shooter drill must be accompanied by an announcement prior to commencing. The announcement must use concise and age-appropriate language and, at a minimum, inform students there is no immediate danger to life and safety.

D. Notice

- 1. The school district must provide notice of a pending active shooter drill to every student's parent or legal guardian before an active shooter drill is conducted.

Whenever practicable, notice must be provided at least 24 hours in advance of a pending active shooter drill and inform the parent or legal guardian of the right to opt their student out of participating.

2. If a student is opted out of participating in an active shooter drill, no negative consequence must impact the student's general school attendance record nor may nonparticipation alone make a student ineligible to participate in or attend school activities.
3. The Commissioner must ensure the availability of alternative safety education for students who are opted out of participating or otherwise exempted from an active shooter drill. Alternative safety education must provide essential safety instruction through less sensorial safety training methods and must be appropriate for students with mobility restrictions, sensory needs, developmental or physical disabilities, mental health needs, and auditory or visual limitations.

E. Participation in Active Shooter Drills

Any student in early childhood through grade 12 must not be required to participate in an active shooter drill that does not meet the Criteria set forth above.

F. Active Shooter Simulations

A student must not be required to participate in an active shooter simulation. An active shooter simulation must not take place during regular school hours if a majority of students are present, or expected to be present, at the school. A parent or legal guardian of a student in grades 9 through 12 must have the opportunity to opt their student into participating in an active shooter simulation.

G. Violence Prevention

1. A school district or charter school conducting an active shooter drill must provide students in middle school and high school at least one hour, or one standard class period, of violence prevention training annually.
2. The violence prevention training must be evidence-based and may be delivered in-person, virtually, or digitally. Training must, at a minimum, teach students the following:
 - a. how to identify observable warning signs and signals of an individual who may be at risk of harming oneself or others;
 - b. the importance of taking threats seriously and seeking help; and
 - c. the steps to report dangerous, violent, threatening, harmful, or potentially harmful activity, including providing information about the Department of Public Safety's statewide anonymous threat reporting system and any local threat reporting systems.

3. A school district or charter school must ensure that students have the opportunity to contribute to their school's safety and violence prevention planning, aligned with the recommendations for multihazard planning for schools, including but not limited to:
 - a. student opportunities for leadership related to prevention and safety;
 - b. encouragement and support to students in establishing clubs and programs focused on safety; and
 - c. providing students with the opportunity to seek help from adults and to learn about prevention connected to topics including bullying, sexual harassment, sexual assault, and suicide.

H. Board Meeting

At a regularly scheduled school board meeting, a school board of a district that has conducted an active shooter drill must consider the following:

1. the effect of active shooter drills on the safety of students and staff; and
2. the effect of active shooter drills on the mental health and wellness of students and staff.

V. SAMPLE PROCEDURES INCLUDED IN THIS POLICY

Sample procedures for the various hazards/emergencies listed below are attached to this Policy for use when drafting specific crisis management plans. Additional sample procedures may be found in the Response section of the *Comprehensive School Safety Guide* (2011 Edition). After approval by the school board, an adopted procedure will become an addendum to the Crisis Management Policy.

- A. Fire
- B. Hazardous Materials
- C. Severe Weather: Tornado/Severe Thunderstorm/Flooding
- D. Medical Emergency
- E. Fight/Disturbance
- F. Assault
- G. Intruder
- H. Weapons

- I. Shooting
- J. Hostage
- K. Bomb Threat
- L. Chemical or Biological Threat
- M. Checklist for Telephone Threats
- N. Demonstration
- O. Suicide
- P. Lock-down Procedures
- Q. Shelter-In-Place Procedures
- R. Evacuation/Relocation
- S. Media Procedures
- T. Post-Crisis Procedures
- U. School Emergency Response Team
- V. Emergency Phone Numbers
- W. Highly Contagious Serious Illness or Pandemic Flu

VI. MISCELLANEOUS PROCEDURES

A. Chemical Accidents

Procedures for reporting chemical accidents shall be posted at key locations such as chemistry labs, art rooms, swimming pool areas, and janitorial closets.

