

## **Policy Committee**

Tuesday, November 4, 2025 3:45 PM

Faribault Public Schools District Office, 710 17th Street SW, Faribault, MN 55021

### **I. Call to Order**

I.A. Determination of a Quorum Present

I.B. Pledge of Allegiance

### **II. Approval of Agenda - ACTION**

### **III. Review of Policies - ACTION**

III.A. Policy 401: Equal Employment Opportunity

III.B. Policy 402: Disability Nondiscrimination Policy

III.C. Policy 403: Discipline, Suspension, and Dismissal of School District Employees

III.D. Policy 404: Employment Background Checks

III.E. Policy 404.1: Staff Admission to School Events

III.F. Policy 408: Subpoena of a School District Employee

III.G. Policy 410: Family and Medical Leave Policy

III.H. Policy 415: Mandated Reporting of Maltreatment of Vulnerable Adults

III.I. Policy 417: Chemical Use and Abuse

III.J. Policy 420: Students and Employees with Sexually Transmitted Infections and Diseases and Certain Other Communicable Diseases and Infectious Conditions

III.K. Policy 423: Employee/Volunteer - Student Relationships

### **IV. Revision of Policies - None**

### **V. New Policies - None**

### **VI. Next Meeting: December 2, 2025 - INFORMATION**

### **VII. Adjournment - ACTION**

Faribault Public Schools  
Faribault, MN

Employee/Personnel  
Series 400

**Equal Employment Opportunity**  
Policy No. 401

**I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to provide equal employment opportunity for all applicants for school district employment and for all school district employees.

**II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

A. The policy of the school district is to provide equal employment opportunity for all applicants and employees. The school district does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, disability, sexual orientation, including gender identity or expression, age, family care leave status, or veteran status. The school district also makes reasonable accommodations for disabled employees.

*[Note: The Minnesota Human Rights Act defines “sexual orientation” to include “having or being perceived as having a self-image or identity not traditionally associated with one’s biological maleness or femaleness.” Minn. Stat. § 363A.03, Subd. 44.]*

B. The school district prohibits the harassment of any individual for any of the categories listed above. For information about the types of conduct that constitute impermissible harassment and the school district’s internal procedures for addressing complaints of harassment, please refer to the school district’s policy on harassment and violence.

C. This policy applies to all areas of employment, including hiring, discharge, promotion, compensation, facilities, or privileges of employment.

D. Every school district employee shall be responsible for following this policy.

E. Any person having a question regarding this policy should discuss it with Director of Human Resources.

Date of Adoption: May 23, 2022

**Legal References:** Minn. Stat. Ch. 363A (Minnesota Human Rights Act)  
29 U.S.C. § 621 *et seq.* (Age Discrimination in Employment Act)  
29 U.S.C. § 2615 (Family and Medical Leave Act)  
38 U.S.C. § 4211 *et seq.* (Employment and Training of Veterans)

38 U.S.C. § 4301 *et seq.* (Employment and Reemployment Rights of Members of the Uniformed Services)

42 U.S.C. § 2000e *et seq.* (Equal Employment Opportunities; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act)

42 U.S.C. § 12101 *et seq.* (Equal Opportunity for Individuals with Disabilities)

***Cross References:*** MSBA/MASA Model Policy 402 (Disability Nondiscrimination)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 405 (Veteran's Preference)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 413 (Harassment and Violence)

Faribault Public Schools  
Faribault, MN

Employee/Personnel  
Series 400

**Disability Nondiscrimination Policy**  
Policy No. 402

**I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to provide a fair employment setting for all persons and to comply with state and federal law.

**II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

- A. The school district shall not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities because of the disabilities of such individuals in regard to job application procedures, hiring, advancement, discharge, compensation, job training, and other terms, conditions, and privileges of employment.
- B. The school district shall not engage in contractual or other arrangements that have the effect of subjecting its qualified applicants or employees with disabilities to discrimination on the basis of disability. The school district shall not exclude or otherwise deny equal jobs or job benefits to a qualified individual because of the known disability of an individual with whom the qualified individual is known to have a relationship or association.
- C. The school district shall make reasonable accommodations for the known physical or mental limitations of an otherwise qualified individual with a disability who is an applicant or employee unless the accommodation would impose undue hardship on the operation of the business of the school district.
- D. Any job applicant or employee wishing to discuss the need for a reasonable accommodation, or other matters related to a disability or the enforcement and application of this policy, should contact Nicole Yochum, Human Resource Director, 710 17<sup>th</sup> Street SW, Faribault, MN 55021; Phone: 507-333-6006, Email: nyochum@faribault.k12.mn.us This individual is the school district's appointed ADA/Section 504 coordinator.

Date of Adoption: May 23, 2022

**Legal References:** Minn. Stat. Ch. 363A (Minnesota Human Rights Act)  
29 U.S.C. § 794 *et seq.* (Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973)  
42 U.S.C. § 12101 (Americans with Disabilities Act)  
29 C.F.R. Part 32  
34 C.F.R. Part 104

***Cross References:*** MSBA/MASA Model Policy 413 (Harassment and Violence)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 521 (Student Disability Nondiscrimination)

**Discipline, Suspension, and Dismissal  
of School District Employees**  
Policy No. 403

**I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to achieve effective operation of the school district's programs through the cooperation of all employees under a system of policies and rules applied fairly and uniformly.

**II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

The disciplinary process described herein is designed to utilize progressive steps, where appropriate, to produce positive corrective action. While the school district intends that in most cases progressive discipline will be administered, the specific form of discipline chosen in a particular case and/or the decision to impose discipline in a manner otherwise, is solely within the discretion of the school district.

**III. DISCIPLINE**

A. Violation of School Laws and Rules

The form of discipline imposed for violations of school laws and rules may vary from an oral reprimand to termination of employment or discharge depending upon factors such as the nature of the violation, whether the violation was intentional, knowing and/or willful and whether the employee has been the subject of prior disciplinary action of the same or a different nature. School laws and rules to which this provision applies include:

1. policies of the school district;
2. directives and/or job requirements imposed by administration and/or the employee's supervisor; and
3. federal, state, and local laws, rules and regulations, including, but not limited to, the rules and regulations adopted by federal and state agencies.

B. Substandard Performance

An employee's substandard performance may result in the imposition of discipline

ranging from an oral reprimand to termination of employment or discharge. In most instances, discipline imposed for the reason of substandard performance will follow a progressive format and will be accompanied by guidance, help and encouragement to improve from the employee's supervisor and reasonable time for correction of the employee's deficiency.

C. Misconduct

Misconduct of an employee will result in the imposition of discipline consistent with the seriousness of the misconduct. Conduct which falls into this category includes, but is not limited to:

1. unprofessional conduct;
2. failure to observe rules, regulations, policies and standards of the school district and/or directives and orders of supervisors and any other act of an insubordinate nature;
3. continuing neglect of duties in spite of oral warnings, written warnings and/or other forms of discipline;
4. personal and/or immoral misconduct;
5. use of illegal drugs, alcohol or any other chemical substance on the job or any use off the job which impacts on the employee's performance;
6. deliberate and serious violation of the rights and freedoms of other employees, students, parents or other persons in the school community;
7. activities of a criminal nature relating to the fitness or effectiveness of the employee to perform the duties of the position;
8. failure to follow the canons of professional and personal ethics;
9. falsification of credentials and experience;
10. unauthorized destruction of school district property;
11. other good and sufficient grounds relating to any other act constituting inappropriate conduct;
12. neglect of duty;
13. violation of the rights of others as provided by federal and state laws related to human rights.

#### **IV. FORMS OF DISCIPLINE**

- A. The forms of discipline that may be imposed by the school district include, but are not limited to:
  - 1. oral warning;
  - 2. written warning or reprimand;
  - 3. probation;
  - 4. disciplinary suspension, demotion or leave of absence with pay;
  - 5. disciplinary suspension, demotion or leave of absence without pay; and
  - 6. dismissal/termination or discharge from employment.
- B. Other forms of discipline, including any combination of the forms described in Paragraph A., above, may be imposed if, in the judgment of the administration, another form of discipline will better accomplish the school district's objective of stopping or correcting the offending conduct and improving the employee's performance.

