

## Work Session

Tuesday, October 1, 2024 4:30 PM

917 Board Room, 130 145th Street East, Rosemount, MN 55068

- I. Call to Order - Chair Cindy Nordstrom
- II. Conduct Pledge of Allegiance - Chair Cindy Nordstrom
- III. Visitors Opportunity to be Heard - Chair Cindy Nordstrom (*Communications*)
- IV. Aligning our actions with our values and beliefs (*Integrity*)
  - IV.A.
    - Policies
- V. Review Renewal of Healthcare Benefits - Nicolle Roush/Mark Johns (*Innovation*)  
*(Powerpoint attached but final recommendation will be presented on Tuesday at the Board meeting.)*
- VI. Review October 1 Enrollment Reports - Dr. Melissa Schaller (*Communications*)  
*(These will be brought in at the Board meeting.)*
- VII. Review Aged Accounts Receivable Report - Nicolle Roush/Mark Johns (*Communication*)
- VIII. Review Assurance of Compliance - Dr. Michael Favor (*Integrity*)
- IX. Review Dr. Michael Favor's Goals for 2024-2025 - Chair Cindy Nordstrom
- X. Updates from Student Services - Dr. Melissa Schaller (*Communications*)
- XI. Updates from Member Districts - All (*Communications*)
- XII. Adjournment - Chair Cindy Nordstrom



**Intermediate School District 917**

***Purposeful. Personalized. Partners.***

1300 145th Street East, Rosemount, MN 55068 (651) 423-8229 \*

<http://www.isd917.org>

Dr. Michael Favor

TO: School Board  
FROM: Dr. Michael Favor  
DATE: October 1, 2024  
RE: Policies

The policies listed below are a first reading:

- **506 Student Discipline** – numerous changes throughout the document
- **522 Title IX Sex Nondiscrimination Policy, Grievance Procedure and Process** – revised the whole policy

Policy 806 can be a first and final reading since there are no changes.

- **806 Crisis Management Policy** – Annual review – no changes
- **524 Internet, Technology and Cell Phone Acceptable Use and Safety Policy** – removes cell phones
- **556 Student Use of Cellular Phones and Other Personal Electronic Devices Policy** – adds legal reference

**506 STUDENT DISCIPLINE**

**[NOTE: School districts are required by statute to have a policy addressing these issues.]**

**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 Student Code of 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 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. Administrators . The school administrators are given the responsibility and authority to formulate building rules and regulations necessary to enforce this policy, subject to final school board approval. The administrators shall give direction and support to all school personnel performing their duties within the framework of this policy. The administrators shall consult with parents of students conducting themselves in a manner contrary to the policy. The administrators 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. An administrator , 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 administrator 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, unless otherwise indicated in a student's Individualized Education Program (IEP). A teacher, 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 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 the person's 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, unless otherwise indicated in the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP).
- 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 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, unless otherwise indicated in the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP) ;
- 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, unless otherwise indicated in the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP);
- 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, unless otherwise indicated in the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP);
- 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;
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. ;
28. Possession or distribution of slanderous, libelous, or pornographic materials;
29. Violation of the school district's Bullying Prohibition Policy, unless otherwise indicated in the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP);
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.
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 or IEP meeting, if the student received special education services;
- 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.
- 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 and IEP team when the student received special education services. 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.

- 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.

**[Note: The following Sections C. - J. must be developed and inserted by each school district based upon individual district practices, procedures, and preferences. School districts may consider developing and inserting procedures identified in Sections K-N.]**

**C. Procedures for Removal of a Student From a Class.**

For students with Individualized Education Programs who receive special education services through Intermediate District 917's programs, any removal of a student from class must adhere to and align with the strategies, tools, and interventions outlined in the accommodations, modifications, Positive Behavior Support Plan, and Crisis Plan sections of the student's IEP.

For students who attend classes through Intermediate District 917's Dakota County Alternative School (DCALS) and Career & Technical Education (CTE) program ("Secondary Schools"), students may be removed from class as outlined in the Secondary School Student Culture Guide. DCALS and CTE divide problematic student behaviors into four levels of violations and provide examples of interventions and disciplinary responses. Non-disciplinary interventions and restorative responses are prioritized whenever possible for students to learn and practice appropriate responses and comportment.

Level I interventions are generally addressed by school staff members with a focus on re-teaching safe and respectful behaviors. Time out of class, part of a day of dismissal, or suspension may occur depending on the severity and frequency of the violation.

Level II interventions will result in dismissal from school for part of a day, an entire day, or multiple days. Based on severity, they may also result in notification of law enforcement.

Level III violations will result in the suspension of a student and possible notification of law enforcement.

Level IV violations require the principal to notify law enforcement and make a referral for an expulsion to the superintendent or designee.

## **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.

The use of exclusionary practices for early learners as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 121A.425, is prohibited. The use of exclusionary practices to address attendance and truancy issues is prohibited.

- 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 (6<sup>th</sup>) consecutive day of suspension or the tenth (10<sup>th</sup>) 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.
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)

[NOTE – this policy and grievance procedure are drafted to meet the minimum requirements in the 2024 Title IX Final Rule]

**522 – TITLE IX SEX NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY & GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE**

**I. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY/ NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION**

- A. The school district does not discriminate on the basis of sex and prohibits sex discrimination in any education program or activity that it operates, as required by Title IX, including in employment.
- B. Inquiries about Title IX may be referred to the Title IX Coordinator(s), the United States Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights, or both. The school district’s Title IX Coordinator(s) is/are:

**Director of Human Resources**  
**1300 145th Street East**  
**Rosemount, Minnesota 55068**  
**Phone: 651-423-8652**  
**Email: [TitleIX@isd917.org](mailto:TitleIX@isd917.org)**

- C. To report information about conduct that may constitute sex discrimination or make a complaint of sex discrimination under Title IX, please contact the Title IX Coordinator identified above or refer to [https://www.isd917.org/about/title\\_ix](https://www.isd917.org/about/title_ix)
- D. The school district’s nondiscrimination policy and grievance procedures can be located on the school district’s website as Policy 522 ([https://www.isd917.org/about/school\\_board/policies](https://www.isd917.org/about/school_board/policies)).
- E. The effective date of this policy is **August 1, 2024**, and applies to alleged violations of this policy occurring on or after **August 1, 2024**.

**Legal References:** Minn. Stat. § 121A.04 (Athletic Programs; Sex Discrimination)  
Minn. Stat. §§ 121A.40 – 121A.575 (Minnesota Pupil Fair Dismissal Act)  
Minn. Stat. Ch. 363A (Minnesota Human Rights Act)  
20 U.S.C. §§ 1681-1688 (Title IX of the Education Amendments)  
34 C.F.R. Part 106 (Implementing Regulations of Title IX)  
20 U.S.C § 1400, *et seq.* (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act)  
29 U.S.C. § 794 (Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act)  
42 U.S.C. § 12101, *et seq.* (Americans with Disabilities Act)  
20 U.S.C. § 1232g (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974)

**Cross References:** MSBA/MASA Model Policy 102 (Equal Educational Opportunity)

Drafted by Squires, Waldspurger & Mace, P.A., August 13, 2024

## **Title IX Grievance Procedure and Process**

### **Addendum to Policy 522**

#### **I. General**

The school district has adopted these grievance procedures that provide for the prompt and equitable resolution of complaints made by students, employees, or other individuals who are participating or attempting to participate in its education program or activity, or by the Title IX Coordinator, alleging any action that would be prohibited by Title IX or the Title IX regulations.