B. Visitors

The school district shall implement procedures mandating visitor sign in and visitors in school buildings. See MSBA/MASA Model Policy 903 (Visitors to School District Buildings and Sites).

The school district shall implement procedures to minimize outside entry into school buildings except at designated check-in points and assure that all doors are locked prior to and after regular building hours.

C. Student Victims of Criminal Offenses at or on School Property

The school district shall establish procedures allowing student victims of criminal offenses on school property the opportunity to transfer to another school within the school district.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. Ch. 12 (Emergency Management)
 Minn. Stat. Ch. 12A (Natural Disaster; State Assistance)
 Minn. Stat. § 121A.035 (Crisis Management Policy)
 Minn. Stat. § 121A.038 (Students Safe at School)
 Minn. Stat. § 121A.06 (Reports of Dangerous Weapon Incidents in School Zones)
 Minn. Stat. § 299F.30 (Fire Drill in School; Doors and Exits)
 Minn. Stat. § 326B.02, Subd. 6 (Powers)
 Minn. Stat. § 326B.106 (General Powers of Commissioner of Labor and Industry)
 Minn. Stat. § 609.605, Subd. 4 (Trespasses)
 Minn. Rules Ch. 7511 (Fire Code)
 20 U.S.C. § 1681, *et seq.* (Title IX)
 20 U.S.C. § 6301, *et seq.* (Every Student Succeeds Act)
 20 U.S.C. § 7912 (Unsafe School Choice Option)
 42 U.S.C. § 5121 *et seq.* (Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 407 (Employee Right to Know – Exposure to Hazardous Substances)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 413 (Harassment and Violence)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 501 (School Weapons Policy)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 506 (Student Discipline)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 532 (Use of Peace Officers and Crisis Teams to Remove Students with IEPs from School Grounds)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 903 (Visitors to School District Buildings and Sites)
Comprehensive School Safety Guide
[Minnesota School Safety Center - Resources \(mn.gov\)](http://mn.gov)

Resources: I Love U Guys Foundation, *Standard Response Protocol*
<https://iloveuguy.org/The-Standard-Response-Protocol.html> (012325)
 Safe and Sound Schools
<https://safeandsoundschools.org/> (012325)

Adopted: 6/12/00

Revised: 8/11/25, 9/9/24, 8/14/23

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6. A record of fire drills conducted at the building will be maintained in the building administrator's office.
7. The school district will have prearranged sites for emergency sheltering and transportation as needed.
8. The school district will determine which staff will remain in the building to perform essential functions if safe to do so (e.g., switchboard, building engineer, etc.). The school district also will designate an administrator or his or her designee to meet local fire or law enforcement agents upon their arrival.

C. Facility Diagrams and Site Plans

All school buildings will have a facility diagram and site plan that includes the location of primary and secondary evacuation routes, exits, designated safe areas inside and outside of the building, and the location of fire alarm control panel, fire alarms, fire extinguishers, hoses, water spigots, and utility shut offs. All facility diagrams and site plans will be updated regularly and whenever a major change is made to a building. Facility diagrams and site plans will be maintained by the building administrator and will be easily accessible and on file in the school district office. Facility diagrams and site plans will be provided to first responders, such as fire and law enforcement personnel.

D. Emergency Telephone Numbers

Each building will maintain a current list of emergency telephone numbers and the names and addresses of local, county, and state personnel who may be involved in a crisis situation. The list will include telephone numbers for local police, fire, ambulance, hospital, the Poison Control Center, county and state emergency management agencies, local public works departments, local utility companies, the public health nurse, mental health/suicide hotlines, and the county welfare agency. A copy of this list will be kept on file in the school district office, or at a secondary location for single building school districts and will be updated annually.

School district employees will receive training on how to make emergency contacts, including 911 calls, when the school district's main telephone number and location is electronically conveyed to emergency personnel instead of the specific building in need of emergency services.