#### **V. PROCEDURES FOR ADMINISTERING POLICY**

- A. When any form of discipline is imposed, the employee's supervisor will:
  - 1. Advise the employee of any inadequacy, deficiency or conduct which is the cause of the discipline, either orally or in writing. If given orally, the supervisor will document the fact that an oral warning was given to the employee specifying the date, time, and nature of the oral warning.
  - 2. Provide directives to the employee to correct the conduct or performance.
  - 3. Forward copies of all writings to the administrator in charge of personnel for filing in the employee's personnel file.
  - 4. Allow a reasonable period of time, when appropriate, for the employee to correct or remediate the performance or conduct.
  - 5. Specify the expected level of performance or modification of conduct to be required from the employee.
- B. The school district retains the right to immediately discipline, terminate, or discharge an employee as appropriate, subject to relevant governing law and collective bargaining agreements when applicable.

Date of Adoption: May 23, 2022

**Legal References:** Minn. Stat. § 122A.40 (Teachers – Employment; Contracts; Termination)  
Minn. Stat. § 122A.41 (Teacher Tenure Act; Cities of the First Class)  
Minn. Stat. § 122A.44 (Contracting with Teachers)  
Minn. Stat. § 122A.58 (Coaches)  
Minn. Stat. § 123B.02, Subd. 14 (Employees; Contracts for Services)  
Minn. Stat. § 123B.143 (Superintendent)  
Minn. Stat. § 123B.147 (Principals)  
Minn. Stat. § 197.46 *et seq.* (Veterans Preference Act)

**Cross References:** None

Faribault Public Schools  
Faribault, MN

Employee/Personnel  
Series 400

**Employment Background Checks**  
Policy No. 404

**I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to maintain a safe and healthful environment in the school district in order to promote the physical, social, and psychological well-being of its students. To that end, the school district will seek a criminal history background check for applicants who receive an offer of employment with the school district and on all individuals, except enrolled student volunteers, who are offered the opportunity to provide athletic coaching services or other extracurricular academic coaching services to the school district, regardless of whether any compensation is paid, or such other background checks as provided by this policy. The school district may also elect to do background checks of other volunteers, independent contractors, and student employees in the school district.

**II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

- A. The school district shall require that applicants for school district positions who receive an offer of employment and all individuals, except enrolled student volunteers, who are offered the opportunity to provide athletic coaching services or other extracurricular academic coaching services to the school district, regardless of whether any compensation is paid, submit to a criminal history background check. The offer of employment or the opportunity to provide services shall be conditioned upon a determination by the school district that an individual's criminal history does not preclude the individual from employment with, or provision of services to, the school district.
- B. The school district specifically reserves any and all rights it may have to conduct background checks regarding current employees, applicants, or service providers without the consent of such individuals.
- C. Adherence to this policy by the school district shall in no way limit the school district's right to require additional information, or to use procedures currently in place or other procedures to gain additional background information concerning employees, applicants, volunteers, service providers, independent contractors, and student employees.

### III. PROCEDURES

A. Normally an individual will not commence employment or provide services until the school district receives the results of the criminal history background check. The school district may conditionally hire an applicant or allow an individual to provide services pending completion of the background check but shall notify the individual that the individual's employment or opportunity to provide services may be terminated based on the result of the background check. Background checks will be performed by the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA). The BCA shall conduct the background check by retrieving criminal history data as defined in Minn. Stat. § 13.87. The school district reserves the right to also have criminal history background checks conducted by other organizations or agencies.

B. In order for an individual to be eligible for employment or to provide athletic coaching services or other extracurricular academic coaching services to the school district, except for an enrolled student volunteer, the individual must sign a criminal history consent form, which provides permission for the school district to conduct a criminal history background check, and provide a money order or check payable to either the BCA or to the school district, at the election of the school district, in an amount equal to the actual cost to the BCA and the school district of conducting the criminal history background check. The cost of the criminal history background check is the responsibility of the individual, unless the school district decides to pay the costs for a volunteer, an independent contractor, or a student employee. If the individual fails to provide the school district with a signed Informed Consent Form and fee at the time the individual receives a job offer, or permission to provide services, the individual will be considered to have voluntarily withdrawn the application for employment or request to provide services.

***[Note: If the school district elects to receive payment, it may, at its discretion, accept payment in the form of a negotiable instrument other than a money order or check and then pay the superintendent of the BCA directly to conduct the background check.]***

C. The school district, in its discretion, may elect not to request a criminal history background check on an individual who holds an initial entrance license issued by the Minnesota Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board or the commissioner of education within the 12 months preceding an offer of employment or permission to provide services.

D. The school district may use the results of a criminal background check conducted at the request of another school hiring authority if:

1. the results of the criminal background check are on file with the other school hiring authority or otherwise accessible;
2. the other school hiring authority conducted a criminal background check within the previous 12 months;

3. the individual executes a written consent form giving the school district access to the results of the check; and
  4. there is no reason to believe that the individual has committed an act subsequent to the check that would disqualify the individual for employment or provision of services.
- E. For all nonstate residents who are offered employment with or the opportunity to provide athletic coaching services or other extracurricular academic coaching services to the school district, the school district shall request a criminal history background check on such individuals from the superintendent of the BCA and from the government agency performing the same function in the resident state or, if no government entity performs the same function in the resident state, from the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The offer of employment or the opportunity to provide services shall be conditioned upon a determination by the school district that an individual's criminal history does not preclude the individual from employment with, or provision of services to, the school district. Such individuals must provide an executed criminal history consent form.
- F. When required, individuals must provide fingerprints to assist in a criminal history background check. If the fingerprints provided by the individual are unusable, the individual will be required to submit another set of prints.
- G. Copies of this policy shall be available in the school district's employment office and will be distributed to applicants for employment and individuals who are offered the opportunity to provide athletic coaching services or other extracurricular academic coaching services upon request. The need to submit to a criminal history background check may be included with the basic criteria for employment or provision of services in the position posting and position advertisements.
- H. The individual will be informed of the results of the criminal background check(s) to the extent required by law.
- I. If the criminal history background check precludes employment with, or provision of services to, the school district, the individual will be so advised.
- J. The school district may apply these procedures to other volunteers, independent contractors, or student employees.
- K. At the beginning of each school year or when a student enrolls, the school district will notify parents and guardians about this policy and identify those positions subject to a background check and the extent of the school district's discretion in requiring a background check. The school district may include this notice in its student handbook, a school policy guide, or other similar communication. A form notice for this purpose is included with this policy.

#### **IV. CRIMINAL HISTORY CONSENT FORM**

A form to obtain consent for a criminal history background check is included with this policy.

*Date of Adoption:* May 18, 2020

***Legal References:*** Minn. Stat. § 13.04, Subd. 4 (Inaccurate or Incomplete Data)  
Minn. Stat. § 13.87, Subd. 1 (Criminal History Data)  
Minn. Stat. § 123B.03 (Background Check)  
Minn. Stat. §§ 299C.60-299C.64 (Minnesota Child Protection Background Check Act)  
Minn. Stat. § 364.09(b) (Exception for School Districts)

***Cross References:***

**Sample 123B.03 Informed Consent**  
**Faribault Public Schools – ISD #656**  
**710 17<sup>th</sup> Street SW**  
**Faribault, MN 55021**  
**Human Resource Director**  
**Phone: 507-333-6000**

**We are requesting a federal check pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 299C.62 on this individual as well.**

(Contributor, please check this box if requesting a federal check and attach fingerprint card, the Child Protection Background Check Consent form, and appropriate fee. Please note that the federal check will take one to two weeks to complete.)

The following named individual has made application with this agency for employment:

**Last Name of Applicant** (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

**First Name** (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

**Middle** (full) (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

**Maiden, Alias or Former** (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Birth** (Month/Day/Year): \_\_\_\_\_ **Sex** (M or F): \_\_\_\_\_

I authorize the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension to disclose criminal history record information to (School or District) pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 123B.03, subdivision 1 for the purpose of employment as a (teacher, bus driver, etc.) with this School District.

**Signature of Applicant or Potential Service Provider:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

This release is valid for one year from the date of my signature

Subscribed and sworn to before me  
this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

1. Records obtained under the Minnesota State Statute 123B.03, subdivision 1, may be used solely for the purpose requested and cannot be disseminated outside the receiving departments, related agencies, or other authorized entities.
2. Your fingerprints may be used to check the criminal history records of the FBI.
3. You may challenge the accuracy and completeness of any information contained in the report provided (procedures are set forth in Minnesota Statutes §13.04 and Title 28 CFR Section 16.34).
4. You have the right to request and obtain from the school hiring authority a copy of the background check report. A school hiring authority may charge the individual for the actual cost of providing a copy of the report.