#### **II. Complaints**

A. **Complaints of Sex-based Harassment.** The following people have a right to make a complaint of sex discrimination, including complaints of sex-based harassment, requesting that the school district investigate and make a determination about alleged discrimination under Title IX:

1. A “complainant,” which includes:
  - a. a student or employee of the school district who is alleged to have been subjected to conduct that could constitute sex discrimination under Title IX; or
  - b. a person other than a student or employee of the school district who is alleged to have been subjected to conduct that could constitute sex discrimination under Title IX at a time when that individual was participating or attempting to participate in the school district’s education program or activity;
2. A parent, guardian, or other authorized legal representative with the legal right to act on behalf of a complainant; or
3. The school district’s Title IX Coordinator.

B. **Complaints of Sex Discrimination other than Sex-Based Harassment.** In addition to the people identified in Paragraph 1, the following people have a right to make a complaint of sex discrimination other than sex-based harassment:

1. Any student or employee of the school district; or
2. Any person other than a student or employee who was participating or attempting to participate in the school district’s education program or activity at the time of the alleged sex discrimination.

C. **Consolidation.** The school district may consolidate complaints of sex discrimination against more than one respondent, or by more than one complainant against one or more respondents,

or by one party against another party, when the allegations of sex discrimination arise out of the same facts or circumstances. When more than one complainant or more than one respondent is involved, references below to a party, complainant, or respondent include the plural, as applicable.

### **III. Basic Requirements of Title IX Grievance Procedures**

- A. The school district will treat complainants and respondents equitably.
- B. The school district requires that any Title IX Coordinator, investigator, or decisionmaker not have a conflict of interest or bias for or against complainants or respondents generally or an individual complainant or respondent. The decisionmaker may be the same person as the Title IX Coordinator or investigator.
- C. The school district presumes that the respondent is not responsible for the alleged sex discrimination until a determination is made at the conclusion of the grievance procedures.
- D. The school district has established the following reasonably prompt timeframes for the major stages of the grievance procedures:
  - 1. Any informal resolution process must be completed within thirty (30) calendar days following the parties' agreement to participate in such informal process.
  - 2. An appeal of a decision dismissing a complaint must be received by the school district within five (5) days of the date the notice of dismissal was provided to the parties.
  - 3. Any appeal of a dismissal will be decided within ten (10) calendar days of the day the appeal was received by the school district.
  - 4. The school district will seek to conclude the grievance process within 90 calendar days of the date the complaint was received by the school district.
- E. The school district has also established the following process that allows for the reasonable extension of timeframes on a case-by-case basis for good cause with notice to the parties that includes the reason for the delay:
  - 1. Any party or an investigator, decisionmaker, appellate decisionmaker, or informal resolution facilitator may make a request to the Title IX Coordinator to extend the timeline for good cause. If the Title IX Coordinator determines the reason for the extension constitutes good cause, the Title IX Coordinator will notify the parties of the reason for delay.
  - 2. Good cause may include, without limitation: the complexity of the allegations; the severity and extent of the alleged misconduct; the number of parties, witnesses, and the types of other evidence (e.g., forensic evidence) involved; the availability of the parties, advisors, witnesses, and evidence (e.g., forensic evidence); concurrent law enforcement activity; intervening school district holidays, breaks, or other closures; the need for language assistance or accommodation of disabilities; and/or other unforeseen circumstances.

- F. The school district will take reasonable steps to protect the privacy of the parties and witnesses during the pendency of the grievance procedures. These steps will not restrict the ability of the parties to obtain and present evidence, including by speaking to witnesses, subject to the prohibition against retaliation; consult with their family members, confidential resources, or advisors; or otherwise prepare for or participate in the grievance procedures.
- G. The school district will objectively evaluate all evidence that is relevant and not otherwise impermissible, including both inculpatory and exculpatory evidence. Credibility determinations will not be based on a person's status as a complainant, respondent, or witness.
- H. The following types of evidence, and questions seeking that evidence, as impermissible (i.e., will not be accessed or considered, unless an exception below applies; will not be disclosed; and will not otherwise be used), regardless of whether they are relevant:
  - a. Evidence that is protected under a privilege as recognized by federal or Minnesota law, unless the person to whom the privilege or confidentiality is owed has voluntarily waived the privilege or confidentiality;
  - b. A party's or witness's records that are made or maintained by a physician, psychologist, or other recognized professional or paraprofessional in connection with the provision of treatment to the party or witness, unless the school district has that party's or witness's voluntary, written consent for use in the grievance procedures; and
  - c. Evidence that relates to the complainant's sexual interests or prior sexual conduct, unless evidence about the complainant's prior sexual conduct is offered to prove that someone other than the respondent committed the alleged conduct or is evidence about specific incidents of the complainant's prior sexual conduct with the respondent that is offered to prove consent to the alleged sex-based harassment. The fact of prior consensual sexual conduct between the complainant and respondent does not by itself demonstrate or imply the complainant's consent to the alleged sex-based harassment or preclude determination that sex-based harassment occurred.

#### **IV. Notice of Allegations**

- A. Upon initiation of the school district's grievance procedures, the school district will notify the parties of the following:
  - 1. The school district's Title IX grievance procedures, and if applicable, any informal resolution process;
  - 2. Sufficient information available at the time to allow the parties to respond to the allegations, including the identities of the parties involved in the incident(s), the conduct alleged to constitute sex discrimination, and the date(s) and location(s) of the alleged incident(s), to the extent that information is available to the school district;

3. Retaliation is prohibited; and
  4. The parties are entitled to an equal opportunity to access the relevant and not otherwise impermissible evidence or an accurate description of this evidence. If the school district provides a description of the evidence, the parties are entitled to an equal opportunity to access to the relevant and not otherwise impermissible evidence upon the request of any party.
- B. If, in the course of an investigation, the school district decides to investigate additional allegations of sex discrimination by the respondent toward the complainant that are not included in the notice, the school district will provide notice of the additional allegations to the parties whose identities are known.

**V. Dismissal of a Complaint**

- A. The school district may dismiss a complaint of sex discrimination if:
1. The school district is unable to identify the respondent after taking reasonable steps to do so;
  2. The respondent is not participating in a school district education program or activity and is not employed by the school district;
  3. The complainant voluntarily withdraws any or all of the allegations in the complaint, the Title IX Coordinator declines to initiate a complaint, and the school district determines that, without the complainant's withdrawn allegations, the conduct that remains alleged in the complaint, if any, would not constitute sex discrimination under Title IX even if proven; or
  4. The school district determines the conduct alleged in the complaint, even if proven, would not constitute sex discrimination under Title IX. Before dismissing the complaint, the school district will make reasonable efforts to clarify the allegations with the complainant.
- B. Upon dismissal, the school district will promptly notify the complainant of the basis for the dismissal. If the dismissal occurs after the respondent has been notified of the allegations, then the school district will also notify the respondent of the dismissal and the basis for the dismissal promptly following notification to the complainant, or simultaneously if notification is in writing.
- C. The school district will notify the complainant that a dismissal may be appealed and will provide the complainant with an opportunity to appeal the dismissal of a complaint. If the dismissal occurs after the respondent has been notified of the allegations, then the school district will also notify the respondent that the dismissal may be appealed. Dismissals may be appealed on the following bases:
1. Procedural irregularity that would change the outcome;
  2. New evidence that would change the outcome and that was not reasonably available when the dismissal was made; and

3. The Title IX Coordinator, investigator, or decisionmaker had a conflict of interest or bias for or against complainants or respondents generally or the individual complainant or respondent that would change the outcome.
- D. If the dismissal is appealed, the school district will:
1. Notify the parties of any appeal, including notice of the allegations if notice was not previously provided to the respondent;
  2. Implement appeal procedures equally for the parties;
  3. Ensure that the decisionmaker for the appeal did not take part in an investigation of the allegations or dismissal of the complaint;
  4. Ensure that the decisionmaker for the appeal has received training required by Title IX;
  5. Provide the parties a reasonable and equal opportunity to make a statement in support of, or challenging, the outcome; and
  6. Notify the parties of the result of the appeal and the rationale for the result.
- E. When a complaint is dismissed, the school district must, at a minimum:
1. Offer supportive measures to the complainant as appropriate;
  2. If the respondent has been notified of the allegations, offer supportive measures to the respondent as appropriate; and
  3. Take other appropriate prompt and effective steps, as appropriate, through the Title IX Coordinator to ensure that sex discrimination does not continue or recur within the school district's education program or activity.
- F. Dismissal of a complaint or a portion thereof does not preclude the school district from addressing the underlying conduct in any manner that the school district deems appropriate.

