



Cloquet Public Schools Regular Meeting

Monday, December 8, 2025 at 6:15 PM
Garfield Board Room
302 14th Street
Cloquet, MN 55720
302 - 14th Street, Cloquet, MN

5:15 p.m. Madrigals Performance

5:30 pm Working Session

6:00 pm Truth in Taxation Hearing

6:15 pm Regular meeting

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b. 6.5 hrs./day Paraprofessional at Churchill Elementary (Kailee Majerle)	26
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- 2. Consider Approving the Changes to the Chemical Eligibility Penalties to Align with MSHSL Guidelines 40
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XI. Superintendent's Report

- 1. MN Paid Leave Update

XII. Consider Moving to Closed Session: Discuss Allegations Against an Employee

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 - a. Early Childhood/School Readiness Teacher 156
- 2. Washington Elementary December Newsletter 157

XIV. Upcoming Meetings/Events

- 1. Tuesday, December 9, 2025 - DAC Meeting - Boardroom - 4 p.m.
- 2. Wednesday, December 17, 2025 - Equity Committee Meeting - Washington - 4 p.m.
- 3. Thursday, January 8, 2026 - District Health, Safety, Crisis Team Meeting - Boardroom - 3:45 p.m.
- 4. Monday, January 12, 2026 - School Board Meeting - Boardroom 5:30 p.m. Working Session, 6:00 p.m. Organizational and Regular Meeting

XV. Adjournment

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



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1. Monday, November 24, 2025, School Board Meeting Minutes

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

1. Building and Department Reports

VI. Claims, Food Service Reports

1. Claims, December 4, 2025
2. Food Service Report, October 2025

VII. Consent Items

1. *Terminations*

- a. Front Desk at Beach Staff with Community Education (Jase Bell)

2. *Resignation Letters*

- a. School Readiness/Early Childhood Teacher (Kristy Cummings)
- b. 6.75 hrs./day Paraprofessional at NLA (Nathan Bents)
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- e. Water Safety Instructor with Community Education (Mirande Brande)

3. *Recommendations for Employment*

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- b. 6.5 hrs./day Paraprofessional at Churchill Elementary (Kailee Majerle)
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4. *Extra Service Contracts*

- a. Robotic Volunteer (Jacob Mertz)

5. *Permission to Post*

- a. 15-20 hrs./week 1:1 ECSE Paraprofessional at Churchill

VIII. School Board Committee Report

1. Student Enrollment Report as of December 8 2025

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November 24, 2025

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

Topics discussed:

An audit presentation was given by Luke Greden, Auditor with Clifton, Larson, Allen, LLP and Candace Nelis, Business Manager. Teresa Angell, American Indian Education Director, presented the findings from the 2024-2025 Achievement and Integration program. Dr. Cary and LeAnn Butler, gave an update and proposed levy request for Northern Lights Academy facility. Adrienne Strickland, District Accountant, followed up with the Board and answered any questions regarding proposed payroll changes. Dr. Cary gave an update on MN Paid Leave starting in January, different options being considered for the 2026-2027 school year calendar and possible winter storm. There being nothing further to discuss, Board Chair, N. Sandman adjourned the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

November 24, 2025

The Regular Meeting of the School Board of Independent School District No. 94, in the City of Cloquet on November 24, 2025, was called to order by Board Chair N. Sandman at 6:41 p.m.

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

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

Present in Person:

- | | |
|---|--|
| • Dr. Michael Cary, Superintendent | • Adrienne Strickland, District Accountant |
| • Mary Marciniak, Exec. Asst. to Superintendent | • Ashley Lennartson, EM-C Teacher Rep. |
| • Bill Bauer, Technology Support Specialist | • Jana Peterson, Pine Knot Newspaper Rep. |
| • Brock Wilton, Buildings and Ground Director | |
| • Teresa Angell, AIE Director | |

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

APPROVAL OF BOARD AGENDA

- RESOLVED by L. Butler to approve the November 24, 2025, Regular Board Agenda, as presented. G. Huard seconded the motion, and the resolution was approved by unanimous yea vote of all members present on roll call.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

- RESOLVED by L. Butler to approve the November 10, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes, as presented. N. Sandman seconded the motion, and the resolution was approved by unanimous yea vote of all members present on roll call.

OPEN FORUM AND RECEPTION OF DELEGATIONS, PETITIONS, AND COMMUNICATIONS

- Department reports were reviewed. B. Wilton, Building and Grounds Director, gave an update on projects.
- Public comment was taken.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

- RESOLVED by D. Battaglia to approve Claims: November 6, 13, and 20, 2025, Treasurer's Report: July 2025, Investment Report: July 2025 and Wires: October 16, 2025, as presented. L. Butler seconded the motion, and the resolution was approved by unanimous yea vote of all members present on roll call.

CONSENT ITEMS

- RESOLVED by N. Sandman to approve the Consent Items, as presented.
 1. **Retirements**
 - a. Julie Deters, 1.0 FTE Art Teacher at Cloquet High School, effective June 3, 2026
 2. **Resignations**
 - a. Natalie Moran, 3.5 hrs./day Food Service at CMS, November 28, 2025, pending hire

3. Recommendations of Employment:

	NAME	POSITION/LOCATION	SALARY**	START DATE
a.	Natalie Moran	6.5 hrs./day Paraprofessional at CMS	Step 1	12/1/25
b.	Tarynn Bennett	6.75 hrs./day – 3 days/week On Call Cleaner	\$17.50/hr.	11/25/25
c.	Elinor Cich	EXCEL Targeted Service Teacher	\$38.04/hr.	December-March
d.	Lexi Fisher	EXCEL Targeted Service Teacher	\$38.04/hr.	December-March
e.	Sheila Kalstorf	EXCEL Targeted Service Teacher	\$38.04/hr.	December-March
f.	Jolene Aho	EXCEL Targeted Service Teacher	\$38.04/hr.	December-March
g.	Joanne Lattu	EXCEL Targeted Service Teacher	\$38.04/hr.	December-March
h.	Jason Godnai	EXCEL Targeted Service Teacher	\$38.04/hr.	December-March
i.	Amanda Gustafson	EXCEL Targeted Service Teacher	\$38.04/hr.	December-March
j.	Jennifer Mackey	EXCEL Targeted Service Teacher	\$38.04/hr.	December-March
k.	Emily McLeod	EXCEL Targeted Service Paraprofessional	Current Rate	December- March
l.	Tracey Poldowski	EXCEL Targeted Service Paraprofessional	Current Rate	December- March

4. Extra Services Contracts

a.	Levi Belland	Assistant Robotics Coach	\$4,189.00	
b.	Jason Mangan	Volunteer Robotics Coach		
c.	Jesse Buhs	Volunteer Robotics Coach		
d.	Jason Mondati	Volunteer Robotics Coach		
e.	Luke Bakkestuen	Volunteer Robotics Coach		
f.	Michelle Wick	Volunteer Robotics Coach		
g.	Drake Schramm	Activity Paid Boys Soccer Helper	\$1,000.00	
h.	Hunter Williams	Nordic Ski Volunteer		
i.	Lindsay Smith	Night School Credit Recovery (2 hrs./week)	\$38.04/hr.	

- G. Huard seconded the motion, and the resolution was approved by unanimous yea vote of all members present on roll call.

SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Student enrollment from November 19, 2025, and MARSS 15 Report was reviewed.

AGENDA ADDENDUMS

- None

NEW BUSINESS

- RESOLVED by L. Butler to approve setting the Organizational Meeting (first meeting in January) date as January 12, 2026, as presented. D. Battaglia seconded the motion, and the resolution was approved by unanimous yea vote of all members present on roll call.
- RESOLVED by N. Sandman to approve 2024-2025 Financial Statement Audit, as presented. G. Huard seconded the motion, and the resolution was approved by unanimous yea vote of all members present on roll call.
- RESOLVED by G. Huard to approve the request for contractual leave for the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year from Carmen Purcell, paraprofessional, as presented. L. Butler seconded the motion, and the resolution was approved by unanimous yea vote of all members present on roll call.
- RESOLVED by D. Battaglia to approve the sale of a Leblanc Contrabass Clarinet, as presented. L. Butler seconded the motion, and the resolution was approved by unanimous yea vote of all members present on roll call.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

- Dr. Cary covered everything in the working session.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

- Cloquet Football Senior Linebacker and Captain, Conner Tibbets, was selected to the MN Football Coaches Association Academic All-State Team as an Individual and the Cloquet Football Team was awarded the MFCA Academic All-State as a Team. Congratulations!
- Shrek High School Musical Cast Photo

- Posting for Existing Positions
 - 3.5 hrs./day Food Service Worker at Cloquet Middle School

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

- Monday, December 8, 2025 - School Board Meeting – Boardroom; 5:15 p.m. Madrigals Performance, 5:30 p.m. Working Session, 6:00 p.m. Truth in Taxation Hearing, 6:15 p.m. Regular Meeting
- Tuesday, December 9, 2025 - DAC Meeting - Boardroom - 4 p.m.
- Wednesday, December 17, 2025 - Equity Committee Meeting - Washington - 4 p.m.
- Thursday, January 8, 2026 - District Health, Safety and Crisis Team Meeting - Boardroom - 3:45 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being nothing further to discuss, Board Chair N. Sandman adjourned the meeting at 7:01 p.m.