*The School District should forward this executed form, along with a check or money order in the amount of \$15.00 payable to the "MN BCA" and a self-addressed, stamped envelope, to:*

*Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension  
CHA Unit  
1430 Maryland Avenue E.  
St. Paul, MN 55106*

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Faribault Public Schools  
Faribault, MN

Employee/Personnel  
Series 400

**Staff Admission to School Events**

Policy No. 404.1

Fees for admission to district sponsored extra-curricular events shall be waived for staff members presenting their current, valid, school issued identification badge. This policy applies to school employees only, not their dependents or other family members. Upon retirement, an employee eligible for a retirement benefit from the district, shall receive a lifetime pass to the above mentioned events.

Athletic tournaments/meets (Invitationals, Conference Tournaments/Meets, and Section Tournaments/Meets) and special fund-raising events are excluded and not covered by this policy.

*Date of Adoption:*   3-28-22

Faribault Public Schools  
Faribault, MN

Staff Personnel  
Series 400

**Subpoena of a School District Employee**  
Policy No. 408

**I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to protect the privacy rights of school district employees and students under both state and federal law when requested to testify or provide educational records for a judicial or administrative proceeding.

**II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

This policy is to provide guidance and direction for school district employees who may be subpoenaed to testify and/or provide educational records for a judicial or administrative proceeding.

**III. DATA CLASSIFICATION**

A. Educational Data

1. State Law

The Minnesota Government Data Practices Act (MGDPA), Minnesota Statutes chapter 13, classifies all educational data, except for directory information as designated by the school district, as private data on individuals. The state statute provides that **private data on individuals may not be released, except pursuant to a valid court order or informed consent by the subject of the data or a parent if the subject of the data is a minor.**

2. Federal Law

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), 20 U.S.C. § 1232g, provides that educational data may not be released, except pursuant to informed consent by the individual subject of the data or any lawfully issued subpoena. Regulations promulgated under the federal law require that the school district must first make a reasonable effort to notify the parent of the student, or the student if the student is 18 years of age or older, of the subpoena in advance of releasing the information pursuant to the subpoena.

B. Personnel Data

The MGDPA, Minn. Stat. Ch. 13, also classifies all personnel data, except for certain data specifically classified as public, as private data on individuals. The state statute provides that **private data on individuals may not be released, except pursuant to a valid court order or informed consent by the subject of the data.**

**IV. APPLICATION AND PROCEDURES**

- A. Any employee who receives a subpoena for any purpose related to employment is to inform the building administrator or designated supervisor when the employee receives the subpoena. The building administrator or designated supervisor shall immediately inform the superintendent that the employee has received a subpoena.
- B. No employee may release educational data, personnel data, or any other data of any kind without consultation in advance with the school district official who is designated as the authority responsible for the collection, use and dissemination of data.
- C. Payment for attendance at judicial or administrative proceedings and the retention of witness and mileage fees is to be determined in accordance with the applicable school board policies and collective bargaining agreements.
- D. The administration shall not release any information except in strict compliance with state and federal law and this policy. Recognizing that an unauthorized release may expose the school district or its employees to civil or criminal penalties or loss of employment, the administration shall confer with school district legal counsel prior to release of such data.

Date of Adoption: May 23, 2022

**Legal References:** Minn. Stat. Ch. 13 (Minnesota Government Data Practices Act)  
Minn. Rules 1205.0100, Subp. 5 (Minnesota Rules Regarding Data Practices)  
20 U.S.C. § 1232g (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act)

**Cross References:** MSBA/MASA Model Policy 211 (Criminal or Civil Action Against School District, School Board Member, Employee, or Student)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 515 (Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records)  
MSBA Law Bulletin “I” (School Records – Privacy – Access to Data)

**Family and Medical Leave Policy**  
Policy No. 410

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

**I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to provide for family and medical leave to school district employees in accordance with the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (FMLA) and also with parenting leave under state law.

**II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

The following procedures and policies regarding family and medical leave are adopted by the school district, pursuant to the requirements of the FMLA and consistent with the requirements of the Minnesota parenting leave laws.

**III. DEFINITIONS**

A. "Covered active duty" means:

1. in the case of a member of a regular component of the Armed Forces, duty during the deployment of the member with the Armed Forces to a foreign country; and
2. in the case of a member of a reserve component of the Armed Forces, duty during the deployment of the member with the Armed Forces to a foreign country under a call or order to active duty under a provision of law referred to in 10 United States Code section 101(a)(13)(B).

B. "Covered servicemember" means:

1. a member of the Armed Forces, including a member of the National Guard or Reserves, who is undergoing medical treatment, recuperation, or therapy, is otherwise in outpatient status, or is otherwise on the temporary disability retired list, for a serious injury or illness; or

2. a covered veteran who is undergoing medical treatment, recuperation, or therapy for a serious injury or illness and who was a member of the Armed Forces, including a member of the National Guard or Reserves, and was discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable, at any time during the period of five years preceding the first date the eligible employee takes FMLA leave to care for the covered veteran.
- C. “Eligible employee” means an employee who has been employed by the school district for a total of at least 12 months and who has been employed for at least 1,250 hours of service during the 12-month period immediately preceding the commencement of the leave. An employee returning from fulfilling his or her Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA)-covered service obligation shall be credited with the hours of service that would have been performed but for the period of absence from work due to or necessitated by USERRA-covered service. In determining whether the employee met the hours of service requirement, and to determine the hours that would have been worked during the period of absence from work due to or necessitated by USERRA-covered service, the employee’s pre-service work schedule can generally be used for calculations. While the 12 months of employment need not be consecutive, employment periods prior to a break in service of seven years or more may not be counted unless: (1) the break is occasioned by the employee’s fulfillment of his or her USERRA-covered service obligation; or (2) a written agreement, including a collective bargaining agreement, exists concerning the school district’s intention to rehire the employee after the break in service.
- D. “Military caregiver leave” means leave taken to care for a covered servicemember with a serious injury or illness.
- E. “Next of kin of a covered servicemember” means the nearest blood relative other than the covered servicemember’s spouse, parent, son, or daughter, in the following order of priority: blood relatives who have been granted legal custody of the covered servicemember by court decree or statutory provisions, brothers and sisters, grandparents, aunts and uncles, and first cousins, unless the covered servicemember has specifically designated in writing another blood relative as his or her nearest blood relative for purposes of military caregiver leave under the FMLA. When no such designation is made and there are multiple family members with the same level of relationship to the covered servicemember, all such family members shall be considered the covered servicemember’s next of kin, and the employee may take FMLA leave to provide care to the covered servicemember, either consecutively or simultaneously. When such designation has been made, the designated individual shall be deemed to be the covered servicemember’s only next of kin.
- F. “Outpatient status” means, with respect to a covered servicemember who

is a current member of the Armed Forces, the status of a member of the Armed Forces assigned to:

1. a military medical treatment facility as an outpatient; or
2. a unit established for the purpose of providing command and control of members of the Armed Forces receiving care as outpatients.

G. "Qualifying exigency" means a situation where the eligible employee seeks leave for one or more of the following reasons:

1. to address any issues that arise from a short-notice deployment (seven calendar days or less) of a covered military member;
2. to attend military events and related activities of a covered military member;
3. to address issues related to childcare and school activities of a covered military member's child;
4. to address financial and legal arrangements for a covered military member;
5. to attend counseling provided by someone other than a health care provider for oneself, a covered military member, or his/her child;
6. to spend up to 15 calendar days with a covered military member who is on short-term, temporary rest and recuperation leave during a period of deployment;
7. to attend post-deployment activities related to a covered military member;
8. to address care needs of a covered military member's parent who is incapable of self-care; and
9. to address other events related to a covered military member that both the employee and school district agree is a qualifying exigency.

H. "Serious health condition" means an illness, injury, impairment, or physical or mental condition that involves:

1. inpatient care in a hospital, hospice, or residential medical care facility; or
2. continuing treatment by a health care provider.

I. "Spouse" means a husband or wife. For purposes of this definition,

husband or wife refers to the other person with whom an individual entered into marriage as defined or recognized under state law for purposes of marriage in the state in which the marriage was entered into or, in the case of a marriage entered into outside of any state, if the marriage is valid in the place where entered into and could have been entered into in at least one state. This definition includes an individual in a same-sex or common law marriage that either: (1) was entered into in a state that recognizes such marriages; or (2) if entered into outside of any state, is valid in the place where entered into and could have been entered into in at least one state.