## **VI. Investigation**

- A. The school district will provide for adequate, reliable, and impartial investigation of complaints.
- B. The burden is on the school district – not on the parties – to conduct an investigation that gathers sufficient evidence to determine whether sex discrimination occurred;
- C. The school district will provide an equal opportunity for the parties to present fact witnesses and other inculpatory and exculpatory evidence that are relevant and not otherwise impermissible;
- D. The school district will review all evidence gathered through the investigation and determine what evidence is relevant and what evidence is impermissible regardless of relevance.

E. The school district will provide each party with an equal opportunity to access the evidence that is relevant to the allegations of sex discrimination and not otherwise impermissible in the following manner:

- a. The school district will provide an equal opportunity to access either the relevant and not otherwise impermissible evidence, or an accurate description of this evidence. If the school district provides a description of the evidence, it will provide the parties with an equal opportunity to access the relevant and not otherwise impermissible evidence upon the request of any party;
- b. The school district will provide a reasonable opportunity to respond to the evidence or to the accurate description of the evidence; and
- c. The school district will take reasonable steps to prevent and address the parties' unauthorized disclosure of information and evidence obtained solely through the grievance procedures. Disclosures of such information and evidence for purposes of administrative proceedings or litigation related to the complaint of sex discrimination are authorized.

F. Questioning Parties and Witnesses to Aid in Evaluating Allegations and Assessing Credibility

The decisionmaker may ask questions of parties and witnesses to adequately assess a party's or witness's credibility to the extent credibility is both in dispute and relevant to evaluating one or more allegations of sex discrimination.

G. Determination Whether Sex Discrimination Occurred

Following an investigation and evaluation of all relevant and not otherwise impermissible evidence, the school district will:

1. Use the preponderance of the evidence standard of proof to determine whether sex discrimination occurred. This standard of proof requires the decisionmaker to evaluate relevant and not otherwise impermissible evidence for its persuasiveness. If the decisionmaker is not persuaded under the applicable standard by the evidence that sex discrimination occurred, whatever the quantity of the evidence is, the decisionmaker will not determine that sex discrimination occurred.
2. Notify the parties in writing of the determination whether sex discrimination occurred under Title IX or its regulations including the rationale for such determination;
3. Not impose discipline on a respondent for sex discrimination prohibited by Title IX unless there is a determination at the conclusion of the grievance procedures that the respondent engaged in prohibited sex discrimination;
4. If there is a determination that sex discrimination occurred, the Title IX Coordinator will, as appropriate:

- a. Coordinate the provision and implementation of remedies to a complainant and other persons the school district identifies as having had equal access to the school district's education program or activity limited or denied by sex discrimination;
  - b. Coordinate the imposition of any disciplinary sanctions on a respondent, including notification to the complainant of any such disciplinary sanctions; and
  - c. Take other appropriate prompt and effective steps to ensure that sex discrimination does not continue or recur within the school district's education program or activity;
4. Comply with the grievance procedures before the imposition of any disciplinary sanctions against a respondent; and
  5. Not discipline a party, witness, or others participating in school district's grievance procedures for making a false statement or for engaging in consensual sexual conduct based solely on the school district's determination whether sex discrimination occurred.

**V. Informal Resolution**

In lieu of resolving a complaint through the school district's grievance procedures, the parties may instead elect to participate in an informal resolution process offered by the school district. Informal resolution is not available to resolve a complaint that includes allegations that an employee engaged in sex-based harassment of a student, or when such a process would conflict with Federal, Minnesota, or local law.

**VI. Disciplinary Sanctions & Remedies for Complaints of Sex-Based Harassment**

- A. Supportive measures may be made available to complainants and respondents, as appropriate. Available supportive measures include: reassignment of classes, transportation changes, no-contact directives, alternate passing times, escorts, extensions of deadlines or course-related requirements, counseling or support from designated adults, and other measures that are necessary and appropriate to ensure complainants and respondents are not denied equal access to the school district's education program and activity.
- B. Following a determination that sex-based harassment occurred by a student-respondent, the school district may impose discipline consistent with Policy 506. Following a determination that sex-based harassment occurred by an employee-respondent, the school district may impose discipline consistent with any applicable personnel policy, collective bargaining agreement, or Minnesota law, including suspension without pay and termination or discharge.
- C. Following a determination that sex-based harassment occurred, available remedies may include counseling, extensions of deadlines or other course-related adjustments, modifications of work or class schedules, mutual or unilateral restrictions on contact between the parties, leaves of absence, monitoring of certain areas of school district buildings or property, transfer, transportation changes, and other remedies determined appropriate by the Title IX Coordinator.

**524 INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE AND SAFETY POLICY**

**I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to set forth policies and guidelines for access to the school district computer system and acceptable and safe use of the Internet, including electronic communications.

**II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

In making decisions regarding student and employee access to the school district computer system and the Internet, including electronic communications, the school district considers its own stated educational mission, goals, and objectives. Electronic information research skills are now fundamental to preparation of citizens and future employees. Access to the school district computer system and to the Internet enables students and employees to explore thousands of libraries, databases, bulletin boards, and other resources while exchanging messages with people around the world. The school district expects that faculty will blend thoughtful use of the school district computer system and the Internet throughout the curriculum and will provide guidance and instruction to students in their use.

**III. LIMITED EDUCATIONAL PURPOSE**

The school district is providing students and employees with access to the school district computer system, which includes Internet access. The purpose of the system is more specific than providing students and employees with general access to the Internet. The school district system has a limited educational purpose, which includes use of the system for classroom activities, educational research, and professional or career development activities. Users are expected to use Internet access through the district system to further educational and personal goals consistent with the mission of the school district and school policies. Uses which might be acceptable on a user's private personal account on another system may not be acceptable on this limited-purpose network.

**IV. USE OF SYSTEM IS A PRIVILEGE**

The use of the school district system and access to use of the Internet is a privilege, not a right. Depending on the nature and degree of the violation and the number of previous violations, unacceptable use of the school district system or the Internet may result in one or more of the following consequences: suspension or cancellation of use or access privileges; payments for damages and repairs; discipline under other appropriate school district policies, including suspension, expulsion, exclusion, or termination of employment; or civil or criminal liability under other applicable laws.