School district plans will set forth a process to internally communicate an emergency, using telephones in classrooms, intercom systems, or two-way radios, as well as the procedure to enable the staff to rapidly convey emergency information to a building designee. Each plan will identify a primary and secondary method of communication for both internal and secondary use. It is recommended that the plan include several methods of communication because computers, intercoms, telephones, and cell phones may not be operational or may be dangerous to use during an emergency.

E. Warning and Notification Systems

The school district shall maintain a warning system designed to inform students, staff, and visitors of a crisis or emergency. This system shall be maintained on a regular basis under the maintenance plan for all school buildings. The school district should consider an alternate notification system to address the needs of staff and students with special needs, such as vision or hearing.

The building administrator shall be responsible for informing students and employees of the warning system and the means by which the system is used to identify a specific crisis or emergency situation. Each school's building-specific crisis management plan will include the method and frequency of dissemination of the warning system information to students and employees.

F. Early School Closure Procedures

The superintendent will make decisions about closing school or buildings as early in the day as possible. The early school closure procedures will set forth the criteria for early school closure (e.g., weather-related, utility failure, or a crisis situation), will specify how closure decisions will be communicated to staff, students, families, and the school community (designated broadcast media, local authorities, e-mail, or district or school building web sites), and will discuss the factors to be considered in closing and reopening a school or building.

Early school closure procedures also will include a reminder to parents and guardians to listen to designated local radio and TV stations for school closing announcements, where possible.

G. Media Procedures

The superintendent has the authority and discretion to notify parents or guardians and the school community in the event of a crisis or early school closure. The superintendent will designate a spokesperson who will notify the media in the event of a crisis or early school closure. The spokesperson shall receive training to ensure that the district is in strict compliance with federal and state law relative to the release of private data when conveying information to the media.

H. Behavioral Health Crisis Intervention Procedures

Short-term behavioral health crisis intervention procedures will set forth the procedure for initiating behavioral health crisis intervention plans. The procedures will utilize available resources including the school psychologist, counselor, community behavioral health crisis intervention, or others in the community. Counseling procedures will be used whenever the superintendent or the building administrator determines it to be necessary, such as after an assault, a hostage situation, shooting, or suicide. The behavioral health crisis intervention procedures shall include the following steps:

1. Administrator will meet with relevant persons, including school psychologists and counselors, to determine the level of intervention needed for students and staff.
2. Designate specific rooms as private counseling areas.
3. Escort siblings and close friends of any victims as well as others in need of emotional support to the counseling areas.
4. Prohibit media from interviewing or questioning students or staff.
5. Provide follow-up services to students and staff who receive counseling.
6. Resume normal school routines as soon as possible.

I. Long-Term Recovery Intervention Procedures

Long-term recovery intervention procedures may involve both short-term and long-term recovery planning:

1. Physical/structural recovery.
2. Fiscal recovery.
3. Academic recovery.
4. Social/emotional recovery.

IV. ACTIVE SHOOTER DRILL

A. Definitions

1. "Active shooter drill" means an emergency preparedness drill designed to teach students, teachers, school personnel, and staff how to respond in the event of an armed intruder on campus or an armed assailant in the immediate vicinity of the school. An active shooter drill is not an active shooter simulation, nor may an active shooter drill include any sensorial components, activities, or elements which mimic a real life shooting.
2. "Active shooter simulation" means an emergency exercise including full-scale or functional exercises, designed to teach adult school personnel and staff how to respond in the event of an armed intruder on campus or an armed assailant in the immediate vicinity of the school which also incorporates sensorial components, activities, or elements mimicking a real life shooting. Activities or elements mimicking a real life shooting include, but are not limited to, simulation of tactical response by law enforcement. An active shooter simulation is not an active shooter drill.
3. "Evidence-based" means a program or practice that demonstrates any of the following:
 - a. a statistically significant effect on relevant outcomes based on any of the following:
 - i. strong evidence from one or more well designed and well implemented experimental studies;
 - ii. moderate evidence from one or more well designed and well implemented quasi-experimental studies; or
 - iii. promising evidence from one or more well designed and well implemented correlational studies with statistical controls for selection bias; or