ATTEST:

Clerk of the School Board

Chair of the School Board

Department Reports

Churchill Elementary:

- Bingo at each grade level was a successful celebration of all the hard work students completed in Trimester 1.
- Our biggest PIE fundraiser of the year was Saturday. The Holiday Expo was well attended.
- Dec. 12- 1st Grade Music Program at 9:30am
- Kindergarten will be creating gingerbread houses the week of Jan. 22.
- Dec. 22- 1st grade craft morning
- Dec. 23 - 4th Grade Skating & Sledding Party
- The Churchill Excel program (targeted services) for 3rd and 4th graders will begin on Dec. 9. It will run Tuesdays and Thursday after school until March 19. The program is designed to help students with their reading and math skills that support grade level benchmarks and the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCAs) specifically for grades 3-4.

Submitted by Jenny Holm, Churchill Elementary Principal

Washington Elementary:

December updates from Washington:

-Kindergarten students selected our November spirit day based on showing great purple pride. They selected "Fall Color Day," which ironically was moved to 12/1 after being scheduled for 11/26 (the snow day!) The only fall colors seen on the 1st were indoors!

-Many thanks to our PIE group for generously funding the Roller-Skating unit at Washington!! 2nd-4th grade students are currently in the middle of the 2-week unit and LOVING it!

-Speaking of PIE, they also are fully funding the Washington holiday trip to the movie theater! Students are in for a treat at the end of the month, and we're so grateful for PIE covering the cost so that no family feels unnecessary financial stress in providing funds for their student to attend.

-12/1 is the beginning of trimester two, and we are using this week to wrap up report cards with the plan to get them in the mail in the beginning of the week of 12/8.

-EXCEL after school reading (Tuesday) and math (Thursday) instruction will be beginning on 12/9 for students invited to attend based on their academic needs. Programming at Washington will be offered for students in grades 1-4.

-1st grade students will be performing their music program on the evening of 12/18 (@ 6:30pm in the Washington gym.)

-Student Advisory Team members will also be ringing bells for the Salvation Army's Red Kettle Campaign on 12/18 at Super One if you want to stop by and say hello (3-7pm.)

Submitted by Robbi Mondati, Washington Elementary Principal

Cloquet Middle School:



Submitted by: Viki Green

Student Council – Community Service Team

Our Student Council Community Service Team has been very active this month!

- **Inter-Faith Visit:** Sixteen students visited Inter-Faith, where they made turkeys and played games with community members. Our two-student **Inter-Faith Leadership Team** planned the activities, organized supply preparation, and provided hands-on support during the visit.

- **Pop Tab Collection for Ronald McDonald House: Our Year-Long Project Leadership Team** (three students) launched a building-wide pop tab collection project last week. They created flyers and signs, delivered containers to classrooms, and early indications show that some rooms are already filling up quickly.
- **Mobile Food Distribution Event:** Later this month, our **Mobile Food Distribution Leadership Team** (two students) will recruit volunteers and has planned a fun “warm-up activity” for after the team spends two hours outdoors loading food into cars.

This year, we are piloting a new structure that includes student **leadership teams** to plan and execute service events, supported by a larger pool of student council volunteers who help prepare and participate. This model allows students interested in deeper leadership development to take on more responsibility, while giving others the chance to be involved with a manageable time commitment that supports balance with academics and other activities.



CMS Art Update

Submitted by: Andrea Cacek

Sixth-grade students at CMS have been creating window art murals, now on display in the back of the building. We are incredibly proud of their creativity and talent. A massive thank-you to CEF for providing support and supplies that made this project possible.

Math Update

Submitted by: Katelyn LaPorte

Eighth-grade math classes are wrapping up their unit on solving equations and are pleased with the strong progress students are showing. Additionally, both 8th-grade classrooms are expected to receive complete sets of graphing calculators, made possible through generous CEF grant funding. Students and teachers are very excited about this new resource.

Submitted by Thomas Brenner, Cloquet Middle School Principal

Cloquet High School:

- All winter sports are currently in season.
- We had a band concert last week that went very well.
- Our first choir concert is on 12/8.
- We held parent/teacher conferences on 12/3.
- We've locked in our ACT testing date for 4/21.
- We're exploring an ACE Automotive Career Exploration program for our Auto 2 class which would give our students industry recognized credentials in the automotive field. We visited with North Branch High School who is a leader in this area. We're also exploring Diesel Tech Repair credentials within our Auto Department/CDL Course.
- Please see the attached document explaining the rationale for amending our MSHSL Chemical Eligibility policy.

Submitted by Steve Battaglia, Cloquet High School Principal

Cloquet Area Alternative Education Programs:

CAAEP held parent teacher conferences on Wednesday, December 3, and had a good turnout of parents, guardians, and students attending to spend some quality time with their teachers. We are always appreciative when the adults in our students' lives show up to engage in conversations that help us work more effectively with our kids.

Our next big adventure is the two-day week before the winter holiday break. We often host a symposium on our shorter weeks to encourage stronger attendance and focus on community and relationship building. It can be a heavy lift for teachers to plan engaging activities including travel, purchasing tickets, busing, service learning, crafts, and large group activities. This time, our leadership class has taken on the responsibility of planning for December 22 and 23. They are choosing activities, sending inquiry and interest emails, budgeting funds, and scheduling the days and learning to work together, think like educators, and investing in their own school community! It's so fun to watch them work and learn together, and handle bigger responsibilities. We are planning to go bowling at Skyline in Duluth, watch a holiday movie in the auditorium at Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College, go tubing, and offer several craft options in the afternoon. These will include making take-home holiday swags, bake, build, and decorate Christmas cookie 10-layer trees, birch tree yule logs with candles, greenery, ribbons and decor, making cards for local nursing home residents, and a special science project that results in very cool tree ornaments! Their excitement and planning will undoubtedly encourage peer participation and enjoyment.

Our community building goals are in line with our long-standing commitment to restorative practices. With the retirement of teacher David Perry, we are without the same access to some of our RP focus. The state of Minnesota currently has a grant opportunity available that would enable us to hire an RP coordinator for the next few years. We are very excited to apply and hope we are chosen in this process! English teacher Jeanna Aldridge actually volunteered to write this grant for us and we have submitted the short description and general budget to Carlton County for a required letter of support prior to the December 19 grant proposal deadline. Please keep your fingers crossed for a successful submission!

I will send pictures of our fun symposium days for your next meeting. Happy Holidays from all of us to all of you, and as always, thank you for your support of the Cloquet Area Alternative Education Program!

Submitted by Dr. Marcia Nelson, CAAEP Principal

Community Education

Recreation - Winter Pep Squad

I'm pleased to share a positive update on this year's Winter Pep Squad program. Thanks to an expanded age range that allows younger students to participate and begin developing their skills early, we have reached a *record-high enrollment of 18 participants*. This growth supports our long-term goal of building a strong, sustainable program from the bottom up.

In addition to supporting our basketball teams, the Pep Squad will broaden its reach this season by performing at select **hockey games**, helping to spread school spirit across even more athletic events and introducing the squad to a wider audience.

Our coaching team has also been highly proactive in strengthening the program's resources. They have successfully secured **grants and community donations** to provide the team with quality uniforms and equipment, ensuring our students can perform with pride and professionalism.

Overall, the Winter Pep Squad is experiencing exciting momentum, and we look forward to a spirited and successful season.

Submitted by: Erin Bates, Community Education Director



Submitted by Erin Bates, Community Education Director

Business Department:

Candace Nelis, Business Manager, will be attending in person

American Indian Education Department:

Submitted by Teresa Angell, American Indian Education

Building and Grounds:

Brock Wilton, Director of Building and Grounds, will be attending in person.