J. "Veteran" has the meaning given in 38 United States Code section 101.

#### IV. LEAVE ENTITLEMENT

##### A. Twelve-week Leave under Federal Law

1. Eligible employees are entitled to a total of 12 work weeks of unpaid family or medical leave during the applicable 12-month period as defined below, plus any additional leave as required by law. Leave may be taken for one or more of the following reasons in accordance with applicable law:
  - a. birth of the employee's child and to care for such child;
  - b. placement of an adopted or foster child with the employee;
  - c. to care for the employee's spouse, son, daughter, or parent with a serious health condition;
  - d. the employee's serious health condition makes the employee unable to perform the functions of the employee's job; and/or
  - e. any qualifying exigency arising from the employee's spouse, son, daughter, or parent being on covered active duty, or notified of an impending call or order to covered active duty in the Armed Forces.
2. For the purposes of this policy, "year" is defined as a rolling 12-month period measured backward from the date an employee's leave is to commence.

***[Note: An employer is permitted to choose any one of the following methods for determining the 12-month period in which the 12 weeks of FMLA leave entitlement occurs: (a) the calendar year; (b) any fixed 12-month leave year, such as a fiscal year, a year required by State law, or a year starting on an employee's anniversary date; (c) the 12-month period measured forward from the date any employee's first FMLA***

**leave; or (d) a “rolling” 12–month period measured backward from the date an employee uses any FMLA leave. It is recommended, however, that school districts use the 12-month rolling measurement as it prevents employees from stacking 12-week leave entitlement that could occur if, for example, a calendar or fiscal year is utilized. Where a calendar, fiscal or similar period is used, an employee could use 12 weeks at the end of the period and then again at the beginning of the period, providing an entitlement to a leave of 24 consecutive weeks. If a school district changes its definition of a “year” in this policy, it must give employees notice of at least 60 days before implementing this change.]**

3. An employee’s entitlement to FMLA leave for the birth, adoption, or foster care of a child expires at the end of the 12-month period beginning on the date of the birth or placement.
4. A “serious health condition” typically requires either inpatient care or continuing treatment by or under the supervision of a health care provider, as defined by applicable law. Family and medical leave generally is not intended to cover short-term conditions for which treatment and recovery are very brief.
5. A “serious injury or illness,” in the case of a member of the Armed Forces, including a member of the National Guard or Reserves, means:
  - a. injury or illness that was incurred by the member in the line of duty on active duty in the Armed Forces or that existed before the beginning of the member’s active duty and was aggravated by service in the line of duty on active duty in the Armed Forces and that may render the member medically unfit to perform the duties of the member’s office, grade, rank, or rating; and
  - b. in the case of a covered veteran who was a member of the Armed Forces, including a member of the National Guard or Reserves, at any time, during the period of five years preceding the date on which the veteran undergoes the medical treatment, recuperation, or therapy, means a qualifying injury or illness that was incurred by the member in the line of duty on active duty in the Armed Forces or that existed before the beginning of the member’s active duty and was aggravated by service in the line of duty in the Armed Forces and that manifested itself before or after the member became a veteran, and is:
    - (1) a continuation of a serious injury or illness that

was incurred or aggravated when the covered veteran was a member of the Armed Forces and rendered the servicemember unable to perform the duties of the servicemember's office, grade, rank, or rating; or

- (2) a physical or mental condition for which the covered veteran has received a U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Service-Related Disability (VASRD) rating of 50 percent or greater and such VASRD rating is based, in whole or in part, on the condition precipitating the need for military caregiver leave; or
  - (3) a physical or mental condition that substantially impairs the covered veteran's ability to secure or follow a substantially gainful occupation by reason of a disability or disabilities related to military service, or would do so absent treatment; or
  - (4) an injury, including a psychological injury, on the basis of which the covered veteran has been enrolled in the Department of Veterans Affairs Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers.
6. Eligible spouses employed by the school district are limited to an aggregate of 12 weeks of leave during any 12-month period for the birth and care of a newborn child or adoption of a child, the placement of a child for foster care, or to care for a parent. This limitation for spouses employed by the school district does not apply to leave taken: by one spouse to care for the other spouse who is seriously ill; to care for a child with a serious health condition; because of the employee's own serious health condition; or pursuant to Paragraph IV.A.1.e. above.
7. Depending on the type of leave, intermittent or reduced schedule leave may be granted in the discretion of the school district or when medically necessary. However, part-time employees are only eligible for a pro-rata portion of leave to be used on an intermittent or reduced schedule basis, based on their average hours worked per week. Where an intermittent or reduced schedule leave is foreseeable based on planned medical treatment, the school district may transfer the employee temporarily to an available alternative position for which the employee is qualified and which better accommodates recurring periods of leave than does the employee's regular position, and which has equivalent pay and benefits.

8. If an employee requests a leave for the serious health condition of the employee or the employee's spouse, child, or parent, the employee will be required to submit sufficient medical certification. In such a case, the employee must submit the medical certification within 15 days from the date of the request or as soon as practicable under the circumstances.
9. If the school district has reason to doubt the validity of a health care provider's certification, it may require a second opinion at the school district's expense. If the opinions of the first and second health care providers differ, the school district may require certification from a third health care provider at the school district's expense. An employee may also be required to present a certification from a health care provider indicating that the employee is able to return to work.
10. Requests for leave shall be made to the school district. When leave relates to an employee's spouse, son, daughter, parent, or covered servicemember being on covered active duty, or notified of an impending call or order to covered active duty pursuant to Paragraph IV.A.1.e. above, and such leave is foreseeable, the employee shall provide reasonable and practical notice to the school district of the need for leave. For all other leaves, employees must give 30 days' written notice of a leave of absence where practicable. The failure to provide the required notice may result in a delay of the requested leave. Employees are expected to make a reasonable effort to schedule leaves resulting from planned medical treatment so as not to disrupt unduly the operations of the school district, subject to and in coordination with the health care provider.
11. The school district may require that a request for leave under Paragraph IV.A.1.e. above be supported by a copy of the covered military member's active duty orders or other documentation issued by the military indicating active duty or a call to active duty status and the dates of active duty service. In addition, the school district may require the employee to provide sufficient certification supporting the qualifying exigency for which leave is requested.
12. During the period of a leave permitted under this policy, the school district will provide health insurance under its group health plan under the same conditions coverage would have been provided had the employee not taken the leave. The employee will be responsible for payment of the employee contribution to continue group health insurance coverage during the leave. An employee's failure to make necessary and timely contributions may result in termination of coverage. An employee who does not return to work after the leave may be required, in some situations, to reimburse the school district

for the cost of the health plan premiums paid by it.

13. The school district may request or require the employee to substitute accrued paid leave for any part of the 12-week period. Employees may be allowed to substitute paid leave for unpaid leave by meeting the requirements set out in the administrative directives and guidelines established for the implementation of this policy, if any. Employees eligible for leave must comply with the family and medical leave directives and guidelines prior to starting leave. The superintendent shall be responsible to develop directives and guidelines as necessary to implement this policy. Such directives and guidelines shall be submitted to the school board for annual review.

The school district shall comply with written notice requirements as set forth in federal regulations.

14. Employees returning from a leave permitted under this policy are eligible for reinstatement in the same or an equivalent position as provided by law. However, the employee has no greater right to reinstatement or to other benefits and conditions of employment than if the employee had been continuously employed during the leave.

B. Twelve-week Leave under State Law

An employee who does not qualify for parenting leave under Paragraphs IV.A.1.a. or IV.A.1.b. above may qualify for a 12-week unpaid leave which is available to a biological or adoptive parent in conjunction with the birth or adoption of a child, or to a female employee for prenatal care or incapacity due to pregnancy, childbirth, or related health conditions. The length of the leave shall be determined by the employee but must not exceed 12 weeks unless agreed to by the school district. This leave is separate and exclusive of the family and medical leave described in the preceding paragraphs but may be reduced by any period of paid parental, disability, personal, or medical, or sick leave, or accrued vacation provided by the school district so that the total leave does not exceed 12 weeks, unless agreed to by the school district, or leave taken for the same purpose under the FMLA. The leave taken under this section shall begin at a time requested by the employee. An employee who plans to take leave under this section must give the school district reasonable notice of the date the leave shall commence and the estimated duration of the leave. For leave taken by a biological or adoptive parent in conjunction with the birth or adoption of a child, the leave must begin within 12 months of the birth or adoption; except that, in the case where the child must remain in the hospital longer than the mother, the leave must begin within 12 months after the child leaves the hospital.