- b. a rationale based on high-quality research findings or positive evaluations that the program or practice is likely to improve relevant outcomes, including the ongoing efforts to examine the effects of the program or practice.
- 4. "Full-scale exercise" means an operations-based exercise that is typically the most complex and resource-intensive of the exercise types and often involves multiple agencies, jurisdictions, organizations, and real-time movement of resources.
- 5. "Functional exercises" means an operations-based exercise designed to assess and evaluate capabilities and functions while in a realistic, real-time environment, however, movement of resources is usually simulated.

B. Criteria

An active shooter drill conducted according to Minnesota Statutes, section 121A.037 with students in early childhood through grade 12 must be:

- 1. accessible;
- 2. developmentally appropriate and age appropriate, including using appropriate safety language and vocabulary;
- 3. culturally aware;
- 4. trauma-informed; and
- 5. inclusive of accommodations for students with mobility restrictions, sensory needs, developmental or physical disabilities, mental health needs, and auditory or visual limitations.

C. Student Mental Health and Wellness

Active shooter drill protocols must include a reasonable amount of time immediately following the drill for teachers to debrief with their students. The opportunity to debrief must be provided to students before regular classroom activity may resume. During the debrief period, students must be allowed to access any mental health services available on campus, including counselors, school psychologists, social workers, or cultural liaisons. An active shooter drill must not be combined or conducted consecutively with any other type of emergency preparedness drill. An active shooter drill must be accompanied by an announcement prior to commencing. The announcement must use concise and age-appropriate language and, at a minimum, inform students there is no immediate danger to life and safety.

D. Notice

- 1. The school district must provide notice of a pending active shooter drill to every student's parent or legal guardian before an active shooter drill is conducted.

Whenever practicable, notice must be provided at least 24 hours in advance of a pending active shooter drill and inform the parent or legal guardian of the right to opt their student out of participating.

2. If a student is opted out of participating in an active shooter drill, no negative consequence must impact the student's general school attendance record nor may nonparticipation alone make a student ineligible to participate in or attend school activities.
3. The Commissioner must ensure the availability of alternative safety education for students who are opted out of participating or otherwise exempted from an active shooter drill. Alternative safety education must provide essential safety instruction through less sensorial safety training methods and must be appropriate for students with mobility restrictions, sensory needs, developmental or physical disabilities, mental health needs, and auditory or visual limitations.

E. Participation in Active Shooter Drills

Any student in early childhood through grade 12 must not be required to participate in an active shooter drill that does not meet the Criteria set forth above.

F. Active Shooter Simulations

A student must not be required to participate in an active shooter simulation. An active shooter simulation must not take place during regular school hours if a majority of students are present, or expected to be present, at the school. A parent or legal guardian of a student in grades 9 through 12 must have the opportunity to opt their student into participating in an active shooter simulation.

G. Violence Prevention

1. A school district or charter school conducting an active shooter drill must provide students in middle school and high school at least one hour, or one standard class period, of violence prevention training annually.
2. The violence prevention training must be evidence-based and may be delivered in-person, virtually, or digitally. Training must, at a minimum, teach students the following:
 - a. how to identify observable warning signs and signals of an individual who may be at risk of harming oneself or others;
 - b. the importance of taking threats seriously and seeking help; and
 - c. the steps to report dangerous, violent, threatening, harmful, or potentially harmful activity, including providing information about the Department of Public Safety's statewide anonymous threat reporting system and any local threat reporting systems.

3. A school district or charter school must ensure that students have the opportunity to contribute to their school's safety and violence prevention planning, aligned with the recommendations for multihazard planning for schools, including but not limited to:
 - a. student opportunities for leadership related to prevention and safety;
 - b. encouragement and support to students in establishing clubs and programs focused on safety; and
 - c. providing students with the opportunity to seek help from adults and to learn about prevention connected to topics including bullying, sexual harassment, sexual assault, and suicide.