Cloquet Public Schools
Detail Payment Register By Check
Fund Summary

Fund	Description	Total
01	General	\$74,072.77
02	Food Services	\$60.00
03	Transportation	\$120,835.15
04	Community Services	\$5,281.62
05	Capital Expenditure	\$212,335.05
06	Building Construction	\$2,266.00
12	Activities	\$16,704.08
Report Total		\$431,554.67

Cloquet Public Schools Check Register by Bank and Check

Check Number: 0-2147483647 Payment Date: 12/4/2025-12/31/2025 Period: 0-99999999

District # 0094

Batch	Bank	Pymt No	Check No	Pay Type	Grp	Code	Rcd	Vendor	Print	Recon	Void	Pmt/Void Date	Amount
2		109113	28845	Check	1	3839		4IMPRINT INC	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	287.96
		109130	28846	Check	1	6969		ACME TOOLS	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	2,845.42
		109067	28847	Check	1	00350		ACTIVITY FUND-MIDDLE SCHOOL	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	21.25
		109068	28848	Check	1	00400		ACTIVITY FUND-SENIOR HIGH	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	460.00
		109128	28849	Check	1	6516		ANDERSON, HEIDI	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	331.06
		109142	28850	Check	1	8863		ANGELL, TERESA	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	60.00
		109093	28851	Check	1	11649		ARCHKEY SOLUTIONS	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	11,170.00
		109070	28852	Check	1	1006		ARROWHEAD SPRINGS	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	397.00
		109126	28853	Check	1	6347		AVIBEN	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	283.41
		109140	28854	Check	1	8268		BATES, ERIN	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	60.00
		109144	28855	Check	1	9008		BAUER, WILLIAM	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	249.99
		109086	28856	Check	1	11138		BCH LANDSCAPING LLC	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	1,180.00
		109089	28857	Check	1	11478		BEMIDJI WRESTLING CLUB	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	150.00
		109069	28858	Check	1	05105		BERNICKS VENDING	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	1,704.45
		109151	28859	Check	1	9540		BIRMAN, LAURA	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	602.49
		109076	28860	Check	1	10665		BOB ROGERS TRAVEL	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	2,444.71
		109097	28861	Check	1	11676		BOIS FORTE HEALTH & HUMAN SER	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	125.00
		109153	28862	Check	1	9548		BRENNER MARK	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	35.00
		109133	28863	Check	1	7378		BSN SPORTS LLC	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	828.96
		109147	28864	Check	1	9301		CARMENS RESTAURANT	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	1,601.87
		109150	28865	Check	1	9452		CARY, MICHAEL	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	100.00
		109082	28866	Check	1	10940		CHERRY ENTERPRISES INC	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	662.80
		109090	28867	Check	1	11609		CLIFTON LARSON ALLEN LLP	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	12,207.30
		109083	28868	Check	1	11051		CLOQUET TRANSIT CO	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	123,017.51
		109091	28869	Check	1	11620		COMPENSATION CONSULTANTS, LTI	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	2,144.00
		109154	28870	Check	1	9578		CONSTELLATION NEWENERGY -GA	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	8,287.46
		109098	28871	Check	1	11677		CREATIVE LANGUAGE CLASS LLC	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	100.00
		109125	28872	Check	1	5930		DULUTH LAWN & SPORT	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	325.00
		109135	28873	Check	1	7907		EDMENTUM INC	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	4,659.10
		109139	28874	Check	1	8229		ESSE, DAVID	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	1,127.70
		109109	28875	Check	1	3316		FOLLETT CONTENT SOLUTIONS LLC	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	182.69
		109157	28876	Check	1	9833		GAGNER JENNIFER	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	119.86
		109100	28877	Check	1	1314		GODNAI, JASON	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	30.97
		109116	28878	Check	1	4250		GRAINGER	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	280.05
		109099	28879	Check	1	12271		GREAT LAKES OFFICE SOLUTIONS	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	4,029.60
		109096	28880	Check	1	11675		HD SUPPLY FACILITIES MAINTENAN	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	209.97
		109146	28881	Check	1	9291		HEXUM, AMY 14	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	345.00
		109137	28882	Check	1	8116		HILL, MICHAEL	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	227.00
		109124	28883	Check	1	5684		HILLYARD INC MINNEAPOLIS	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	5,627.83

District # 0094

Cloquet Public Schools Check Register by Bank and Check

Check Number: 0-2147483647 Payment Date: 12/4/2025-12/31/2025 Period: 0-99999999

Batch	Bank	Pymt No	Check No	Pay Type	Grp	Code	Rcd	Vendor	Print	Recon	Void	Pmt/Void Date	Amount
2		109134	28884	Check	1	7657		HUNT ELECTRIC CORPORATION	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	4,541.78
		109158	28885	Check	1	9842		ISD #0181	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	350.00
		109117	28886	Check	1	4331		JAZDZEWSKI, JAMIE	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	113.52
		109141	28887	Check	1	8749		KNUTSEN, JESSICA	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	225.40
		109103	28888	Check	1	2076		KO LODGE, JENNIFER	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	176.40
		109072	28889	Check	1	10184		KURAS LYNSEE	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	262.85
		109156	28890	Check	1	9793		KWIK TRIP, FUNDRAISING	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	2,268.75
		109095	28892	Check	1	11674		LAMIA MADILYN	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	37.84
		109107	28893	Check	1	30365		LCS COACHES INC	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	4,857.42
		109112	28894	Check	1	3602		LINDE GAS & EQUIPMENT INC	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	273.80
		109138	28895	Check	1	8118		LINDSTROM, LUCAS	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	112.00
		109080	28896	Check	1	10798		LUMBERJACK DESIGN AND FABRIC	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	2,236.00
		109145	28897	Check	1	9012		MARSH, STEPHANIE	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	330.50
		109105	28898	Check	1	2692		MASSP	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	405.00
		109110	28899	Check	1	34186		MENARDS	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	194.52
		109132	28900	Check	1	7263		MENARDS HERMANTOWN	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	502.81
		109094	28901	Check	1	11651		MESABI GLASS WINDOW & DOOR	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	2,266.00
		109111	28902	Check	1	34310		MESPA	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	250.00
		109129	28903	Check	1	6757		MORRISON, REBEKKAH	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	149.80
		109074	28904	Check	1	10476		MOTZKO KELSEY	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	171.81
		109077	28905	Check	1	10672		MRI SOFTWARE LLC	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	10.00
		109114	28906	Check	1	40801		NORTHEAST SERVICE COOP	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	3,905.00
		109115	28907	Check	1	41104		NORTHLAND FIRE AND SAFETY	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	308.75
		109073	28908	Check	1	10456		NOVAK JANICE	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	40.00
		109108	28909	Check	1	3249		PACK & MAIL STATION	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	26.54
		109088	28910	Check	1	11433		PAPE JEFFREY	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	112.00
		109075	28911	Check	1	10625		PEQUOT LAKES HIGH SCHOOL	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	350.00
		109101	28912	Check	1	1913		PERTLER, JILL	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	825.00
		109102	28913	Check	1	2037		PINE KNOT, LLC	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	406.09
		109118	28914	Check	1	44751		POSTMASTER	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	406.09
		109119	28915	Check	1	44930		PREMIERE THEATRES	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	1,825.52
		109081	28916	Check	1	10830		PRING JILL	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	500.00
		109121	28917	Check	1	4822		PROSEN, TIM	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	239.19
		109085	28918	Check	1	11121		RADZAK MATTHEW	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	20.24
		109127	28919	Check	1	6402		REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	93.00
		109136	28920	Check	1	7949		SANDMAN, NICOLE	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	280.04
		109152	28921	Check	1	9545		SCHMITT DIRECTOR CENTER	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	138.93
		109122	28922	Check	1	48700		SCHMITT MUSIC COMPANY	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	19.96
		109104	28923	Check	1	2300		SHI INTERNATIONAL CORP	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	50.00
													92.81

Cloquet Public Schools Check Register by Bank and Check

Check Number: 0-2147483647 Payment Date: 12/4/2025-12/31/2025 Period: 0-99999999

Batch	Bank	Pymt No	Check No	Pay Type	Grp	Code	Rcd	Vendor	Print	Recon	Void	Pmt/Void Date	Amount
2		109120	28924	Check	1	4553		STEWARTS BIKES & SPORTS	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	11,722.37
		109123	28925	Check	1	56350		UPPER LAKES FOODS	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	245.96
		109143	28926	Check	1	8949		VANTAGE FINANCIAL	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	196,970.08
		109087	28927	Check	1	11361		VESTIS	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	1,551.34
		109148	28928	Check	1	9319		WALDORF, ELIZABETH	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	87.59
		109131	28929	Check	1	7042		WATSON COMPANY	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	672.94
		109159	28930	Check	1	9884		WHITE CHRIS	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	206.18
		109079	28931	Check	1	10782		WHITTET NIKI	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	1,111.30
		109071	28932	Check	1	10082		WICK ANNETTE	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	41.34
		109149	28933	Check	1	9440		WICK, MICHELLE	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	238.22
		109078	28934	Check	1	10763		WIDDES TRAILER SALES	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	4.49
		109084	28935	Check	1	11073		WILTON BROCK	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	120.00
		109092	28936	Check	1	11645		WOOSTER ADAM	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	60.00
		109155	28937	Check	1	9692		ZIME DEBRA	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	825.00
		109160	28938	Check	1	9904		ZIMNY RYAN	Yes	No	No	12/04/2025	206.18
Bank Total: 2												\$431,554.67	
Report Total:												\$431,554.67	