C. Twenty-six-week Servicemember Family Military Leave

1. An eligible employee who is the spouse, son, daughter, parent, or next of kin of a covered servicemember shall be entitled to a total of 26 work weeks of leave during a 12-month period to care for the servicemember. The leave described in this paragraph shall be available only during a single 12-month period. For purposes of this leave, the need to care for a servicemember includes both physical and psychological care.
2. During a single 12-month period, an employee shall be entitled to a combined total of 26 work weeks of leave under Paragraphs IV.A. and IV.C. above.
3. The 12-month period referred to in this section begins on the first day the eligible employee takes leave to care for a covered servicemember and ends 12 months after that date.
4. Eligible spouses employed by the school district are limited to an aggregate of 26 weeks of leave during any 12-month period if leave is taken for birth of the employee's child or to care for the child after birth; for placement of a child with the employee for adoption or foster care or to care for the child after placement; to care for the employee's parent with a serious health condition; or to care for a covered servicemember with a serious injury or illness.
5. The school district may request or require the employee to substitute accrued paid leave for any part of the 26-week period. Employees may be allowed to substitute paid leave for unpaid leave by meeting the requirements set out in the administrative directives and guidelines established for the implementation of this policy, if any. Employees eligible for leave must comply with the family and medical leave directives and guidelines prior to starting leave.
6. An employee will be required to submit sufficient medical certification issued by the health care provider of the covered servicemember and other information in support of requested leave and eligibility for such leave under this section within 15 days from the date of the request or as soon as practicable under the circumstances.
7. The provisions of Paragraphs IV.A.7., IV.A.10., IV.A.12., IV.A.13., and IV.A.14. above shall apply to leaves under this section.

## **V. SPECIAL RULES FOR INSTRUCTIONAL EMPLOYEES**

- A. An instructional employee is one whose principal function is to teach and instruct students in a class, a small group, or an individual setting. This includes, but is not limited to, teachers, coaches, driver's education instructors, and special education assistants.

- B. Instructional employees who request foreseeable medically necessary intermittent or reduced work schedule leave greater than 20 percent of the workdays in the leave period may be required to:
1. take leave for the entire period or periods of the planned medical treatment; or
  2. move to an available alternative position for which the employee is qualified, and which provides equivalent pay and benefits, but not necessarily equivalent duties.
- C. Instructional employees who request continuous leave near the end of a semester may be required to extend the leave through the end of the semester. The number of weeks remaining before the end of a semester does not include scheduled school breaks, such as summer, winter, or spring break.
1. If an instructional employee begins leave for any purpose more than five weeks before the end of a semester and it is likely the leave will last at least three weeks, the school district may require that the leave be continued until the end of the semester.
  2. If the instructional employee begins leave for a purpose other than the employee's own serious health condition during the last five weeks of a semester, the school district may require that the leave be continued until the end of the semester if the leave will last more than two weeks or if the employee's return from leave would occur during the last two weeks of the semester.
  3. If the instructional employee begins leave for a purpose other than the employee's own serious health condition during the last three weeks of the semester and the leave will last more than five working days, the school district may require the employee to continue taking leave until the end of the semester.
  4. If the school district requires an instructional employee to extend leave through the end of a semester as set forth in this paragraph, only the period of leave until the employee is ready and able to return to work shall be charged against the employee's FMLA leave entitlement. Any additional leave required by the school district to the end of the school term is not counted as FMLA leave but as an unpaid or paid leave, to the extent the instructional employee has accrued paid leave available and the school district shall maintain the employee's group health insurance and restore the employee to the same or equivalent job, including other benefits, at the conclusion of the leave.

## VI. OTHER

- A. The provisions of this policy are intended to comply with applicable law, including the FMLA and applicable regulations. Any terms used from the FMLA will have the same meaning as defined by the FMLA and/or applicable regulations. To the extent that this policy is ambiguous or contradicts applicable law, the language of the applicable law will prevail.
- B. The requirements stated in the collective bargaining agreement between employees in a certified collective bargaining unit and the school district regarding family and medical leaves (if any) shall be followed.

## VII. DISSEMINATION OF POLICY

- A. A poster prepared by the U.S. Department of Labor summarizing the major provisions of the Family and Medical Leave Act and informing employees how to file a complaint shall be conspicuously posted in each school district building in areas accessible to employees and applicants for employment.
- B. This policy will be reviewed at least annually for compliance with state and federal law.

*Date of adoption:* June 20, 2023

*Date of revision:* March 18, 2024

**Legal References:** Minn. Stat. §§ 181.940-181.944 (Parenting Leave and Accommodations)  
10 U.S.C. § 101 *et seq.* (Armed Forces General Military Law)  
29 U.S.C. § 2601 *et seq.* (Family and Medical Leave Act)  
38 U.S.C. § 101 (Definitions)  
29 C.F.R. Part 825 (Family and Medical Leave Act)

**Cross References:** None

## **Mandated Reporting of Maltreatment of Vulnerable Adults** **Policy No. 415**

### **I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to make clear the statutory requirements of school personnel to report suspected maltreatment of vulnerable adults.

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

- A. The policy of the school district is to comply fully with Minnesota Statutes section 626.557 requiring school personnel to report suspected maltreatment of vulnerable adults.
- B. A violation of this policy occurs when any school personnel fails to report suspected maltreatment of vulnerable adults when the school personnel has reason to believe that a vulnerable adult is being or has been maltreated, or has knowledge that a vulnerable adult has sustained a physical injury which is not reasonably explained.

### **III. DEFINITIONS**

- A. "Abuse" means:
  - 1. An act against a vulnerable adult that constitutes a violation of, an attempt to violate, or aiding and abetting a violation of: (1) assault in the first through fifth degrees as defined in Minnesota Statutes sections 609.221 to 609.224; (2) the use of drugs to injure or facilitate crime as defined in Minnesota Statutes section 609.235; (3) the solicitation, inducement, and promotion of prostitution as defined in Minnesota Statutes section 609.322; and (4) criminal sexual conduct in the first through fifth degrees as defined in Minnesota Statutes sections 609.342 to 609.3451. A violation includes any action that meets the elements of the crime, regardless of whether there is a criminal proceeding or conviction.
  - 2. Conduct which is not an accident or therapeutic conduct as defined in Minnesota Statutes section 626.5572 which produces or could reasonably be expected to produce physical pain or injury or emotional distress including, but not limited to, the following: (1) hitting, slapping, kicking, pinching, biting, or corporal punishment of a vulnerable adult; (2) use of

repeated or malicious oral, written, or gestured language toward a vulnerable adult or the treatment of a vulnerable adult which would be considered by a reasonable person to be disparaging, derogatory, humiliating, harassing, or threatening; (3) use of any aversive or deprivation procedure, unreasonable confinement, or involuntary seclusion, including the forced separation of the vulnerable adult from other persons against the will of the vulnerable adult or the legal representative of the vulnerable adult; and (4) use of any aversive or deprivation procedures for persons with developmental disabilities or related conditions not authorized under Minnesota Statutes section 245.825.

3. Any sexual contact or penetration as defined in Minn. Stat. § 609.341 between a facility staff person or a person providing services in the facility and a resident, patient, or client of that facility.

4. The act of forcing, compelling, coercing, or enticing a vulnerable adult against the vulnerable adult's will to perform services for the advantage of another.

Abuse does not include actions specifically excluded by Minnesota Statutes section 626.5572, Subd. 2.

- B. "Caregiver" means an individual or facility who has responsibility for the care of a vulnerable adult as a result of a family relationship, or who has assumed responsibility for all or a portion of the care of a vulnerable adult voluntarily, by contract, or by agreement.
- C. "Common entry point" means the entity responsible for receiving reports of alleged or suspected maltreatment of a vulnerable adult and designated by the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Human Services as the MN Adult Abuse Reporting Center (MAARC).
- D. "Financial Exploitation" means a breach of a fiduciary duty by an actor's unauthorized expenditure of funds entrusted to the actor for the benefit of the vulnerable adult or by an actor's failure to provide food, clothing, shelter, health care, therapeutic conduct or supervision, the failure of which results or is likely to result in detriment to the vulnerable adult. Financial exploitation also includes: the willful use, withholding or disposal of funds or property of a vulnerable adult; the obtaining of services for wrongful profit or advantage which results in detriment to the vulnerable adult; the acquisition of a vulnerable adult's funds or property through undue influence, harassment, duress, deception or fraud; and the use of force, coercion, or enticement to cause a vulnerable adult to perform services against the vulnerable adult's will for the profit or advantage of another.
- E. "Immediately" means as soon as possible, but no longer than 24 hours from the time initial knowledge that the incident occurred has been received.
- F. "Mandated reporter" means a professional or professional's delegate while

engaged in education.