**V. UNACCEPTABLE USES**

- A. While not an exhaustive list, the following uses of the school district system and Internet resources or accounts are considered unacceptable:
  - 1. Users will not use the school district system to access, review, upload, download,

store, print, post, receive, transmit, or distribute:

- a. pornographic, obscene, or sexually explicit material or other visual depictions that are harmful to minors;
  - b. obscene, abusive, profane, lewd, vulgar, rude, inflammatory, threatening, disrespectful, or sexually explicit language;
  - c. materials that use language or images that are inappropriate in the education setting or disruptive to the educational process;
  - d. information or materials that could cause damage or danger of disruption to the educational process;
  - e. materials that use language or images that advocate violence or discrimination toward other people (hate literature) or that may constitute harassment or discrimination.
2. Users will not use the school district system to knowingly or recklessly post, transmit, or distribute false or defamatory information about a person or organization, or to harass another person, or to engage in personal attacks, including prejudicial or discriminatory attacks.
  3. Users will not use the school district system to engage in any illegal act or violate any local, state, or federal statute or law.
  4. Users will not use the school district system to vandalize, damage, or disable the property of another person or organization, will not make deliberate attempts to degrade or disrupt equipment, software, or system performance by spreading computer viruses or by any other means, will not tamper with, modify, or change the school district system software, hardware, or wiring or take any action to violate the school district's security system, and will not use the school district system in such a way as to disrupt the use of the system by other users.
  5. Users will not use the school district system to gain unauthorized access to information resources or to access another person's materials, information, or files without the implied or direct permission of that person.
  6. Users will not use the school district system to post private information about another person, personal contact information about themselves or other persons, or other personally identifiable information, including, but not limited to, addresses, telephone numbers, school addresses, work addresses, identification numbers, account numbers, access codes or passwords, labeled photographs, or other information that would make the individual's identity easily traceable, and will not repost a message that was sent to the user privately without permission of the person who sent the message.
    - a. This paragraph does not prohibit the posting of employee contact information on school district webpages or communications between employees and other individuals when such communications are made for education-related purposes (i.e., communications with parents or guardians or other staff members related to students).
    - b. Employees creating or posting school-related webpages may include personal contact information about themselves on a webpage. However, employees may not post personal contact information or other personally identifiable information about students unless:

- (1) such information is classified by the school district as directory information and verification is made that the school district has not received notice from a parent or guardian or eligible student that such information is not to be designated as directory information in accordance with Policy 515; or
- (2) such information is not classified by the school district as directory information but written consent for release of the information to be posted has been obtained from a parent or guardian or eligible student in accordance with Policy 515.

In addition, prior to posting any personal contact or personally identifiable information on a school-related webpage, employees shall obtain written approval of the content of the postings from the building administrator.

- c. These prohibitions specifically prohibit a user from utilizing the school district system to post personal information about a user or another individual on social networks, including, but not limited to, social networks such as "Facebook," "Twitter," "Instagram," "Snapchat," "TikTok," "Reddit," and similar websites or applications.
7. Users must keep all account information and passwords on file with the designated school district official. Users will not attempt to gain unauthorized access to the school district system or any other system through the school district system, attempt to log in through another person's account, or use computer accounts, access codes, or network identification other than those assigned to the user. Messages and records on the school district system may not be encrypted without the permission of appropriate school authorities.
  8. Users will not use the school district system to violate copyright laws or usage licensing agreements, or otherwise to use another person's property without the person's prior approval or proper citation, including the downloading or exchanging of pirated software or copying software to or from any school computer, and will not plagiarize works they find on the Internet.
  9. Users will not use the school district system for conducting business, for unauthorized commercial purposes, or for financial gain unrelated to the mission of the school district. Users will not use the school district system to offer or provide goods or services or for product advertisement. Users will not use the school district system to purchase goods or services for personal use without authorization from the appropriate school district official.
  10. Users will not use the school district system to engage in bullying or cyberbullying in violation of the school district's Bullying Prohibition Policy. This prohibition includes using any technology or other electronic communication off school premises to the extent that student learning or the school environment is substantially and materially disrupted.
- B. The school district has a special interest in regulating off-campus speech that materially disrupts classwork or involves substantial disorder or invasion of the rights of others. A student or employee engaging in the foregoing unacceptable uses of the Internet when off school district premises also may be in violation of this policy as well as other school district policies. Examples of such violations may include, but are not limited to, serious or severe bullying or harassment targeting particular individuals, threats aimed at teachers or other students, failure to follow rules concerning lessons, the writing of papers, the use of computers, or participation in other online school activities, and

breaches of school security devices. If the school district receives a report of an unacceptable use originating from a non-school computer or resource, the school district may investigate such reports to the best of its ability. Students or employees may be subject to disciplinary action for such conduct, including, but not limited to, suspension or cancellation of the use or access to the school district computer system and the Internet and discipline under other appropriate school district policies, including suspension, expulsion, exclusion, or termination of employment.

- C. If a user inadvertently accesses unacceptable materials or an unacceptable Internet site, the user shall immediately disclose the inadvertent access to an appropriate school district official. In the case of a school district employee, the immediate disclosure shall be to the employee's immediate supervisor and/or the building administrator. This disclosure may serve as a defense against an allegation that the user has intentionally violated this policy. In certain rare instances, a user also may access otherwise unacceptable materials if necessary to complete an assignment and if done with the prior approval of and with appropriate guidance from the appropriate teacher or, in the case of a school district employee, the building administrator.

## **VI. FILTER**

- A. With respect to any of its computers with Internet access, the school district will monitor the online activities of both minors and adults and employ technology protection measures during any use of such computers by minors and adults. The technology protection measures utilized will block or filter Internet access to any visual depictions that are:
  - 1. Obscene;
  - 2. Child pornography; or
  - 3. Harmful to minors.
- B. The term "harmful to minors" means any picture, image, graphic image file, or other visual depiction that:
  - 1. Taken as a whole and with respect to minors, appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sex, or excretion; or
  - 2. Depicts, describes, or represents, in a patently offensive way with respect to what is suitable for minors, an actual or simulated sexual act or sexual contact, actual or simulated normal or perverted sexual acts, or a lewd exhibition of the genitals; and
  - 3. Taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value as to minors.
- C. Software filtering technology shall be narrowly tailored and shall not discriminate based on viewpoint.
- D. An administrator, supervisor, or other person authorized by the Superintendent may disable the technology protection measure, during use by an adult, to enable access for bona fide research or other lawful purposes.
- E. The school district will educate students about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms and cyberbullying awareness and response.

## **VII. CONSISTENCY WITH OTHER SCHOOL POLICIES**

Use of the school district computer system and use of the Internet shall be consistent with school district policies and the mission of the school district.

## **VIII. LIMITED EXPECTATION OF PRIVACY**

- A. By authorizing use of the school district system, the school district does not relinquish control over materials on the system or contained in files on the system. Users should expect only limited privacy in the contents of personal files on the school district system.
- B. Routine maintenance and monitoring of the school district system may lead to a discovery that a user has violated this policy, another school district policy, or the law.
- C. An individual investigation or search will be conducted if school authorities have a reasonable suspicion that the search will uncover a violation of law or school district policy.
- D. Parents or guardians may have the right at any time to investigate or review the contents of their child's files and e-mail files in accordance with the school district's Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records Policy. Parents or guardians have the right to request the termination of their child's individual account at any time.
- E. School district employees should be aware that the school district retains the right at any time to investigate or review the contents of their files and e-mail files. In addition, school district employees should be aware that data and other materials in files maintained on the school district system may be subject to review, disclosure, or discovery under Minnesota Statutes chapter 13 (Minnesota Government Data Practices Act).
- F. The school district will cooperate fully with local, state and federal authorities in any investigation concerning or related to any illegal activities or activities not in compliance with school district policies conducted through the school district system.

## **IX. INTERNET USE AGREEMENT**

- A. The proper use of the Internet, and the educational value to be gained from proper Internet use, is the joint responsibility of students, parents or guardians, and employees of the school district.
- B. This policy requires the permission of and supervision by the school's designated professional staff before a student may use a school account or resource to access the Internet.
- C. The Internet Use Agreement form for students must be read and signed by the user, the parent or guardian, and the supervising teacher. The Internet Use Agreement form for employees must be signed by the employee. The form must then be filed at the school office. As supervising teachers change, the agreement signed by the new teacher shall be attached to the original agreement.

## **X. LIMITATION ON SCHOOL DISTRICT LIABILITY**

Use of the school district system is at the user's own risk. The system is provided on an "as is, as available" basis. The school district will not be responsible for any damage users may suffer, including, but not limited to, loss, damage, or unavailability of data stored on school district diskettes, tapes, hard drives, or servers, or for delays or changes in or interruptions of service or misdeliveries or nondeliveries of information or materials, regardless of the cause. The school district is not responsible for the accuracy or quality of any advice or information obtained through or stored on the school district system. The school district will not be responsible for financial obligations arising through unauthorized use of the school district system or the Internet.