		Cash Ala Carte	
Oct-25			
2025-2026			
Ala Carte		Cost	Sales
202565	Tostitos Tortilla Chips	\$30.38	
214133	LOL Cheese Sauce	\$142.32	
408321/408335	Pop Tarts		
571115	Bosco Sticks	\$129.57	
572096	Cheese Pizza		
571708	Pepperoni Pizza		
\$9.25/pizza	Domino's Pizza	\$832.52	
408246/719215/737831	Rice Crispy (P-nut) Bars	\$111.68	
741199	Pretzels	\$145.32	
see # below	Soup	\$196.16	
280031	Whole Pickle	\$49.26	
see # below	Ice Cream	200.46	
584260	Beef Stick		
751303/751304	Frozen Yogurt	\$374.87	
	Totals	\$2,212.54	\$3,437.50

Ala Carte Net Sales Profit : \$1224.96

Soup:

- 296302 Chic noodle-dry
- 296393 Chic wild rice-dry
- 772186 Chic wild rice
- 776067 Enchilada
- 776068 Tomato
- 776075 Thai Chicken
- 776212 Beef Veg
- 776222 Broccoli Cheese
- 776258 Minestrone
- 776260 Potato
- 776266 Chic Noodle

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Michael Cary, Superintendent

FROM: Erin Bates, Community Education Director
Kimberly Miens, Aquatics Coordinator

DATE: December 1, 2025

RE: Termination of Jase Bell

Due to lack of availability, I am recommending that Jase Bell be terminated from his position of Front Desk - Beach.

RATE OF PAY:	\$11.13
HOURS WORKED:	varied
START DATE:	6/11/24
END DATE:	8/30/25

CLOQUET PUBLIC SCHOOLS



ISD 94 • Cloquet, MN 55720 • www.isd94.org

Central Administration	302 14th St	218.879.6721
Cloquet Senior High School	1000 18th St	218.879.3393
Cloquet Middle School	2001 Washington Ave	218.879.3328
Churchill Elementary School	515 Granite St	218.879.3308
Washington Elementary School	801 12th St.	218.879.3369
Cloquet Area Alternative Education	302 14th St	218.879.0115
Community Education	2001 Washington Ave	218.879.1261

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Michael Cary, Superintendent

FROM: Erin Bates, Community Education Director

DATE: November 21, 2026

RE: **REQUEST For Resignation**

We are writing to inform you of the resignation of Kristy Cummings as School Readiness teacher. Her last day will be December 19, 2025.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Michael Cary, Superintendent

FROM: Erin Bates, Community Education Director
Kimberly Miens, Aquatics Coordinator

DATE: December 1, 2025

RE: Resignation of Anna Carlson

Due to lack of availability and lapse of certification, Anna Carlson has resigned from her position of WSI.

RATE OF PAY:	\$18.84
HOURS WORKED:	varied
START DATE:	1/1/2019
END DATE:	11/30/25

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Michael Cary, Superintendent

FROM: Erin Bates, Community Education Director
Kimberly Miens, Aquatics Coordinator

DATE: December 1, 2025

RE: Resignation of Elise Carlson

Due to lack of availability and lapse of certification, Elise Carlson has resigned from her position of WSI.

RATE OF PAY:	\$18.84
HOURS WORKED:	varied
START DATE:	1/1/2019
END DATE:	11/30/25

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Michael Cary, Superintendent

FROM: Erin Bates, Community Education Director
Kimberly Miens, Aquatics Coordinator

DATE: December 1, 2025

RE: Resignation of Mirande Brande

Due to lack of availability, Mirande Brande has resigned from her position of Lifeguard..

RATE OF PAY:	\$16.12
HOURS WORKED:	varied
START DATE:	6/1/25
END DATE:	11/30/25



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Cloquet Area Alternative Education Programs
302 14th Street • 218-879-0115 • FAX-879-6941
<http://www.isd94.org>

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Michael Cary, Superintendent
FROM: Dr. Marcia Nelson, Principal
DATE: 11/25/25
RE: Recommendation for Employment

I am recommending the employment of Brook Flaata for the 1.0 FTE Long Term Substitute Teacher for Special Education. The position will start on January 5, 2026, for approximately 12 weeks. The teacher will be paid at the daily substitute rate for the first thirty (30) days. After working 30 days in the same position for the same teacher, the teacher will start being paid the contracted rate and will receive back pay to first day of the assignment.

**Brooke has just finished her student teaching in the district and will hopefully receive her license by the January 5th start date. If not, she will start as a paraprofessional sub with a licensed sub in the classroom with her.

RATE OF PAY:	First 30 days at daily substitute rate - \$166.00/day From 31 st day on (with backpay) – BA Step 1 (\$264.47/day)
HOURS TO BE WORKED:	8 hours/day (Monday – Friday)
START DATE:	January 5, 2026
LENGTH OF CONTRACT:	12 weeks
BUDGETED CURRENT YEAR:	yes
POSTED:	Posted internally and externally
RATIONALE FOR HIRE:	Brooke comes highly recommended by her cooperating teachers during her student teaching assignments in the district. Her experience and licensure will be an asset.
STAR CODE:	190201

(Employment is contingent upon Cloquet School Board approval.)

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Michael Cary, Superintendent
FROM: Jennifer Holm, Churchill Elementary Principal
DATE: November 25, 2025
RE: Recommendation for Employment

I am recommending the employment of Kailee Majerle to fill the position of a 6.5 hrs./day Consistent Support Paraprofessional at Churchill Elementary beginning December 9, 2025.

RATE OF PAY:	\$20.01 per hour
HOURS TO BE WORKED:	6.5 hours per day
START DATE:	December 9 th , 2025 (pending board approval)
LENGTH OF CONTRACT:	Remaining 25-26 SY
BUDGETED CURRENT YEAR:	Yes
RATIONALE FOR HIRE:	Fill Open 6.5 hour per day Consistent Support Paraprofessional Open Position.
STAR CODE:	999822

(Employment is contingent upon Cloquet School Board approval.)

JH:mrt

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<http://www.isd94.org>

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Michael Cary, Superintendent
FROM: Dr. Marcia Nelson
DATE: November 20, 2025
RE: Recommendation for Employment

I am recommending the employment of Jeremy Velazquez-Figueroa fill the 6.0 Hours/Day Sped Consistent Support Paraprofessional position at CAAEP.

RATE OF PAY:	Step One
TOTAL COST:	Contracted
HOURS TO BE WORKED:	6.0 Hours/Day (Monday –Friday)
START DATE:	December 8 th , 2025
LENGTH OF CONTRACT:	Ongoing
BUDGETED CURRENT YEAR:	Yes
POSTED:	Posted, internally and externally
RATIONALE FOR HIRE:	CAAEP would like to recommend Jeremy for its open paraprofessional position. His personal and professional experiences will be a great asset here at CAAEP!

(Employment is contingent upon Cloquet School Board approval.)

MN/aej



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

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

TO: Dr. Michael Cary, Cloquet Superintendent
FROM: Barb Mackey, Northern Lights Academy Assistant Special Education Director
DATE: December 4, 2025
RE: Recommendation for Employment

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

RATE OF PAY: Step 1 of the Master Agreement

TOTAL COST: \$20.01 per hour

HOURS TO BE WORKED: 6.75 hours/day (Monday-Friday)

START DATE: December 9, 2025

LENGTH OF CONTRACT: On going

BUDGETED CURRENT YEAR: Yes

POSTED: Yes, internally and externally.

RATIONALE FOR HIRE:

NLA is recommending Ms. Dixon to fill one of the open paraprofessional positions at the Northern Lights Academy at the Carlton building. Ms. Dixon has been a substitute paraprofessional this year and consistently done well. She also has gone through many trainings and worked through becoming highly qualified through the paraprofessional portfolio option. We are excited to have her work with our students!

(Employment is contingent upon Cloquet School Board approval.)

From the Desk of:

**Paul Riess
Activities Director
Cloquet Senior High School
1000 18th Street
Cloquet, MN 55720
Phone: 218-879-3393
Fax: 218-879-6494**

To: Mary Marciniak, Superintendent Cary, School Board
From: Paul Riess- Activities Director
Re: Additional Robotics Volunteer

Please approve the individual listed below. This is for individuals who will help with the robotics team.

Jacob Mertz- Volunteer

If anyone has any questions regarding this recommendation, please feel free to call me.

PR



Independent School District No. 94
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<http://www.isd94.org>

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Michael Cary, Superintendent
FROM: Jennifer Holm, Churchill Elementary Principal
DATE: November 24, 2025
RE: Permission to Post

I am requesting permission to post for one 15-20 hrs./week 1:1 ECSE Paraprofessional at FDL Headstart. The posting is due to a new student needing 1:1 assistance.