- G. “Maltreatment” means the neglect, abuse, or financial exploitation of a vulnerable adult.
- H. “Neglect” means the failure or omission by a caregiver to supply a vulnerable adult with care or services, including but not limited to, food, clothing, shelter, health care, or supervision which is: (1) reasonable and necessary to obtain or maintain the vulnerable adult’s physical or mental health or safety, considering the physical and mental capacity or dysfunction of the vulnerable adult; and (2) which is not the result of an accident or therapeutic conduct.
- I. Neglect also means the absence or likelihood of absence of care or services, including but not limited to, food, clothing, shelter, health care, or supervision necessary to maintain the physical and mental health of the vulnerable adult which a reasonable person would deem essential to obtain or maintain the vulnerable adult’s health, safety, or comfort considering the physical or mental capacity or dysfunction of the vulnerable adult. Neglect does not include actions specifically excluded by Minnesota Statutes section 626.5572, Subd. 17.
- J. “School personnel” means professional employees or their delegates of the school district engaged in providing health, educational, social, psychological, law enforcement, or other caretaking services of vulnerable adults.
- K. “Vulnerable adult” means any person 18 years of age or older who: (1) is a resident or inpatient of a facility; (2) receives services required to be licensed under Minnesota Statutes chapter 245A, except as excluded under Minnesota Statutes section 626.5572, Subd. 21(a)(2); (3) receives services from a licensed home care provider or person or organization that offers, provides, or arranges for personal care assistance services under the medical assistance program; or (4) regardless of residence or whether any type of service is received, possesses a physical or mental infirmity or other physical, mental, or emotional dysfunction that impairs the individual’s ability to provide adequately for the individual’s own care without assistance or supervision and, because of the dysfunction or infirmity and need for care or services, has an impaired ability to protect the individual’s self from maltreatment.

#### **IV. REPORTING PROCEDURES**

- A. A mandated reporter as defined herein shall immediately report the suspected maltreatment to the common entry point responsible for receiving reports.
- B. Whenever a mandated reporter, as defined herein, knows or has reason to believe that an individual made an error in the provision of therapeutic conduct to a vulnerable adult which results in injury or harm, which reasonably requires the care of a physician, such information shall be reported immediately to the designated county agency. The mandated reporter also may report a belief that the error did not constitute neglect and why the error does not constitute neglect.

- C. The report shall, to the extent possible, identify the vulnerable adult, the caregiver, the nature and extent of the suspected maltreatment, any evidence of previous maltreatment, the name and address of the reporter, the time, date, and location of the incident, and any other information that the reporter believes might be helpful in investigating the suspected abuse or neglect. A mandated reporter may disclose not public data, as defined under Minnesota Statutes section 13.02, to the extent necessary to comply with the above reporting requirements.
- D. A person mandated to report suspected maltreatment of a vulnerable adult who negligently or intentionally fails to report is liable for damages caused by the failure. A negligent or intentional failure to report may result in discipline. A mandatory reporter who intentionally fails to make a report, who knowingly provides false or misleading information in reporting, or who intentionally fails to provide all the material circumstances surrounding the reported incident may be guilty of a misdemeanor.
- E. Retaliation against a person who makes a good faith report under Minnesota law and this policy, or against vulnerable adult who is named in a report is prohibited.
- F. Any person who intentionally makes a false report under the provisions of applicable Minnesota law or this policy shall be liable in a civil suit for any actual damages suffered by the person or persons so reported and for any punitive damages set by the court or jury. The intentional making of a false report may result in discipline.

## **V. INVESTIGATION**

The responsibility for investigating reports of suspected maltreatment of a vulnerable adult rests with the entity designated by the county for receiving reports.

## **VI. DISSEMINATION OF POLICY AND TRAINING**

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

Date of Adoption: December 5, 2022

**Legal References:** Minn. Stat. § 13.02 (Government Data Practices; Definitions)  
Minn. Stat. Ch. 245A (Human Services Licensing)  
Minn. Stat. § 245.825 (Aversive and Deprivation Procedures; Licensed Facilities and Services)

Minn. Stat. §§ 609.221-609.224 (Assault)  
Minn. Stat. § 609.232 (Crimes Against Vulnerable Adults; Definitions)  
Minn. Stat. § 609.235 (Use of Drugs to Injure or Facilitate Crime)  
Minn. Stat. § 609.322 (Solicitation, Inducement, and Promotion of Prostitution; Sex Trafficking)  
Minn. Stat. § 609.341 (Definitions)  
Minn. Stat. §§ 609.342-609.3451 (Criminal Sexual Conduct)  
Minn. Stat. § 626.557 (Reporting of Maltreatment of Vulnerable Adults)  
Minn. Stat. § 626.5572 (Definitions)  
*In re Kleven*, 736 N.W.2d 707 (Minn. App. 2007)

***Cross References:*** MSBA/MASA Model Policy 103 (Complaints – Students, Employees, Parents, Other Persons)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 211 (Criminal or Civil Action Against School District, School Board Member, Employee, or Student)  
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 414 (Mandated Reporting of Child Neglect or Physical or Sexual Abuse)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 515 (Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records)

**Chemical Use and Abuse**  
Policy No. 417

**I. PURPOSE**

The school board recognizes that chemical use and abuse constitutes a grave threat to the physical and mental well-being of students and employees and significantly impedes the learning process. Chemical use and abuse also creates significant problems for society in general. The school board believes that the public school has a role in education, intervention, and prevention of chemical use and abuse. The purpose of this policy is to assist the school district in its goal to prevent chemical use and abuse by providing procedures for education and intervention.

**II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

- A. Use or possession of controlled substances, toxic substance, medical cannabis, and alcohol before, during, or after school hours, at school or in any other school location, is prohibited in accordance with school district policies with respect to a Drug-Free Workplace/Drug-Free School.
- B. The school district shall develop, implement, and evaluate comprehensive programs and activities that foster safe, healthy, supportive, and drug-free environments that support student academic achievement.
- C. Every school that participates in a school district chemical abuse program shall establish a chemical abuse preassessment team. The team is responsible for addressing reports of chemical abuse problems and making recommendations for appropriate responses to the individual reported cases.
- D. The school district shall establish a drug-free awareness program for its employees.

***[Note: School districts are required to establish a drug-free awareness program for school district employees pursuant to the Drug-Free Workplace Act. In addition, state law requires that the written districtwide school discipline policy must include procedures for detecting and addressing chemical abuse problems of a student while on the school premises. Further, school districts are required to develop, implement, and evaluate comprehensive programs and activities that foster safe, healthy, supportive, and drug-free environments that support student academic achievement if receiving funding under the federal Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants law.]***

### III. DEFINITIONS

- A. “Chemical abuse,” as applied to students, means use of any psychoactive or mood-altering chemical substance, without compelling medical reason, in a manner that induces mental, emotional, or physical impairment and causes socially dysfunctional or socially disordering behavior, to the extent that the minor’s normal function in academic, school, or social activities is chronically impaired.
- B. “Controlled substances,” as applied to the chemical abuse assessment of students, means a drug, substance, or immediate precursor in Schedules I through V of Minnesota Statutes section 152.02 and “marijuana” as defined in Minnesota Statutes section 152.01, subdivision 9 but not distilled spirits, wine, malt beverages, intoxicating liquors or tobacco. As otherwise defined in this policy, “controlled substances” include narcotic drugs, hallucinogenic drugs, amphetamines, barbiturates, marijuana, anabolic steroids, or any other controlled substance as defined in Schedules I through V of the Controlled Substances Act, 21 United States Code section 812, including analogues and look-alike drugs.
- C. “Drug prevention” means prevention, early intervention, rehabilitation referral, recovery support services, or education related to the illegal use of drugs, such as raising awareness about the consequences of drug use that are evidence based.
- D. “Teacher” means all persons employed in a public school or education district or by a service cooperative as members of the instructional, supervisory, and support staff including superintendents, principals, supervisors, secondary vocational and other classroom teachers, librarians, counselors, school psychologists, school nurses, school social workers, audio-visual directors and coordinators, recreation personnel, media generalists, media supervisors, and speech therapists.

### IV. STUDENTS

- A. Districtwide School Discipline Policy

Procedures for detecting and addressing chemical abuse problems of a student while on school premises are included in the districtwide school student discipline policy.

- B. Programs and Activities

- 1. The school district shall develop, implement, and evaluate comprehensive programs and activities that foster safe, healthy, supportive, and drug-free environments that support student academic achievements. The programs and activities may include, among other programs and activities, drug prevention activities and programs that may be evidence based, including programs to educate students against the use of alcohol, tobacco,

marijuana, smokeless tobacco products, and electronic cigarettes.

2. As part of its drug-free programs, the school district may implement the drug abuse resistance education program (DARE) that enables peace officers to undergo the training to teach a curriculum on drug abuse resistance in schools.