## **XI. USER NOTIFICATION**

- A. All users shall be notified of the school district policies relating to Internet use.
- B. This notification shall include the following:
  - 1. Notification that Internet use is subject to compliance with school district policies.
  - 2. Disclaimers limiting the school district's liability relative to:
    - a. Information stored on school district diskettes, hard drives, or servers.
    - b. Information retrieved through school district computers, networks, or online resources.
    - c. Personal property used to access school district computers, networks, or online resources.
    - d. Unauthorized financial obligations resulting from use of school district resources/accounts to access the Internet.
  - 3. A description of the privacy rights and limitations of school sponsored/managed Internet accounts.
  - 4. Notification that, even though the school district may use technical means to limit student Internet access, these limits do not provide a foolproof means for enforcing the provisions of this acceptable use policy.
  - 5. Notification that goods and services can be purchased over the Internet that could potentially result in unwanted financial obligations and that any financial obligation incurred by a student through the Internet is the sole responsibility of the student and/or the student's parents or guardians.
  - 6. Notification that the collection, creation, reception, maintenance, and dissemination of data via the Internet, including electronic communications, is governed by Public and Private Personnel Data Policy, and Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records Policy.
  - 7. Notification that, should the user violate the school district's acceptable use policy, the user's access privileges may be revoked, school disciplinary action may be taken and/or appropriate legal action may be taken.
  - 8. Notification that all provisions of the acceptable use policy are subordinate to local, state, and federal laws.

**XII. PARENTS' OR GUARDIANS' RESPONSIBILITY; NOTIFICATION OF STUDENT INTERNET USE**

- A. Outside of school, parents or guardians bear responsibility for the same guidance of Internet use as they exercise with information sources such as television, telephones, radio, movies, and other possibly offensive media. Parents or guardians are responsible for monitoring their student's use of the school district system and of the Internet if the student is accessing the school district system from home or a remote location.
- B. Parents or guardians will be notified that their students will be using school district resources/accounts to access the Internet and that the school district will provide parents or guardians the option to request alternative activities not requiring Internet access. This notification should include:
  - 1. A copy of the user notification form provided to the student user.
  - 2. A description of parent or guardian responsibilities.
  - 3. A notification that the parents or guardians have the option to request alternative educational activities not requiring Internet access and the material to exercise this option.
  - 4. A statement that the Internet Use Agreement must be signed by the user, the parent or guardian, and the supervising teacher prior to use by the student.
  - 5. A statement that the school district's acceptable use policy is available for parental or guardian review.

**XIII. NOTIFICATION REGARDING TECHNOLOGY PROVIDERS**

- A. "Technology provider" means a person who:
  - 1. contracts with the school district, as part of a one-to-one program or otherwise, to provide a school-issued device for student use; and
  - 2. creates, receives, or maintains educational data pursuant or incidental to a contract with the school district.
- B. "Parent" means a parent of a student and includes a natural parent, a guardian, or an individual acting as a parent in the absence of a parent or a guardian.
- C. Within 30 days of the start of each school year, the school district must give parents or guardians and students direct and timely notice, by United States mail, e-mail, or other direct form of communication, of any curriculum, testing, or assessment technology provider contract affecting a student's educational data. The notice must:
  - 1. identify each curriculum, testing, or assessment technology provider with access to educational data;
  - 2. identify the educational data affected by the curriculum, testing, or assessment technology provider contract; and
  - 3. include information about the contract inspection and provide contact information for a school department to which a parent or guardian or student

may direct questions or concerns regarding any program or activity that allows a curriculum, testing, or assessment technology provider to access a student's educational data.

- D. The school district must provide parents or guardians and students an opportunity to inspect a complete copy of any contract with a technology provider.
- E. A contract between a technology provider and the school district must include requirements to ensure appropriate security safeguards for educational data. The contract must require that:
  - 1. the technology provider's employees or contractors have access to educational data only if authorized; and
  - 2. the technology provider's employees or contractors may be authorized to access educational data only if access is necessary to fulfill the official duties of the employee or contractor.
- F. All educational data created, received, maintained, or disseminated by a technology provider pursuant or incidental to a contract with a public educational agency or institution are not the technology provider's property.

#### **XIV. SCHOOL-ISSUED DEVICES**

- A. "School-issued device" means hardware or software that the school district, acting independently or with a technology provider, provides to an individual student for that student's dedicated personal use. A school-issued device includes a device issued through a one-to-one program.
- B. Except as provided in paragraph C, the school district or a technology provider must not electronically access or monitor:
  - 1. any location-tracking feature of a school-issued device;
  - 2. any audio or visual receiving, transmitting, or recording feature of a school-issued device; or
  - 3. student interactions with a school-issued device, including but not limited to keystrokes and web-browsing activity.
- C. The school district or a technology provider may only engage in activities prohibited by paragraph B if:
  - 1. the activity is limited to a noncommercial educational purpose for instruction, technical support, or exam-proctoring by school district employees, student teachers, staff contracted by the school district, a vendor, or the Minnesota Department of Education, and notice is provided in advance;
  - 2. the activity is permitted under a judicial warrant;
  - 3. the school district is notified or becomes aware that the device is missing or stolen;
  - 4. the activity is necessary to respond to an imminent threat to life or safety and the access is limited to that purpose;

5. the activity is necessary to comply with federal or state law, including but not limited to Minnesota Statutes section 121A.031; or
  6. the activity is necessary to participate in federal or state funding programs, including but not limited to the E-Rate program.
- D. If the school district or a technology provider interacts with a school-issued device as provided in paragraph C, clause 4, it must, within 72 hours of the access, notify the student to whom the school-issued device was issued or that student's parent or guardian and provide a written description of the interaction, including which features of the device were accessed and a description of the threat. This notice is not required at any time when the notice itself would pose an imminent threat to life or safety, but must instead be given within 72 hours after that imminent threat has ceased.

**~~XV. CELL PHONE USE—Removing this because it is in policy 556 Student Use of Cellular Phones and Other Personal Electronic Devices.~~**

- ~~1. Students are prohibited from using cell phones and other electronic communication devices during the instructional day. Students also are prohibited from using a cell phone or other electronic communication device to engage in conduct prohibited by school district policies including, but not limited to, cheating, bullying, harassment, and malicious and sadistic conduct.~~
- ~~2. If the school district has a reasonable suspicion that a student has violated a school policy, rule, or law by use of a cell phone or other electronic communication device, the school district may search the device. The search of the device will be reasonably related in scope to the circumstances justifying the search.~~
- ~~3. Students who use an electronic communication device during the school day and/or in violation of school district policies may be subject to disciplinary action pursuant to the school district's discipline policy. In addition, a student's cell phone or electronic communication device may be confiscated by the school district and, if applicable, provided to law enforcement. Cell phones or other electronic communication devices that are confiscated and retained by the school district will be returned in accordance with school building procedures.~~

**XVI. LIMIT ON SCREEN TIME FOR CHILDREN IN PRESCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN**

A child in a publicly funded preschool or kindergarten program may not use an individual-use screen, such as a tablet, smartphone, or other digital media, without engagement from a teacher or other students. This section does not apply to a child for whom the school has an individualized family service plan, an individualized education program, or a 504 plan in effect.

**XVII. IMPLEMENTATION; POLICY REVIEW**

- A. The school district administration may develop appropriate user notification forms, guidelines, and procedures necessary to implement this policy for submission to the school board for approval. Upon approval by the school board, such guidelines, forms, and procedures shall be an addendum to this policy.
- B. The administration shall revise the user notifications, including student and parent or guardian notifications, if necessary, to reflect the adoption of these guidelines and procedures.