H. Board Meeting

At a regularly scheduled school board meeting, a school board of a district that has conducted an active shooter drill must consider the following:

1. the effect of active shooter drills on the safety of students and staff; and
2. the effect of active shooter drills on the mental health and wellness of students and staff.

V. SAMPLE PROCEDURES INCLUDED IN THIS POLICY

Sample procedures for the various hazards/emergencies listed below are attached to this Policy for use when drafting specific crisis management plans. Additional sample procedures may be found in the Response section of the *Comprehensive School Safety Guide* (2011 Edition). After approval by the school board, an adopted procedure will become an addendum to the Crisis Management Policy.

- A. Fire
- B. Hazardous Materials
- C. Severe Weather: Tornado/Severe Thunderstorm/Flooding
- D. Medical Emergency
- E. Fight/Disturbance
- F. Assault
- G. Intruder

- H. Weapons
- I. Shooting
- J. Hostage
- K. Bomb Threat
- L. Chemical or Biological Threat
- M. Checklist for Telephone Threats
- N. Demonstration
- O. Suicide
- P. Lock-down Procedures
- Q. Shelter-In-Place Procedures
- R. Evacuation/Relocation
- S. Media Procedures
- T. Post-Crisis Procedures
- U. School Emergency Response Team
- V. Emergency Phone Numbers
- W. Highly Contagious Serious Illness or Pandemic Flu

VI. MISCELLANEOUS PROCEDURES

A. Chemical Accidents

Procedures for reporting chemical accidents shall be posted at key locations such as chemistry labs, art rooms, swimming pool areas, and janitorial closets.

B. Visitors

The school district shall implement procedures mandating visitor sign in and visitors in school buildings. See MSBA/MASA Model Policy 903 (Visitors to School District Buildings and Sites).

The school district shall implement procedures to minimize outside entry into school buildings except at designated check-in points and assure that all doors are locked prior to and after regular building hours.

C. Student Victims of Criminal Offenses at or on School Property

The school district shall establish procedures allowing student victims of criminal offenses on school property the opportunity to transfer to another school within the school district.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. Ch. 12 (Emergency Management)
 Minn. Stat. Ch. 12A (Natural Disaster; State Assistance)
 Minn. Stat. § 121A.035 (Crisis Management Policy)
 Minn. Stat. § 121A.038 (Students Safe at School)
 Minn. Stat. § 121A.06 (Reports of Dangerous Weapon Incidents in School Zones)
 Minn. Stat. § 299F.30 (Fire Drill in School; Doors and Exits)
 Minn. Stat. § 326B.02, Subd. 6 (Powers)
 Minn. Stat. § 326B.106 (General Powers of Commissioner of Labor and Industry)
 Minn. Stat. § 609.605, Subd. 4 (Trespasses)
 Minn. Rules Ch. 7511 (Fire Code)
 20 U.S.C. § 1681, *et seq.* (Title IX)
 20 U.S.C. § 6301, *et seq.* (Every Student Succeeds Act)
 20 U.S.C. § 7912 (Unsafe School Choice Option)
 42 U.S.C. § 5121 *et seq.* (Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 407 (Employee Right to Know – Exposure to Hazardous Substances)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 413 (Harassment and Violence)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 501 (School Weapons Policy)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 506 (Student Discipline)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 532 (Use of Peace Officers and Crisis Teams to Remove Students with IEPs from School Grounds)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 903 (Visitors to School District Buildings and Sites)
Comprehensive School Safety Guide
[Minnesota School Safety Center - Resources \(mn.gov\)](http://mn.gov)

Resources: [I Love U Guys Foundation, *Standard Response Protocol*](https://iloveguys.org/The-Standard-Response-Protocol.html)
[https://iloveguys.org/The-Standard-Response-Protocol.html \(012325\)](https://iloveguys.org/The-Standard-Response-Protocol.html)