C. Reports of Use, Possession, or Transfer of Alcohol or a Controlled Substance

1. A teacher in a nonpublic school participating in a school district chemical use program, or a public school teacher, who knows or has reason to believe that a student is using, possessing, or transferring alcohol or a controlled substance while on the school premises or involved in school-related activities, shall immediately notify the school's chemical abuse preassessment team, or staff member assigned duties similar to those of such a team, of this information.

***[Note: School districts are not required to participate in a chemical abuse program or establish a chemical abuse preassessment team pursuant to state law. Schools are required to have procedures for detecting student chemical abuse and can obtain federal funding if they establish drug prevention, detection, intervention, and recovery support services. Thus, it is recommended that schools establish these programs and activities. For those schools that do not establish a chemical abuse preassessment team, those obligations could be assigned to a specified staff member such a school counselor or administrator.]***

2. Students involved in the abuse, possession, transfer, distribution, or sale of chemicals may be suspended and proposed for expulsion in compliance with the student discipline policy and the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act, Minnesota Statutes section 121A.40-121A.56, and proposed for expulsion.
3. Searches by school district officials in connection with the use, possession, or transfer of alcohol or a controlled substance will be conducted in accordance with school board policies related to search and seizure.
4. Nothing in paragraph IV.B.1. prevents a teacher or any other school employee from reporting to a law enforcement agency any violation of law occurring on school premises or at school sponsored events.

D. Preassessment Team

1. Every school that participates in a school district chemical abuse program shall establish a chemical abuse preassessment team designated by the superintendent or designee. The team must be composed of classroom teachers, administrators, and to the extent they exist in the school, school nurse, school counselor or psychologist, social worker, chemical abuse

specialist, and other appropriate professional staff. For schools that do not have a chemical abuse program and team, the superintendent or designee will assign these duties to a designated school district employee.

2. The team is responsible for addressing reports of chemical abuse problems and making recommendations for appropriate responses to the individual reported cases.
3. Within forty-five (45) days after receiving an individual reported case, the team shall make a determination whether to provide the student and, in the case of a minor, the student's parents with information about school and community services in connection with chemical abuse.

E. Data Practices

1. Student data may be disclosed without consent in health and safety emergencies pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 13.32 and applicable federal law and regulations.

2. Destruction of Records

- a. If the preassessment team decides not to provide a student and, in the case of a minor, the student's parents with information about school or community services in connection with chemical abuse, records created or maintained by the team about the student shall be destroyed not later than six (6) months after the determination is made.
- b. If the team decides to provide the student and, in the case of a minor or a dependent student, the student's parents with information about school or community services in connection with chemical abuse, records created or maintained by the team about the student shall be destroyed not later than six (6) months after the student is no longer enrolled in the district.
- c. Destruction of records identifying individual students shall be governed by paragraph IV.E.2. notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes section 138.163 (Preservation and Disposal of Public Records).

F. Consent

Any minor may give effective consent for medical, mental, and other health services to determine the presence of or to treat conditions associated with alcohol and other drug abuse, and the consent of no other person is required.

***[Note: State law permits schools to provide these services to minor students without the consent of a parent. If, however, a school district provides these or***

*other services pursuant to a grant received under the Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants law, this funding could be jeopardized if the requirements of federal law, to obtain prior written, informed consent from the parent of each child who is under 18 years of age is not obtained.]*

**V. EMPLOYEES**

- A. The school district shall establish a drug-free awareness program to inform employees about:
  - 1. The dangers of drug abuse in the workplace.
  - 2. The school district's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace.
  - 3. Available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs.
  - 4. The penalties that may be imposed on employees for drug abuse violations.
  
- B. The school district shall notify a federal granting agency required to be notified under the Drug-Free Workplace Act within ten (10) days after receiving notice from the employee or otherwise receiving actual notice of any criminal drug statute conviction occurring in the workplace.

Date of Adoption: \_\_11-21-22\_\_\_\_

**Legal References:** Minn. Stat. § 13.32 (Educational Data)  
Minn. Stat. § 121A.25-121A.29 (Chemical Abuse)  
Minn. Stat. § 121A.40-121A.56 (Pupil Fair Dismissal Act)  
Minn. Stat. § 121A.61 (Discipline and Removal of Students from Class)  
Minn. Stat. § 124D.695 (Approved Recovery Program Funding)  
Minn. Stat. § 126C.44 (Safe Schools Levy)  
Minn. Stat. § 138.163 (Preservation and Disposal of Public Records)  
Minn. Stat. § 144.343 (Pregnancy, Venereal Disease, Alcohol or Drug Abuse, Abortion)  
Minn. Stat. § 152.01 (Definitions)  
Minn. Stat. § 152.02 (Schedules of Controlled Substances; Administration of Chapter)  
Minn. Stat. § 152.22 (Definitions; Medical Cannabis)  
Minn. Stat. § 152.23 (Limitations; Medical Cannabis)  
Minn. Stat. § 299A.33 (DARE Program)  
Minn. Stat. § 466.07, subd. 1 (Indemnification Required)  
Minn. Stat. § 609.101, subd. 3(e) (Controlled Substance Offenses; Minimum Fines)  
20 U.S.C. § 1232g (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act)  
20 U.S.C. §§ 7101-7122 (Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants)

20 U.S.C. § 5812 (National Education Goals)  
20 U.S.C. § 7175 (Local Activities)  
41 U.S.C. §§ 8101-8106 (Drug-Free Workplace Act)  
34 C.F.R. Part 84 (Government-Wide Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace)

***Cross References:*** MSBA/MASA Model Policy 403 (Discipline, Suspension, and Dismissal of School District Employees)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 416 (Drug and Alcohol Testing)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 418 (Drug-Free Workplace/Drug Free School)  
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 502 (Search of Student Lockers, Desks, Personal Possessions, and Student's Person)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 506 (Student Discipline)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 515 (Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 527 (Student Use and Parking of Motor Vehicles; Patrols, Inspections, and Searches)

**Students and Employees with Sexually Transmitted Infections and  
Diseases and Certain Other Communicable  
Diseases and Infectious Conditions**  
Policy No. 420

**I. PURPOSE**

Public concern that students and staff of the school district be able to attend the schools of the district without becoming infected with serious communicable or infectious diseases, including, but not limited to, Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS), Hepatitis B, and Tuberculosis, requires that the school board adopt measures effectively responding to health concerns while respecting the rights of all students, employees, and contractors, including those who are so infected. The purpose of this policy is to adopt such measures.

**II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

A. Students

The policy of the school board is that students with communicable diseases not be excluded from attending school in their usual daily attendance setting so long as their health permits and their attendance does not create a significant risk of the transmission of illness to students or employees of the school district. A procedure for minimizing interruptions to learning resulting from communicable diseases will be established by the school district in its IEP and Section 504 team process, if applicable, and in consultation with community health and private health care providers. Procedures for the inclusion of students with communicable diseases will include any applicable educational team planning processes, including the review of the educational implications for the student and others with whom the student comes into contact.

B. Employees

The policy of the school board is that employees with communicable diseases not be excluded from attending to their customary employment so long as they are physically, mentally, and emotionally able to safely perform tasks assigned to them and so long as their employment does not create a significant risk of the transmission of illness to students, employees, or others in the school district. If a reasonable accommodation will eliminate the significant risk of transmission,

such accommodation will be undertaken unless it poses an undue hardship to the school district.

C. Circumstances and Conditions

1. Determinations of whether a contagious individual's school attendance or job performance creates a significant risk of the transmission of the illness to students or employees of the school district will be made on a case by case basis. Such decisions will be based upon the nature of the risk (how it is transmitted), the duration of the risk (how long the carrier is infectious), the severity of the risk (what is the potential harm to third parties), and the probabilities the disease will be transmitted and will cause varying degrees of harm. When a student is disabled, such a determination will be made in consultation with the educational planning team.
2. The school board recognizes that some students and some employees, because of special circumstances and conditions, may pose greater risks for the transmission of infectious conditions than other persons infected with the same illness. Examples include students who display biting behavior, students or employees who are unable to control their bodily fluids, who have oozing skin lesions, or who have severe disorders which result in spontaneous external bleeding. These conditions need to be taken into account and considered in assessing the risk of transmission of the disease and the resulting effect upon the educational program of the student or employment of the employee by consulting with the Commissioner of Health, the physician of the student or employee, and the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the student.

D. Students with Special Circumstances and Conditions

The school (title), along with the infected individual's physician, the infected individual or parent(s)/guardian(s), and others, if appropriate, will weigh risks and benefits to the student and to others, consider the least restrictive appropriate educational placement, and arrange for periodic reevaluation as deemed necessary by the state epidemiologist. The risks to the student shall be determined by the student's physician.