- C. The school district Internet policies and procedures are available for review by all parents, guardians, staff, and members of the community.
- D. Because of the rapid changes in the development of the Internet, the school board shall conduct an annual review of this policy.

**Legal References:** Minn. Stat. Ch. 13 (Minnesota Government Data Practices Act)  
Minn. Stat. § 13.32 (Educational Data)  
Minn. Stat. § 121A.031 (School Student Bullying Policy)  
**Minn. Stat. § 121A.73 (School Cell Phone Policy)**  
Minn. Stat. § 124D.166 (Limit on Screen Time for Children in Preschool and Kindergarten)  
Minn. Stat. § 125B.15 (Internet Access for Students)  
Minn. Stat. § 125B.26 (Telecommunications/Internet Access Equity Act)  
15 U.S.C. § 6501 *et seq.* (Children’s Online Privacy Protection Act)  
17 U.S.C. § 101 *et seq.* (Copyrights)  
20 U.S.C. § 1232g (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act)  
47 U.S.C. § 254 (Children’s Internet Protection Act of 2000 (CIPA))  
47 C.F.R. § 54.520 (FCC rules implementing CIPA)  
*Mahanoy Area Sch. Dist. v. B.L.*, 594 U.S., 141 S. Ct. 2038 (2021)  
*Tinker v. Des Moines Indep. Cmty. Sch. Dist.*, 393 U.S. 503 (1969)  
*United States v. Amer. Library Assoc.*, 539 U.S. 1942003)  
*Sagehorn v. Indep. Sch. Dist. No. 728*, 122 F.Supp.2d 842 (D. Minn. 2015)  
*R.S. v. Minnewaska Area Sch. Dist. No. 2149*, 894 F.Supp.2d 1128 (D. Minn. 2012)  
*Tatro v. Univ. of Minnesota*, 800 N.W.2d 811 (Minn. App. 2011), *aff’d* on other grounds 816 N.W.2d 509 (Minn. 2012)  
*S.J.W. v. Lee’s Summit R-7 Sch. Dist.*, 696 F.3d 771 (8<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2012)  
*Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, Inc. v. Camdenton R-III Sch. Dist.*, 853 F.Supp.2d 888 (W.D. Mo. 2012)  
*M.T. v. Cent. York Sch. Dist.*, 937 A.2d 538 (Pa. Commw. Ct. 2007)

**Cross References:** MSBA/MASA Model Policy 403 (Discipline, Suspension, and Dismissal of School District Employees)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 406 (Public and Private Personnel Data)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 505 (Distribution of Nonschool-Sponsored Materials on School Premises by Students and Employees)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 506 (Student Discipline)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 514 (Bullying Prohibition Policy)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 515 (Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 519 (Interviews of Students by Outside Agencies)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 521 (Student Disability Nondiscrimination)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 522 (Title IX Sex Nondiscrimination Grievance Procedures and Process)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 603 (Curriculum Development)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 604 (Instructional Curriculum)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 606 (Textbooks and Instructional Materials)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 806 (Crisis Management Policy)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 904 (Distribution of Materials on School District Property by Nonschool Persons)

*Intermediate School District 917 Policy 556  
Student Use of Cellular Phones and Other Personal Electronic Devices  
Board Adopted April 4, 2023  
Board revised, first and final reading, October 3, 2024*

**556 STUDENT USE OF CELLULAR PHONES AND OTHER PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

**I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to set forth expectations for appropriate use of existing and emerging technologies which students may possess, including but not limited to cellular phones and other personal electronic devices capable of recording and/or transmitting data or images.

**II. INTERMEDIATE DISTRICT 917 REGULATIONS REGARDING STUDENT RECORDING**

Students are prohibited from using cell phones, digital cameras or any other device to photograph, videotape or audio record other individuals at school (including, but not limited to, physical altercations, student conflicts, assault or harm done to students, staff or others), or at school sponsored activities without their knowledge and written consent. Students are prohibited from distributing, sharing, transmitting or broadcasting such images via e-mail, posting on social media or to the Internet, or otherwise electronically transmitting images of other individuals taken at school without the expressed written consent of the other individuals. Use of cellular phones, cameras or other personal electronic devices is strictly prohibited in locker rooms and restrooms. Students who violate this policy may be subject to disciplinary action as outlined District 917's student discipline policy 506.

**III. DISSEMINATION OF POLICY**

This policy shall be included in the Student/Parent Handbook, Intermediate School District 917 Staff Handbook, and posted to the District website and otherwise distributed upon request.

***Legal Reference:***

***Minn. Stat. section 121A.73 (School Cell Phone Policy)***

***Cross Reference:***

***Student Discipline Policy 506***

*ISD 917 Crisis Management Policy 806  
Board revised, September 3, 2019  
Annual Board Review October 4, 2022  
Board reviewed September 5, 2023  
Board revised, first and final reading, October 1, 2024*

## **806 CRISIS MANAGEMENT POLICY**

### **I. PURPOSE**

It is the policy of the school district to provide a safe and healthy work environment for its staff and students. The purpose of this policy is to direct the superintendent or designee to develop and implement crisis management procedures.

### **II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

- A. The Minnesota state legislature has mandated that each public school district has a crisis management plan.
- B. The school district has developed an Emergency Procedures Handbook for each of the sites which provides procedures for responding to a wide range of natural and man-made crisis situations. The handbooks include roles for school district administrators, staff and community/county agencies in addressing emergencies.

### **III. POLICY IMPLEMENTATION AND REVIEW**

- A. The Emergency Procedure Handbooks are available for administrator and staff reference in each school/program office.
- B. The school district will conduct reviews of this policy and the crisis management plan, described in the Emergency Procedure Handbooks, as required by state and federal law.

***Legal Reference:*** Minn. Stat. § 121A.035 (Crisis Management Policy)

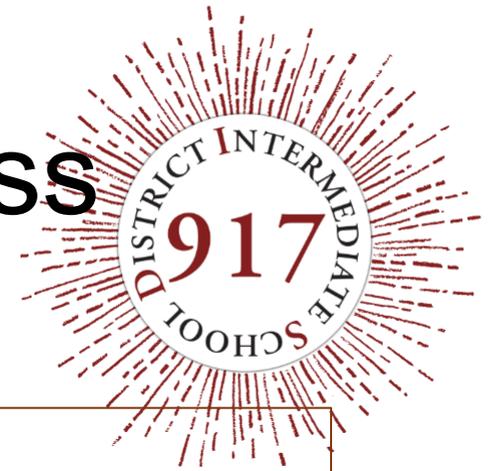
806-1

# ISD 917 2025/2026 Health Insurance RFP

Oct 1, 2024 Board Meeting



# RFP (Request for Proposal) Process



- **Initial Bids**
  - Medica (incumbent) was the only carrier to respond
  - Rate increase for administration fees was approximately 50%
  - Reviewed initial bids with the Health Care committee. Discussed the likelihood of 5% - 7% rate increase to the Districts Health Insurance cost based on the increased cost
- **Best and Final Bids**
  - Medica reduced their cost \$20k
  - Received quotes from Blue Cross, Blue Shield (BCBS) and UnitedHealth Care (UHC) that represent ~\$300k annual savings vs Medica
  - Reviewed Best and Final bids with the Health Care committee. Asked the committee to provide any questions that they have for BCBS and UHC
- **Conduct Carrier Interviews** - Separate 1 Hour meetings with BCBS and UHC
  - Health Care committee was invited to attend - Teachers union was represented
  - Questioned carriers on: Network and provider coverage, Prescription drug coverage, Member experience and ease of use, Financials and Implementation timelines
- **Management team is reviewing follow up materials from the Carrier Interviews and will walk-in a recommendation to the 917 Board for 2025/2026 Health Insurance in the Oct Board meeting**