(Employment is contingent upon Cloquet School Board approval.)

JH/mt

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2025-2026 Student Enrollment Report

5/30/2025	Dates	9/4	9/18	10/8	10/22	11/5	11/19	12/3											
CHURCHILL																			
19	Early Five/Dev Kindergarten	11	12	12	12	12	12	12											
61	Kindergarten - All Day	65	61	61	61	61	61	61											
67	First Grade	61	61	61	61	61	61	61											
65	Second Grade	73	73	73	73	72	72	72											
79	Third Grade	72	72	72	71	71	71	71											
55	Fourth Grade	81	81	81	80	80	80	80											
346	TOTAL CHURCHILL	363	360	360	358	357	357	357	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WASHINGTON																			
95	Kindergarten - All Day	88	86	84	83	83	83	83											
102	First Grade	92	91	91	89	87	87	88											
107	Second Grade	99	98	96	95	95	95	94											
105	Third Grade	104	103	102	102	102	101	101											
84	Fourth Grade	108	107	106	105	105	105	105											
493	TOTAL WASHINGTON	491	485	479	474	472	471	471	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
839	TOTAL ELEMENTARY	854	845	839	832	829	828	828	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Open Enrollment-Elementary																		
MIDDLE SCHOOL																			
186	Fifth Grade	145	143	142	141	141	141	141											
181	Sixth Grade	194	194	192	191	191	189	189											
174	Seventh Grade	188	186	184	183	184	184	184											
193	Eighth Grade	183	183	182	182	181	181	182											
734	TOTAL MIDDLE SCHOOL	710	706	700	697	697	695	696	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Open Enrollment-CMS																		
HIGH SCHOOL																			
184	Ninth Grade	208	208	204	204	193	195	193											
196	Tenth Grade	182	184	182	182	181	181	182											
175	Eleventh Grade	197	198	196	194	191	191	189											
173	Twelfth Grade	179	179	179	178	176	176	176											
728	TOTAL HIGH SCHOOL	766	769	761	758	741	743	740	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Open Enrollment-CHS																		
2301	TOTAL HK-12	2330	2320	2300	2287	2267	2266	2264	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	TOTAL OPEN ENROLLMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAAEP- FULL-TIME																			
61	High School (grades 9-12)	75	74	70	68	77	75	73											
10	Junior High (grades 6-8)	3	4	4	4	5	6	6											
71	TOTAL CAAEP-Full-Time	78	78	74	72	82	81	79	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
** CAAEP - PART-TIME																			
	EDHS																		
	Extended Programming																		
	Targeted Services																		
2372	GRAND TOTAL	2408	2398	2374	2359	2349	2347	2343	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

*12th grade reflects their last day of school

** NOT included in totals.



Carlton County Zoning & Environmental Services

Green Schools Project Application

This grant program aims to reduce waste and increase recycling in Carlton County Schools. Through this program, schools can spend up to \$2,000 on eligible purchases to complete these goals. Schools will also develop a Green Team to educate staff and students and to ensure these purchases will continue to improve the school in the future. Upon successful completion of these goals, students and staff will gain valuable knowledge of the importance of recycling and recycling methods they can apply at home. Working with institutions such as schools will aid in the effort to increase the county's overall recycling rate and reduce waste to landfills.

I. APPLICANT INFORMATION

To be considered for the Carlton County School Recycling and Waste Reduction Grant, applicants must complete the entire application form. Applications may be submitted at any time. Consideration will be based on the available funds, eligibility requirements, and project criteria established by Carlton County Zoning & Environmental Services (*see Requirements*). A complete application is required for each school facility applying.

Applications may be submitted via mail or emailed.
Michael Krick, Environmental Services Coordinator
PO Box 220
Carlton, MN 55718
michael.krick@carltoncountymn.gov

Office use only
Carlton County Date Stamp:

Date: 11-13-25
School District: Cloquet Public Schools ISD 94
Address: 801 12th St.
City: Cloquet State: MN Zip Code: 55720
Applicant Name: Jill Brenner Title: teacher, Green Team
Telephone Number: 218-879-3369 ext. 5006 Member
E-mail Address: jbrenner@isd94.org

Current solid waste and recycling hauler for the facility: Cloquet Sanitary Service

II. GREEN TEAM REPRESENTATIVES

The Green Team is a group of students, faculty, community members, and/or parents/guardians that will aid in the implementation of the recycling and waste reduction program. The Green Team will collectively determine how grant funds should be spent and how to implement any changes in the school. For more information on the Green Team, see *Requirements*. Please provide at least three people willing to be on the Green Team and contact information for those people.

Name: Jill Brenner Title: teacher Media Specialist _____

Email: jbrenner@isd94.org Phone Number: 218-879-3369

Name: Robbi Mandati Title: Principal

Email: rmandati@isd94.org Phone Number: 218-879-3369

Name: Trevor Neff Title: Custodian

Email: tneff@isd94.org Phone Number: 218-879-3369

Name: Gina Painter Title: Teacher

Email: gpainter@isd94.org Phone Number: 218-879-3369

Name: _____ Title: _____

Email: _____ Phone Number: _____

III. RESPONSIBLE PERSON(S)

The responsible person(s) will be the main contact for the Green Schools Staff at Carlton County Zoning & Environmental Services. The responsible person(s) will be a member of the Green Team and ensure the implementation of the program. Please indicate the responsible person(s) by naming them here.

Name: Jill Brenner Name: _____

IV. RECYCLING AND WASTE REDUCTION PRACTICES

All public entities, including schools, are mandated to recycle at least three types of materials (Minnesota Statute § 115A.151).

Please check the materials that are CURRENTLY being collected for recycling in your facility: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Office paper <input type="checkbox"/> Boxboard (e.g. cereal boxes) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Catalogs/magazines <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Corrugated cardboard <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Newspaper <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plastics #1-#7 <input type="checkbox"/> Aluminum cans <input type="checkbox"/> Steel/tin cans <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Glass <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Organics (food)

V. GRANT REQUEST INFORMATION

Maximum grant request is \$2,000 per school facility within a district.

Total amount requested: \$359

Name of school facility: Washington Elementary, Cloquet, MN

Brief summary of the proposed grant program activities/purchases: We would like to purchase replacement spoons and forks for our cafeteria. The total cost is \$359. This includes shipping. The company we will purchase from is Webstaurant Store.

Carlton County reserves the right to audit records associated with this grant.

VI. AGREEMENTS AND AUTHORITY

By my signature below, I certify that all the information I have provided in this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that if I have knowingly provided any false information, it is fraudulent and any award received may be withdrawn and/or repaid to Carlton County.

Jill Brenner
PRINTED NAME OF APPLICANT

Jill Brenner
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT

11-13-25
DATE

Shipping & Billing

Review & Payment

Order Confirmation

Review & Payment

Enter payment info to complete your order

[Enter Card >](#)

Billing Address

Jill Brenner
 Washington Elementary
 School
 801 12th Street
 Cloquet, MN 55720
 United States
 218-879-3369 ext. 5006

Shipping Address

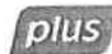
Jill Brenner
 Washington Elementary
 School
 801 12th Street
 Cloquet, MN 55720-2337
 United States
 (218) 879-3369

ITEM		QTY:	QTY	PRICE
 Choice Dominion 5 7/8" 18/0 Stainless Steel Teaspoon - 12/Case Arrives in 3 - 5 business days #267020001 - CASE	Qty:	100	\$1.19	\$119.00
 Choice Windsor 7" 18/0 Stainless Steel Dinner Fork - 12/Case Arrives in 3 - 5 business days #267010005 - CASE	Qty:	100	\$1.89	\$189.00

Subtotal	\$308.00
Shipping & Handling 	\$51.00: Ground
Estimated Tax 	\$31.86

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Total (USD)

\$390.86

Payment

Credit Card

All fields required

Name

Credit Card

Exp. Month

Exp. Year

CVV

11 - Nov ▾

2025 ▾

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Pay Over Time

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CARLTON COUNTY GREEN SCHOOLS PROJECT GRANT AGREEMENT

This Agreement is made as of the 8th day of December 2025 between THE COUNTY OF CARLTON, hereinafter "Grantor", a body corporate and politic existing under the laws of the State of Minnesota, and the Cloquet SCHOOL DISTRICT, hereinafter "Grantee".