E. Extracurricular Student Participation

Student participation in nonacademic, extracurricular, and non-educational programs of the school district are subject to a requirement of equal access and comparable services.

F. Precautions

The school district will develop routine procedures for infection control at school and for educating employees about these procedures. The procedures shall be

developed through cooperation with health professionals taking into consideration any guidelines of the Minnesota Department of Education and the Minnesota Department of Health. (These precautionary procedures shall be consistent with the school district's procedures regarding blood-borne pathogens developed pursuant to the school district's employee right to know policy.)

G. Information Sharing

1. Employee and student health information shall be shared within the school district only with those whose jobs require such information and with those who have a legitimate educational interest (including health and safety) in such information and shall be shared only to the extent required to accomplish legitimate educational goals and to comply with employees' right to know requirements.
2. Employee and student health data shall be shared outside the school district only in accordance with state and federal law and with the school district's policies on employee and student records and data.

H. Reporting

If a medical condition of student or staff threatens public health, it must be reported to the Minnesota Commissioner of Health.

I. Prevention

The school district shall, with the assistance of the Commissioners of Health and Education, implement a program to prevent and reduce the risk of sexually transmitted diseases in accordance with Minnesota Statutes section 121A.23 that includes:

1. planning materials, guidelines, and other technically accurate and updated information;
2. a comprehensive, developmentally appropriate, technically accurate, and updated curriculum that includes helping students to abstain from sexual activity until marriage;
3. cooperation and coordination among school districts and Service Cooperatives;
4. a targeting of adolescents, especially those who may be at high risk of contracting sexually transmitted diseases and infections, for prevention efforts;
5. involvement of parents and other community members;
6. in-service training for district staff and school board members;

7. collaboration with state agencies and organizations having a sexually transmitted infection and disease prevention or sexually transmitted infection and disease risk reduction program;
8. collaboration with local community health services, agencies and organizations having a sexually transmitted infection and disease risk reduction program; and
9. participation by state and local student organizations.
10. The program must be consistent with the health and wellness curriculum.
11. The school district may accept funds for sexually transmitted infection and disease prevention programs developed and implemented under this section from public and private sources, including public health funds and foundations, department professional development funds, federal block grants, or other federal or state grants.

J. Vaccination and Screening

The school district will develop procedures regarding the administration of Hepatitis B vaccinations and Tuberculosis screenings in keeping with current state and federal law. The procedures shall provide that the Hepatitis B vaccination series be offered to all who have occupational exposure at no cost to the employee.

Date of Adoption: December 5, 2022

**Legal References:** Minn. Stat. § 121A.23 (Programs to Prevent and Reduce the Risks of Sexually Transmitted Infections and Diseases)  
Minn. Stat. § 144.441 (Tuberculosis Screening in Schools)  
Minn. Stat. § 142 (Testing in School Clinics)  
Minn. Stat. Ch. 363A (Minnesota Human Rights Act)  
20 U.S.C. § 1400 *et seq.* (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act)  
29 U.S.C. § 794 *et seq.* (Rehabilitation Act of 1973, § 504)  
42 U.S.C. § 12101 *et seq.* (Americans with Disabilities Act)  
29 C.F.R. 1910.1030 (Bloodborne Pathogens)  
*Kohl by Kohl v. Woodhaven Learning Center*, 865 F.2d 930 (8<sup>th</sup> Cir.), *cert. denied*, 493 U.S. 892 (1989)  
*School Board of Nassau County, Fla. v. Arline*, 480 U.S. 273 (1987)  
16 EHLR 712, OCR Staff Memo, April 5, 1990

**Cross References:** MSBA/MASA Model Policy 402 (Disability Nondiscrimination)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 407 (Employee Right to Know – Exposure to Hazardous Substances)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 521 (Student Disability Nondiscrimination)

**Employee-Student Relationships**  
Policy No. 423

**I. PURPOSE**

The school district is committed to an educational environment in which all students are treated with respect and dignity. Every school district employee is to provide students with appropriate guidance, understanding, and direction while maintaining a standard of professionalism and acting within accepted standards of conduct.

**II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

- A. This policy applies to all school district employees at all times, whether on or off duty and on or off of school district locations.
- B. At all times, students will be treated by teachers and other school district employees with respect, courtesy, and consideration and in a professional manner. Each school district employee is expected to exercise good judgment and professionalism in all interpersonal relationships with students. Such relationships must be and remain on a teacher-student basis or an employee-student basis.
- C. Teachers must be mindful of their inherent positions of authority and influence over students. Similarly, other school district employees also may hold positions of authority over students of the school district and must be mindful of their authority and influence over students.
- D. Sexual relationships between school district employees and students, without regard to the age of the student, are strictly forbidden and may subject the employee to criminal liability.
- E. Other actions that violate this policy include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - 1. Dating students.
  - 2. Having any interaction/activity of a sexual nature with a student.
  - 3. Committing or attempting to induce students or others to commit an illegal act or act of immoral conduct which may be harmful to others or bring discredit to the school district.

4. Supplying alcohol or any illegal substance to a student, allowing a student access to such substances, or failing to take reasonable steps to prevent such access from occurring.
- F. School district employees shall, whenever possible, employ safeguards against improper relationships with students and/or claims of such improper relationships.  
  
*[Note: Such safeguards may include the following: avoiding altogether or minimizing physical contact, keeping doors open when talking or meeting with students one-on-one, and/or making sure that such meetings with a student take place in rooms with windows and/or others nearby.]*
- G. Excessive informal and social involvement with individual students is unprofessional, is not compatible with employee-student relationships, and is inappropriate.
- H. School district employees will adhere to applicable standards of ethics and professional conduct in Minnesota law.

### **III. REPORTING AND INVESTIGATION**

- A. Complaints and/or concerns regarding alleged violations of this policy shall be handled in accordance with MSBA/MASA Model Policy 103 (Complaints – Students, Employees, Parents, Other Persons) unless other specific complaint procedures are provided within any other policy of the school district.
- B. All employees shall cooperate with any investigation of alleged acts, conduct, or communications in violation of this policy.

### **IV. SCHOOL DISTRICT ACTION**

Upon receipt of a report, the school district will take appropriate action. Such action may include, but is not limited to, warning, suspension, exclusion, expulsion, transfer, remediation, termination, or discharge. It also may include reporting to appropriate state or federal authorities, including the Minnesota Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board or the appropriate licensing authority and appropriate agencies responsible for investigating reports of maltreatment of minors and/or vulnerable adults. School district action taken for violation of this policy will be consistent with requirements of applicable collective bargaining agreements, Minnesota and federal law, and school district policies.

### **V. SCOPE OF LIABILITY**

Employees are placed on notice that if an employee acts outside the performance of the duties of the position for which the employee is employed or is guilty of malfeasance, willful neglect of duty, or bad faith, the school district is not required to defend and indemnify the employee for damages in school-related litigation.

Date of Adoption: April 25, 2022

**Legal References:** Minn. Stat. § 13.43, Subd. 16 (School District or Charter School Disclosure of Violence or Inappropriate Sexual Contact)  
Minn. Stat. § 122A.20, Subd. 2 (Mandatory Reporting to Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board or Board of School Administrators)  
Minn. Stat. § 122A.40, Subds. 5(b) and 13(b) (Mandatory immediate discharge of teachers with license revocations due to child or sex abuse convictions)  
Minn. Stat. §§ 609.341-609.352 (Defining “intimate parts” and “position of authority” as well as detailing various sex offenses)  
Minn. Stat. Ch. 260E (Reporting of Maltreatment of Minors)  
Minn. Stat. § 626.557 (Reporting of Maltreatment of Vulnerable Adults)  
Minn. Rules Part 3512.5200 (Code of Ethics for School Administrators)  
Minn. Rules Part 8710.2100 (Code of Ethics for Minnesota Teachers)

**Cross References:** MSBA/MASA Model Policy 103 (Complaints – Students, Employees, Parents, Other Persons)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 211 (Criminal or Civil Action Against School District, School Board Member, Employee, or Student)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 306 (Administrator Code of Ethics)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 403 (Discipline, Suspension, and Dismissal of School District Employees)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 413 (Harassment and Violence)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 414 (Mandated Reporting of Child Neglect or Physical or Sexual Abuse)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 415 (Mandated Reporting of Maltreatment of Vulnerable Adults)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 421 (Gifts to Employees and School Board Members)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 507 (Corporal Punishment)