# Health Insurance Financials

	2024 Actual	Best & Final		
	Medica	Medica	BCBS	UHC
Admin Fee	\$64,996	\$58,475	\$190,385	\$110,571
Brokerfee	42,768	42,768	42,768	42,768
Stop Loss	748,038	1,140,113	857,177	937,464
Pharmacy Rebates			(150,000)	(150,000)
Annual Admin Cost	\$855,802	\$1,241,356	\$940,330	\$940,803
<i>Increase over 2024</i>		45%	10%	10%
Claims Cost	\$3,000,000	\$3,290,000	\$3,290,000	\$3,290,000
<i>Increase over 2024</i>		10%	10%	10%
Total Medical Cost	\$3,855,802	\$4,531,356	\$4,230,330	\$4,230,803
<i>Dollar Increase over 2024</i>		\$675,554	\$374,528	\$375,001
<i>% Increase over 2024</i>		18%	10%	10%
Implementation / Wellness Credit		(\$75,000)	(\$25,000)	(\$100,000)

BCBS & UHC plans will have \$300k per year lower cost than Medica. Contract length is two years

*Implementation credit can be used to offset claims run-out cost from current carrier, file conversion cost, offset admin fees or pay for wellness programs*

# Impact on Medical Reserve Fund Balance



	2024	2025		
	Medica	Medica	BCBS	UHC
Beginning Fund Balance	\$5,860,705	\$6,161,429	\$6,161,429	\$6,161,429
Medical Cost (Admin & Claims)	\$3,855,802	\$4,531,356	\$4,230,330	\$4,230,803
Reserve Funding Increase		7.0%	3.0%	3.0%
Contributions to Reserve Fund	\$4,156,526	\$4,447,483	\$4,281,222	\$4,281,222
Current Yr Change in Reserve	\$300,724	(\$83,873)	\$50,892	\$50,419
Ending Fund Balance	\$6,161,429	\$6,077,556	\$6,212,321	\$6,211,848
Reserve Ratio to Annual Cost	160%	134%	147%	147%

\* Minimum target reserve is 50%

- Under Medica, a 7% premium increase is recommended for 2025 to mitigate the reduction in the Reserve fund balance
- Under BCBS/UHC, a 3% premium increase is recommended for 2025 to maintain the Reserve fund balance

**Intermediate School District 917**  
**Accounts Receivable Aged Report As of 9/15/24**

<b>Member Districts</b>	<b>31-60 Days</b>	<b>61-90 Days</b>	<b>Over 90 Days</b>	<b>Totals</b>
ISD 191	\$ -	\$ 64,314.58	\$ -	\$ 64,314.58
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 64,314.58</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 64,314.58</b>
<b>All Others</b>				
MDE	\$ -	\$ 3,764,781.35	\$ -	\$ 3,764,781.35
SSD 1	\$ -	\$ 20,460.50	\$ -	\$ 20,460.50
ISD 196	\$ -	\$ 24,272.52	\$ -	\$ 24,272.52
ISD 252	\$ -	\$ 12,007.12	\$ -	\$ 12,007.12
ISD 622	\$ -	\$ 511.46	\$ -	\$ 511.46
ISD 623	\$ -	\$ 1,022.93	\$ -	\$ 1,022.93
ISD 625	\$ -	\$ 66,943.70	\$ -	\$ 66,943.70
ISD 656	\$ -	\$ 15,130.81	\$ -	\$ 15,130.81
ISD 719	\$ -	\$ 1,988.89	\$ -	\$ 1,988.89
ISD 720	\$ -	\$ 18,378.58	\$ -	\$ 18,378.58
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 3,925,497.86</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 3,925,497.86</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 3,989,812.44</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 3,989,812.44</b>
<b>Total Receivables</b>				<b>\$ 3,989,812.44</b>

*NOTE: All receivables dated 6/30/24 but not issued until August for Final FY24 Tuition Billings.*

Prepared by: T. Welch



Contact Us  
Kellie Brady

E-mail:  
mde.assurance.compliance.MDE@state.mn.us

Phone: 651-582-8793

Address:  
400 NE Stinson Blvd., Minneapolis, MN 55413

## Assurance of Compliance - INFORMATION NEEDED TO EVIDENCE COMPLIANCE- School Year: 24-25

0917-06 Intermediate School District 917

\* - Indicates required fields.

### Coordinator Identification Information

	Human Rights Coordinator	Title IX Coordinator	504 Coordinator
Name*	Lauren Kelly	Lauren Kelly	Brooke Peterson
Telephone Number*	651-423-8652	651-423-8652	651-423-8202
Fax Number*	651-423-8781	651-423-8781	651-423-8781
E-Mail Address*	lauren.kelly@isd917.org	lauren.kelly@isd917.org	brooke.peterson@isd917.org

### Mandated Reporter Training

Minnesota Chapter 260E.30, Subd. 2(b). Districts must inform all mandated reporters of the duties.

I verify that all mandated reporters employed by or otherwise associated with any school in this district have been informed of mandated reporting requirements and of the prohibition of retaliation against anyone reporting maltreatment.

Date of Verification \*

09/17/2024

As part of the Minnesota Department of Education's data collection for the Minnesota Olmstead Plan related to the topic area Prevent Abuse and please provide the following information;

Total number of school district employees who have received mandated reporter training as of verification date? 440

Number of licensed staff? 120

Number of unlicensed staff? 320

\*This information is requested to assist in the prevention of abuse and neglect of students with disabilities through increased awareness and ed all school personnel and their duties associated with mandated reporting requirements.

### Document Submittal Verification

Does MDE have current and accurate copies of the following documents?  
Please submit updated policy if revised since Last Submitted Date.

Document	Last Submitted Date	Upload Document*
Harassment and Violence policy	09/21/2022	Select Upload Document: <input type="button" value="Choose File"/> No file chosen

### District Compliance Requirements Checklist

This assurance is given in consideration of and for the purpose of obtaining any and all federal grants, loans, contracts, property, discounts, or other federal financial assistance extended after the date hereof to the district by the U.S. Department of Education and the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) installment payments after such date of application for federal financial assistance and state aid allotments which were approved before such date.

The district recognizes and agrees that such federal and state financial assistance will be extended in reliance on the representations, supporting information by Minnesota Statute, section 127A.42, subd. 3 and agreements made in this assurance. This assurance is binding on the district and the persons who are authorized to submit information on behalf of the district.

Check all statements in which the district has complied with the state and federal requirements prohibiting discrimination.

#### Federal Laws:

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 USC 2000d, et. seq.; 34 C.F.R. Part 100), which provides that no person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity for which the district receives federal financial assistance.

\* Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 USC 2000e, et. seq.; P.L. 88-352), as amended by the Equal Employment Opportunity Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-261), which prohibits discrimination in employment because of an individual's race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.

\* Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 Pregnancy Discrimination Act (within Title VII) (42 USC § 2000e(k)).

\* Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 USC § 1681; 34 C.F.R. Part 106), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs and activities receiving or benefiting from federal financial assistance.

\* The Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 (29 USC § 621; 42 USC § 6101; 29 C.F.R. Part 621), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age (over 40 years).

\* Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (34 C.F.R. part 104) prohibiting discrimination on the basis of disability.

\* The American with Disabilities Act (42 USC § 12101, et seq.), also prohibiting discrimination on the basis of disability.

\* Denial of Equal Educational Opportunity Prohibited (20 USC § 1703).

\* The Fair Housing Act (42 USC § 3601 et seq.; 24 C.F.R. part 100).

\* The Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (42 USC § 6101 and 6102; 34 C.F.R. part 110).

\* Prohibition of Discrimination Based on Blindness (20 USC § 1684).

**State Laws:**

\* The Minnesota Human Rights Act (Minn. Stat. § 363A), which prohibits discrimination in education programs and activities on grounds of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, sexual orientation, disability or age.