WHEREAS, state law establishes ambitious recycling goals for counties and mandates that counties plan for and ensure the provision of recycling services and opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Carlton County is committed to maintaining and expanding its already successful recycling and waste reduction programs; and

WHEREAS, Carlton County has funds for the purpose of expanding recycling and waste reduction efforts within Carlton County schools; and

WHEREAS, Carlton County has determined that the proposal (attached herein), submitted by Grantee promotes a successful recycling and waste reduction program; and;

WHEREAS, the Grantee will comply with all State and County permitting requirements;

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties hereby agree as follows:

1. The contact person for Grantor is Resource & Recycling Coordinator, Carlton County Zoning and Environmental Services, PO Box 220, 301 Walnut Avenue, Carlton, MN 55718.
2. The contact person for Grantee is Jill Brenner located at Washington, 801 12th Street MN 55720
School Address Cloquet Zip Code
3. Grantor has agreed to provide Grantee a grant in the sum of \$ 359.00 (_____ dollars) subject to the following conditions:
 - a. Grantee shall incur eligible expenses as follows:
 - i. Collection materials for an effective recycling program must be purchased first. Remaining eligible purchases must aid in improved recycling and waste reduction efforts.
 - ii. Total grant funds shall be spent within six (6) months of the date of this agreement or by the last day of the school year, whichever occurs first.
 - b. The Grantee shall provide the Grantor a detailed final report on expenditures of grant funds six (6) months from the date of this

agreement or by the last day of the school year, whichever occurs first.

- c. The Grantee shall establish a "Green Team" to research and promote 'green' initiatives within their schools and provide Grantor with contact information for the team members.
- d. The Grantee shall make available all information necessary for tracking waste and recycling volumes and disposal costs for a minimum of six (6) months from the date of this agreement.
- e. The Grantee shall hold harmless and indemnify the Grantor and its officers, agents, and employees from any and all damages or financial obligations incurred by the Grantee in the grant project.

The Grantee warrants that such sums shall be used only for the purposes identified in subparagraph 3.a, above. Further, the Grantee shall not sell or dispose of any equipment purchased with the grant funds without prior written notification to, and approval from, the Grantor. The Grantor shall have the right to match any bonafide offer for the equipment at the fair market value minus the amount of the grant. Such right to purchase shall continue for five (5) years after the grant term or December 31, 2024.

- f. The provision of this grant does not constitute a joint venture or enterprise between the Grantee and the Grantor.
- g. Grantee's books, records, documents, papers, accounting procedures and practices, and other evidences relevant to this Agreement are subject to the examination, duplication, transcription and audit by the County and either the Legislative or State Auditor, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 16C.05, subd. 5. Such evidences are also subject to review by the Comptroller General of the United States, or a duly authorized representative, if federal funds are used for any work under this Agreement. The Grantee agrees to maintain such evidences for a period of six (6) years from the date services or payment were last provided or made or longer if any audit in progress requires a longer retention period.
- h. The Grantee warrants that it has an affirmative action plan in place.
- i. The Grantee warrants that it shall comply with the terms of the grant application, attached as Exhibit A, and this grant application agreement.

1/22/2020 3:17 PM

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement the date and year first above indicated.

Washington Elementary
Cloquet SCHOOLS

BY: _____
Superintendent

Date: _____

BY: _____
Chair, School Board

Date: _____

CARLTON COUNTY

BY: _____
HEATHER CUNNINGHAM
Carlton County Zoning & Environmental
Services Administrator

Date: _____

BY: _____
Kathy Kortuem
County Auditor

Date: _____

BY: _____
Marv Bodie
Chairperson, Carlton County Board

Date: _____

APPROVED AS TO FORM & EXECUTION

BY: _____
LAURI KETOLA
County Attorney

Date: _____

To - Cloquet School Board					
From - CHS Administration					
Topic - A review of our MSHSL Chemical Eligibility Penalties					
Rationale - Our penalties are significantly more severe than required by the MSHSL. Keeping kids out of extracurricular activities is both counterintuitive and counterproductive when considering our goal is educate and graduate students. Extracurricular activities keep kids engaged in school and around other ambitious students who tend to excel academically while being mentored by trusted caring coaches and other adults. We believe that having penalties that exceed those required by the MSHSL is an antiquated approach.					
Proposal - We are asking the board to adopt the Chemical Eligibility penalties as outlined by the MSHSL - with one addition. We'd like to continue to require the student in violation to meet with their school counselor to screen/assess for any potential mental health or chemical dependency issues.					
	Current CHS Policy	Current MSHSL Policy	Differences	Recommendations	Change
1st Offense	5 games/events or 5 weeks, whichever is longer. Penalty may be reduced to 2 games/events or 2 weeks , whichever is longer if the student makes an appointment with their school counselor to discuss the violation and work on possible preventative measures.	The student shall lose eligibility for the next two consecutive MSHSL contests or two weeks, 14 calendar days , of a season in which the student is a participant, whichever is greater.	Our policy effectively follows the MSHSL requirements.	The student shall lose eligibility for the next two consecutive MSHSL contests or two weeks, 14 calendar days , of a season in which the student is a participant, whichever is greater. *All MSHSL Chemical violation penalties must include a meeting with their school counselor before eligibility is reinstated.	None - we follow MSHSL Guidelines
2nd Offense	12 games/events or 12 weeks, whichever is longer. Penalty may be reduced to 6 games/events or 6 weeks , whichever is longer if the student makes an appointment with their school counselor to discuss the violation and work on possible preventative measures.	The student shall lose eligibility for the next six consecutive MSHSL contests or three weeks, 21 calendar days , of a season in which the student is a participant, whichever is greater.	Our policy imposes a penalty that is twice as long as the MSHSL requires.	The student shall lose eligibility for the next six consecutive MSHSL contests or three weeks, 21 calendar days , of a season in which the student is a participant, whichever is greater. *All MSHSL Chemical violation penalties must include a meeting with their school counselor before eligibility is reinstated.	6 games/6weeks to 6 games/3 weeks - follow MSHSL Guidelines
3rd Offense and Subsequent Offenses	18 games/events or 18 weeks , whichever is longer. Student must also get a mandatory chemical assessment and continue meetings with their counselor.	The student shall lose eligibility for the next 12 consecutive MSHSL contests or four weeks, 28 calendar days , of a season in which the student is a participant, whichever is greater.	Our policy is 14 weeks longer than the MSHSL requires.	The student shall lose eligibility for the next 12 consecutive MSHSL contests or four weeks, 28 calendar days , of a season in which the student is a participant, whichever is greater. *All MSHSL Chemical violation penalties must include a meeting with their school counselor before eligibility is reinstated.	18 games/18 weeks to 12 games/4 weeks - follow MSHSL Guidelines
*If penalty exceeds 6 weeks, the following process may apply.		A student who chooses to become a participant in a treatment program may become eligible for participation after a minimum period of six weeks after entering treatment if all of the following conditions are met: a) The student is assessed as chemically dependent, b) enters treatment voluntarily, and c) the director of the treatment center certifies that the student has successfully completed the treatment program. d) The student must participate in and complete the entire season in which the penalty has been applied for the penalty to count. As examples: a student cannot begin participation in an MSHSL program at the start of the season, serve the penalty and then quit after the suspension has been served; nor can a student join an MSHSL program after the season has begun, and serve the penalty. *All MSHSL Chemical violation penalties must include a meeting with their school counselor before eligibility is reinstated.		A student who chooses to become a participant in a treatment program may become eligible for participation after a minimum period of six weeks after entering treatment if all of the following conditions are met: a) The student is assessed as chemically dependent, b) enters treatment voluntarily, and c) the director of the treatment center certifies that the student has successfully completed the treatment program. d) The student must participate in and complete the entire season in which the penalty has been applied for the penalty to count. As examples: a student cannot begin participation in an MSHSL program at the start of the season, serve the penalty and then quit after the suspension has been served; nor can a student join an MSHSL program after the season has begun, and serve the penalty. *All MSHSL Chemical violation penalties must include a meeting with their school counselor before eligibility is reinstated.	Follow MSHSL Guidelines

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

Revised: 12/08/25, 11/13/18, 11/10/03

#417 CHEMICAL USE AND ABUSE

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 of controlled substances, medical cannabis, toxic substances, and alcohol is prohibited in the school setting in accordance with school district policies with respect to a Drug-Free Workplace/Drug-Free School.
- B. The policy of this school district is to provide an instructional program in every elementary and secondary school in chemical abuse and the prevention of chemical dependency.
- C. The school district shall establish and maintain in every school 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 superintendent, with the advice of the school board, shall be responsible for establishing a school and community advisory team to address chemical abuse problems in the district.
- E. The school district shall establish and maintain a program to educate and assist employees, students and others in understanding this policy and the goals of achieving drug-free schools and workplaces.

III. DEFINITIONS

- A. "Chemical abuse" 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 student's normal function in academic, school, or social activities is chronically impaired.

- B. “Chemicals” includes, but is not limited to, alcohol, toxic substances, medical cannabis, and controlled substances as defined in the school district’s Drug-Free Workplace/Drug-Free School policy.
- C. “Use” includes to sell, buy, manufacture, distribute, dispense, use, or be under the influence of alcohol and/or controlled substances, whether or not for the purpose of receiving remuneration.
- D. “School location” includes any school building or on any school premises; on any school-owned vehicle or in any other school-approved vehicle used to transport students to and from school or school activities; off-school property at any school-sponsored or school-approved activity, event, or function, such as a field trip or athletic event, where students are under the jurisdiction of the school district; or during any period of time such employee is supervising students on behalf of the school district or otherwise engaged in school district business.