[Safe and Sound Schools](https://safeandsoundschools.org/)
[https://safeandsoundschools.org/ \(012325\)](https://safeandsoundschools.org/)



U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs Contact: ECA-Press@state.gov

Kimberly Broman Receives Fulbright U.S. Teacher Award for 2025-2026

JULY 28, 2025 — Kimberly Broman, an educator at Washington Elementary School, has received a Fulbright Teacher Exchange award for the 2025-2026 cycle from the U.S. Department of State and the Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board.

Kimberly is one of the approximately 400 master teachers and administrators who participate in the [Fulbright Teacher Exchanges](#) each year. In addition, approximately 800 individuals teach or conduct research abroad through the Fulbright Program annually. Over 2,000 college graduates, graduate students, and early career professionals participate in study/research exchanges or serve as English teaching assistants in local schools abroad through the Fulbright Program each year.

Since 1946, the Fulbright Program has provided over 400,000 talented and accomplished students, scholars, teachers, artists, and professionals of all backgrounds with the opportunity to study, teach, and conduct research abroad. Fulbrighters exchange ideas, build people-to-people connections, and work to address complex global challenges. Notable Fulbrighters include 62 Nobel Laureates, 93 Pulitzer Prize winners, 82 MacArthur Fellows, 44 heads of state or government, and thousands of leaders across the private, public, and non-profit sectors.

Fulbright is a program of the U.S. Department of State, with funding provided by the U.S. Government. Participating governments and host institutions, corporations, and foundations around the world also provide direct and indirect support to the Program, which has operated in over 160 countries worldwide. In the United States, the Institute of International Education implements the Fulbright U.S. Student and U.S. Scholar Programs on behalf of the U.S. Department of State. For more information about the Fulbright Program, visit <https://fulbrightprogram.org>.



Independent School District No. 94
Cloquet, Minnesota 55720

Central Administration
302 14th Street • 218-879-6721 • FAX-879-6724
Cloquet Senior High School
1000 18th Street • 218-879-3393 • FAX-879-6494
Cloquet Middle School
2001 Washington Avenue • 218-879-3328 • FAX-879-4175
Churchill Elementary School
515 Granite Street • 218-879-3308 • FAX-879-7034
Washington Elementary School
801 12th Street • 218-879-3369 • FAX-879-3360
Community Education
2001 Washington Avenue • 218-879-1261 • FAX-878-3013
Cloquet Area Alternative Education Programs
302 14th Street • 218-879-0115 • FAX -879-6941
www.isd94.org

16 July 2025

To: Dr. Michael Cary, Superintendent
From: Teresa Angell, AIE Program Director **TA**
RE: Permission to Post AIE Tutor

For your consideration and approval, I am requesting permission to post a 7hr/day American Indian Education Program Academic Tutor for CMS due to staff resignation.

I can be available at the next board meeting to address any questions you may have.

Cc: Tom Brenner



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<http://www.isd94.org>

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Michael Cary, Superintendent
FROM: Tom Brenner, Middle School Principal
DATE: August 5, 2025
RE: Internal Transfer

I am recommending the internal transfer of Aaron Young to fill the 1.0 FTE 6th Grade Teacher position at Cloquet Middle School for the 2025-2026 School Year. This transfer will be effective August 11, 2025, pending board approval.

TB:KP

Linking school and community to provide life-long learning and success for all.



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Michael Cary, Superintendent

FROM: Robbi Mondati, Washington Elementary Principal

DATE: August 7, 2025

RE: Internal Transfer

I am recommending the internal transfer of Jennifer Engel from Cloquet High School to Washington Elementary to fill the 6.5 hrs./day Paraprofessional position for the 2025-2026 School Year. Jennifer worked at Washington last school year and was bumped from her position at bumping day and would like to return to Washington. This transfer will be effective August 11, 2025, pending board approval.