\* Minnesota Statutes, section 121A.031, which requires school districts to have a written policy to prevent and to prohibit student bullying.

\* Minnesota Statutes, section 121A.03, which requires school districts to have a policy prohibiting sexual/racial/religion harassment and violence which applies to students, teachers, administrators and other school personnel.

\* Minnesota Statutes, section 121A.04, which prohibits sex discrimination in athletic programs.

\* Minnesota Rules, part 3500.0550, relating to the Inclusive Educational Program Plan.

\* Minnesota Rules, Chapter 3535.0100-.0180; 3535.2300-.2800; 3535.3000-.3700, relating to equality of educational opportunity and school desegregation, and prohibition of discriminatory practices.

By clicking "Submit" you are affirming that these laws are available in each building in the district, that the information that you have provided is accurate, and that you have the authority to submit this assurance on behalf of the district. Clicking "Cancel" will clear data entered.



Berg, Linda <linda.berg@isd917.org>

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## Assurance of Compliance Submission Received

1 message

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**mde.assurance.compliance.mde@state.mn.us** <mde.assurance.compliance.mde@state.mn.us>

Tue, Sep 17, 2024 at  
12:16 PM

To: linda.berg@isd917.org

This email is confirmation that the Assurance of Compliance (AOC) submission for Intermediate School District 917 0917-06 has been received and is complete for the 24-25 school year. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Kellie Brady at 651-582-8793 or mde.assurance.compliance.MDE@state.mn.us.



# DR. MICHAEL FAVOR'S GOALS FOR 2024-2025

**Goal #1:** Create and strengthen strategic partnerships to innovate academic programming and increase opportunities for staff and students during and beyond pK-age 22 education.

**Goal #2:** Lead the ISD 917 district leadership team to collaboratively prioritize staff recruitment, staff retention, core values, and strategic directions, and support a sense of belonging for all students, staff, and families.

**Goal #3:** Engage students, staff, families, local communities, organizations, businesses, and governmental agencies to support students' successful transition into resident districts, workforce, and community.

**Executive Director of Student Services**  
**Board Update**  
**October 2024**

**Collaboration:** Working together to achieve more collectively.

- Ukeru at CASE: The CASE program at AEC is piloting the Ukeru approach this fall. Ukeru is a non-restrictive approach to student crisis prevention and intervention that stresses staff using a trauma-informed mindset and relying on tools such as verbal and non-verbal de-escalation techniques, strategic body positioning, and the use of blocking pads and shields to keep everyone safe. The staff at CASE have successfully implemented multiple aspects of Ukeru and have already started to shift to using body positioning and blocking in place of physical holding and seclusion for many of their students. They are determined to give Ukeru their all and Kate Hulse would like to recognize each and every one of them for their integrity, communication, collaboration, innovation, and empathy. They are truly living our ISD 917 core values and unlocking new possibilities for how we can better support the students we serve!

**Empathy:** Considering and respecting the perspective and needs of member districts, students, families and staff.

- Waitlist update: Recently I had the opportunity to meet with both member district directors of special education and superintendents. I shared a [short presentation](#) with both groups on the status of our waitlist as well as intakes since July 1, 2024. A summary of intakes for the 2024-2025 school year is below:

*Setting IV*

- AEC - IDEA/SUN - 6 Intakes ( 4 more scheduled)
- SUN (CEC & Cedar) - 4 Intakes ( 1 more scheduled)
- LEC - TEA/ECSE-TEA - 8 Intakes (3 more scheduled)

*Setting III*

- TESA - DCTC/BTC - 4 Intakes - (1 More scheduled)
- 1 on hold due to student residence - (student referred in 23-24 SY)

**Innovation:** Ongoing improvement of programs and services.

- MDE program monitoring: This year Intermediate School District 917 is scheduled to undergo program monitoring for special education with the Minnesota department of education. We have a new program monitor this year and will be meeting with them this fall to review the process and timelines. If you are interested in learning more about program monitoring, you can review [this presentation](#).

**Stewardship:** Managing financial and human resources carefully and responsibly.

- **Perform:** This school year, the department of human resources has assumed management responsibilities for Perform, the system we use to manage evaluations for our staff. The HR team has been working closely with the department of teaching and learning and specifically, Dr. Peterson, to learn about the system and processes in place to ensure it runs efficiently. We believe this transfer of management responsibility will streamline the tracking of evaluations among the many employee groups.

**Communication:** Multi-dimensional, transparent conversation focused on sharing information and creating a positive learning and working environment.

- **Smores:** We continue monthly communications districtwide and to our member districts. You can find our September District Update [here](#).

**Integrity:** Aligning our actions with our values and beliefs.

- **READ Act-OL&LA Training:** Many licensed staff members are working through the required READ Act training, OL&LA. Here is a breakdown shared with staff as a helpful tool for staying on track to complete the training:
  - Module 1 – August 26, 2024 – September 10, 2024
  - Module 2 – September 11, 2024 – September 27, 2024
  - Module 3 – September 30, 2024 – October 15, 2024  
Live Session 1: October 16
  - Module 4 – October 17, 2024 – November 12, 2024
  - Module 5 – November 13, 2024 – December 19, 2024
  - Module 6 – December 20, 2024 – January 24, 2025  
Live Session 2: January 27, 2025
  - Module 7 – January 28, 2025 – February 17, 2025
  - Module 8 – February 18, 2025 – March 20, 2025
  - Module 9 – March 21, 2025 – April 10, 2025  
Live Session 3: April 11, 2025

Staff have time built into their schedule each week in place of PLCs. For those staff that are not completing READ Act training this year, they will continue to participate in PLCs during the time others are completing their training.

**Personalization:** Building on the strengths and addressing the unique needs of individual students.

- **CEC:** Amy Swaney, principal at Concord Education Center, has been sharing many photos documenting the start of the school year. CEC is off to a great start!



**Equity:** Intentionally providing opportunities while removing barriers at all levels of the organization.

- Due process: This year we have moved forward with three projects related to due process with the goal of streamlining and simplifying systems. Dr. Peterson worked with a team of staff over the last year to create a [Google site](#) for our due process manual. Maintaining our procedures and guidance this way eliminates duplication as well as use of outdated materials. Additionally, Dr. Peterson convened a committee over the last year to move the district to a mostly paperless record keeping system for our due process files. We are now using SpEd Forms as the official record, with uniform directions for both special education and cumulative records that must be kept in paper format. Finally, we are moving forward with electronic signatures in SpEd Forms with our families to streamline the process of obtaining signatures for various steps in the evaluation and IEP processes.

**Diversity:** Appreciating and valuing everyone's unique selves.

- Student updates from DCALS: Chris Devine has provided some updates from our 2023-2024 students based on exit interviews and connections with students at the beginning of this school year:

*DCALS-Main*

- 24% of all graduates from main went on to training programs, 2 year or 4 year college
  - Of that 24%, 16% are attending DCTC
    - We educated and supported the students on the North Star Promise and FAFSA, we are not privy to the information about their utilization of these benefits
- EMC/PSEO
  - 6 students took college classes in the 23/24 school year (2 dropped mid semester, 4 were successful)
    - 2 students attended full time for the entire year

- 1 graduated from Hennepin Tech with an Associates degree in HVAC in May
- 1 attended DCTC in the Civil Engineering program and is completing his Associates degree this year
- The other students took general classes
- 3 students are attending DCTC in the 24/25 school year
  - 1 full time in Autobody
  - 1 began with generals and plans on full time PSEO next year in Graphic Arts
  - 1 is taking generals

*DCALS-North*

- 25% of students of graduates had transcripts sent to two year colleges in the metro.
- 3 students are in training programs including JobCrops, Barber School, and a manager trainee program (Menards).
- 2 students start their own roofing business