IV. STUDENTS

- A. Instruction
 - 1. Every school shall provide an instructional program in chemical abuse and the prevention of chemical dependency. The school district may involve parents, students, health care professionals, state department staff, and members of the community in developing the curriculum.
 - 2. Each school shall have age-appropriate and developmentally based activities that:
 - a. address the consequences of violence and the illegal use of drugs, as appropriate;
 - b. promote a sense of individual responsibility;
 - c. teach students that most people do not illegally use drugs;
 - d. teach students to recognize social and peer pressure to use drugs illegally and the skills for resisting illegal drug use;
 - e. teach students about the dangers of emerging drugs;
 - f. engage students in the learning process; and
 - g. incorporate activities in secondary schools that reinforce prevention activities implemented in elementary schools.

3. Each school shall have activities that involve families, community sectors (which may include appropriately trained seniors), and a variety of drug and violence prevention providers in setting clear expectations against violence and illegal use of drugs and appropriate consequences for violence and illegal use of drugs.
4. Each school shall disseminate drug and violence prevention information within the school and to the community.
5. Each school shall have professional development and training for, and involvement of, school personnel, student services personnel, parents, and interested community members in prevention, education, early identification and intervention, mentoring, or rehabilitation referral, as related to drug and violence prevention.
6. Each school shall have drug and violence prevention activities that may include the following:
 - a. Community-wide planning and organizing activities to reduce violence and illegal drug use, which may include gang activity prevention.
 - b. The hiring and mandatory training, based on scientific research, of school security personnel who interact with students in support of youth drug and violence prevention activities under this policy that are implemented in the school.
 - c. Conflict resolution programs, including peer mediation programs that educate and train peer mediators and a designated faculty supervisor, and youth anti-crime and anti-drug councils and activities.
 - d. Counseling, mentoring, referral services, and other student assistance practices and programs, including assistance provided by qualified school-based mental health services providers and the training of teachers by school-based mental health services providers in appropriate identification and intervention techniques for students at risk of violent behavior and illegal use of drugs.
 - e. Programs that encourage students to seek advice from, and to confide in, a trusted adult regarding concerns about violence and illegal drug use.

B. Reports of Chemical Use and Abuse

1. In the event that a school district employee knows that a student is abusing, possessing, transferring, distributing, or selling chemicals in a school location:
 - a. The employee shall immediately either take the student to an administrator or notify an appropriate administrator of the observation and continue to observe the student until the administrator arrives.

- b. The administrator will notify the student's parents. If there is a medical emergency, the administrator will notify the school nurse and/or outside medical personnel as appropriate.
 - c. The administrator will notify law enforcement officials, the student's counselor, and the chemical preassessment team.
 - d. The administrator and/or law enforcement officials will confiscate the chemicals and/or conduct a search of the student's person, effects, locker, vehicle, or areas within the student's control. Searches by school district officials shall be in accordance with school board policies regarding search and seizure.
 - e. The school district will take appropriate disciplinary action in compliance with the student discipline code. Such discipline may include immediate suspension, initiation of expulsion proceedings, and/or referral to a detoxification center or medical center.
2. If a school district employee has reason to believe that a student is abusing, possessing, transferring, distributing, or selling chemicals:
- a. The employee shall notify the building administrator or a member of the preassessment team and shall describe the basis for the suspicion. The building administrator and/or team will determine what action should be taken. Action may include conducting an investigation, gathering data, scheduling a conference with the student or parents, or providing a meeting between a single member of the team and the student to discuss the behaviors that have been reported and attempting to ascertain facts regarding chemical abuse.
 - b. The team may determine there is no chemical abuse. If the team determines there is chemical abuse, the team will select an appropriate course of action, which may include referral to a school counselor; referral to a treatment program; referral for screening, assessment, and treatment planning; participation in support groups; or other appropriate measures.
3. Students involved in the abuse, possession, transfer, distribution, or sale of chemicals shall be suspended in compliance with the student discipline policy and the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act, Minn. Stat. § 121A.40-121A.56 and proposed for expulsion.
4. Searches by school district officials in connection with the abuse, possession, transfer, distribution, or sale of chemicals will be conducted in accordance with school board policies related to search and seizure.

C. Preassessment Team

1. Every school shall have a chemical abuse preassessment team designated by the superintendent or designee. The team will be composed of classroom teachers, administrators, and other appropriate professional staff to the extent they exist in each school, such as the school nurse, school counselor or psychologist, social worker, chemical abuse specialist, or others.
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.

D. Data Practices

1. Student data may be disclosed without consent in health and safety emergencies pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 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 such information, 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. This section shall govern destruction of records notwithstanding provisions of the Records Management Act, Minn. Stat. § 138.163.

E. 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.

F. School and Community Advisory Team

1. The superintendent, with the advice of the school board, shall establish a school and community advisory team to address chemical abuse problems. The advisory team will be composed of representatives from the school preassessment teams to the extent possible, law enforcement agencies, county attorney's office, social service agencies, chemical abuse treatment programs, parents, and the business community.
2. The advisory team shall:
 - a. build awareness of the problem within the community, identify available treatment and counseling programs for students, and develop good working relationships and enhance communication between the schools and other community agencies; and
 - b. develop a written procedure clarifying the notification process to be used by the chemical abuse preassessment team when a student is believed to be in possession of or under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance. The procedure must include contact with the student and the student's parents or guardian in the case of a minor student.

V. **EMPLOYEES**

- A. The superintendent or designee shall undertake and maintain a drug-free awareness and prevention program to inform employees, students, and others about:
 1. The dangers and health risks of chemical abuse in the workplace/school.
 2. The school district's drug-free workplace/drug-free school policy.
 3. Any available drug or alcohol counseling, treatment, rehabilitation, re-entry, and/or assistance programs available to employees and/or students.
 4. The penalties that may be imposed on employees for drug abuse violations.
- B. The superintendent or designee shall notify any federal granting agency required to be notified under the Drug-Free Workplace Act within ten (10) days after receiving notice of a conviction of an employee for a criminal drug statute violation occurring in the workplace. To facilitate the giving of such notice, any employee aware of such a conviction shall report the same to the superintendent.

- 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. § 138.163 (Records Management Act)
 - Minn. Stat. § 144.343 (Pregnancy, Venereal Disease, Alcohol or Drug Abuse, Abortion)
 - Minn. Stat. § 152.22 (Medical Cannabis; Definitions)
 - Minn. Stat. § 152.23 (Medical Cannabis; Limitations)
 - 20 U.S.C. § 1232g (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act)
 - 20 U.S.C. §§ 7101-7165 (Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act)
 - 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, ~~and Cannabis~~)
 - MSBA/MASA Model Policy 418 (Drug-Free Workplace/Drug Free School)
 - 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)

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

Revised: 12/08/25, 11/13/18, 11/10/03

#417 CHEMICAL USE AND ABUSE

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.

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- D. “School location” includes any school building or on any school premises; on any school-owned vehicle or in any other school-approved vehicle used to transport students to and from school or school activities; off-school property at any school-sponsored or school-approved activity, event, or function, such as a field trip or athletic event, where students are under the jurisdiction of the school district; or during any period of time such employee is supervising students on behalf of the school district or otherwise engaged in school district business.

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- A. Instruction
 - 1. Every school shall provide an instructional program in chemical abuse and the prevention of chemical dependency. The school district may involve parents, students, health care professionals, state department staff, and members of the community in developing the curriculum.
 - 2. Each school shall have age-appropriate and developmentally based activities that:
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 - b. promote a sense of individual responsibility;
 - c. teach students that most people do not illegally use drugs;
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 - e. teach students about the dangers of emerging drugs;
 - f. engage students in the learning process; and
 - g. incorporate activities in secondary schools that reinforce prevention activities implemented in elementary schools.

3. Each school shall have activities that involve families, community sectors (which may include appropriately trained seniors), and a variety of drug and violence prevention providers in setting clear expectations against violence and illegal use of drugs and appropriate consequences for violence and illegal use of drugs.
4. Each school shall disseminate drug and violence prevention information within the school and to the community.
5. Each school shall have professional development and training for, and involvement of, school personnel, student services personnel, parents, and interested community members in prevention, education, early identification and intervention, mentoring, or rehabilitation referral, as related to drug and violence prevention.
6. Each school shall have drug and violence prevention activities that may include the following:
 - a. Community-wide planning and organizing activities to reduce violence and illegal drug use, which may include gang activity prevention.
 - b. The hiring and mandatory training, based on scientific research, of school security personnel who interact with students in support of youth drug and violence prevention activities under this policy that are implemented in the school.
 - c. Conflict resolution programs, including peer mediation programs that educate and train peer mediators and a designated faculty supervisor, and youth anti-crime and anti-drug councils and activities.
 - d. Counseling, mentoring, referral services, and other student assistance practices and programs, including assistance provided by qualified school-based mental health services providers and the training of teachers by school-based mental health services providers in appropriate identification and intervention techniques for students at risk of violent behavior and illegal use of drugs.
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- b. The administrator will notify the student's parents. If there is a medical emergency, the administrator will notify the school nurse and/or outside medical personnel as appropriate.
 - c. The administrator will notify law enforcement officials, the student's counselor, and the chemical preassessment team.
 - d. The administrator and/or law enforcement officials will confiscate the chemicals and/or conduct a search of the student's person, effects, locker, vehicle, or areas within the student's control. Searches by school district officials shall be in accordance with school board policies regarding search and seizure.
 - e. The school district will take appropriate disciplinary action in compliance with the student discipline code. Such discipline may include immediate suspension, initiation of expulsion proceedings, and/or referral to a detoxification center or medical center.
2. If a school district employee has reason to believe that a student is abusing, possessing, transferring, distributing, or selling chemicals:
- a. The employee shall notify the building administrator or a member of the preassessment team and shall describe the basis for the suspicion. The building administrator and/or team will determine what action should be taken. Action may include conducting an investigation, gathering data, scheduling a conference with the student or parents, or providing a meeting between a single member of the team and the student to discuss the behaviors that have been reported and attempting to ascertain facts regarding chemical abuse.
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D. Data Practices

1. Student data may be disclosed without consent in health and safety emergencies pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 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 such information, 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. This section shall govern destruction of records notwithstanding provisions of the Records Management Act, Minn. Stat. § 138.163.

E. 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.

F. School and Community Advisory Team

1. The superintendent, with the advice of the school board, shall establish a school and community advisory team to address chemical abuse problems. The advisory team will be composed of representatives from the school preassessment teams to the extent possible, law enforcement agencies, county attorney's office, social service agencies, chemical abuse treatment programs, parents, and the business community.
2. The advisory team shall:
 - a. build awareness of the problem within the community, identify available treatment and counseling programs for students, and develop good working relationships and enhance communication between the schools and other community agencies; and
 - b. develop a written procedure clarifying the notification process to be used by the chemical abuse preassessment team when a student is believed to be in possession of or under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance. The procedure must include contact with the student and the student's parents or guardian in the case of a minor student.

V. **EMPLOYEES**

- A. The superintendent or designee shall undertake and maintain a drug-free awareness and prevention program to inform employees, students, and others about:
 1. The dangers and health risks of chemical abuse in the workplace/school.
 2. The school district's drug-free workplace/drug-free school policy.
 3. Any available drug or alcohol counseling, treatment, rehabilitation, re-entry, and/or assistance programs available to employees and/or students.
 4. The penalties that may be imposed on employees for drug abuse violations.
- B. The superintendent or designee shall notify any federal granting agency required to be notified under the Drug-Free Workplace Act within ten (10) days after receiving notice of a conviction of an employee for a criminal drug statute violation occurring in the workplace. To facilitate the giving of such notice, any employee aware of such a conviction shall report the same to the superintendent.

- 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. § 138.163 (Records Management Act)
 Minn. Stat. § 144.343 (Pregnancy, Venereal Disease, Alcohol or Drug Abuse, Abortion)
 Minn. Stat. § 152.22 (Medical Cannabis; Definitions)
 Minn. Stat. § 152.23 (Medical Cannabis; Limitations)
 20 U.S.C. § 1232g (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act)
 20 U.S.C. §§ 7101-7165 (Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act)
 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, Alcohol Testing, and Cannabis)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 418 (Drug-Free Workplace/Drug Free School)
 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)

Adopted: 3/9/20, 5/13/19, 10/22/12, 1995

Revised: 12/08/25, 9/9/24, 8/14/23, 10/26/2020, 3/9/20, 5/13/19, 10/22/12, 2005

601 SCHOOL DISTRICT CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION GOALS

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish broad curriculum parameters for the school district that encompass the Minnesota Academic Standards and federal law and are aligned with comprehensive achievement and civic readiness.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The policy of the school district is to strive for comprehensive achievement and civic readiness in which all learning in the school district should be directed and for which all school district learners should be held accountable.

III. DEFINITIONS

- A. “Academic standard” means a summary description of student learning in a required content area or elective content area.
- B. “Antiracist” means actively working to identify and eliminate racism in all forms in order to change policies, behaviors, and beliefs that perpetuate racist ideas and actions.
- C. “Benchmark” means specific knowledge or skill that a student must master to complete part of an academic standard by the end of the grade level or grade band.
- D. “Comprehensive Achievement and Civic Readiness” means striving to: meet school readiness goals; close the academic achievement gap among all racial and ethnic groups of students and between students living in poverty and students not living in poverty; have all students attain career and college readiness before graduating from high school; have all students graduate from high school; and prepare students to be lifelong learners.
- E. "Culturally sustaining" means integrating content and practices that infuse the culture and language of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color communities who have been and continue to be harmed and erased through the education system.
- F. “Curriculum” means district or school adopted programs and written plans for providing students with learning experiences that lead to expected knowledge, skills, and career and college readiness.
- G. “Ethnic studies” as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.25, has the same meaning for purposes of this section. Ethnic studies curriculum may be integrated in existing curricular opportunities or provided through additional curricular offerings.

- H. “Experiential learning” means learning for students that includes career exploration through a specific class or course or through work-based experiences such as job shadowing, mentoring, entrepreneurship, service learning, volunteering, internships, other cooperative work experience, youth apprenticeship, or employment.
- I. "Institutional racism" means structures, policies, and practices within and across institutions that produce outcomes that disadvantage those who are Black, Indigenous, and People of Color.
- J. “Instruction” means methods of providing learning experiences that enable students to meet state and district academic standards and graduation requirements including applied and experiential learning.
- K. “Performance measures” are measures to determine school district and school site progress in striving for comprehensive achievement and civic readiness and must include at least the following:
 - 1. the size of the academic achievement gap; rigorous course taking, including college-level advanced placement, international baccalaureate, postsecondary enrollment options, including concurrent enrollment, other rigorous courses of study or industry certification courses or programs, and enrichment experiences by student subgroup;
 - 2. student performance on the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments;
 - 3. high school graduation rates; and
 - 4. career and college readiness under Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.30, subdivision 1.

IV. LONG-TERM STRATEGIC PLAN

- A. The school board, at a public meeting, must adopt a comprehensive, long-term strategic plan to support and improve teaching and learning that is aligned with striving for comprehensive achievement and civic readiness and includes the following:
 - 1. clearly defined school district and school site goals and benchmarks for instruction and student achievement for all student categories identified in Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.35, subdivision 3, paragraph (b)(2);
 - 2. a process to assess and evaluate each student’s progress toward meeting state and local academic standards, assess and identify students for participation in gifted and talented programs and services and accelerate their instruction, adopt early-admission procedures consistent with Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.15 and identifying the strengths and weaknesses of instruction in pursuit of student and school success and curriculum affecting students’ progress and growth toward

_____ career and college readiness and leading to the ~~world's best~~ workforce comprehensive achievement and civic readiness;

3. a system to periodically review and evaluate the effectiveness of all instruction and curriculum, taking into account strategies and best practices, student outcomes, principal evaluations under Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.147, subdivision 3, students' access to effective teachers who are members of populations underrepresented among the licensed teachers in the district or school and who reflect the diversity of enrolled students under Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.35, subdivision 3(b)(2), and teacher evaluations under Minnesota Statutes, section 122A.40, subdivision. 8, or 122A.41, subdivision 5;
 4. strategies for improving instruction, curriculum, and student achievement, including the English and, where practicable, the native language development and the academic achievement of English learners;
 5. a process to examine the equitable distribution of teachers and strategies to ensure children in low-income families, children in families of People of Color, and children in American Indian families are not taught at higher rates than other children by inexperienced, ineffective, or out-of-field teachers;
 6. education effectiveness practices that
 - a. integrate high-quality instruction, technology, and curriculum that is rigorous, accurate, antiracist, and culturally sustaining;
 - b. ensure learning and work environments validate, affirm, embrace, and integrate cultural and community strengths for all students, families, and employees;
 - c. provide a collaborative professional culture that seeks to retain qualified, racially and ethnically diverse staff effective at working with diverse students while developing and supporting teacher quality, performance, and effectiveness; and
 7. an annual budget for continuing to implement the school district plan; and
 8. identifying a list of suggested and required materials, resources, sample curricula, and pedagogical skills for use in kindergarten through grade 12 that accurately reflect the diversity of the state of Minnesota.
- B. The school district is not required to include information regarding literacy in a plan or report required under this section, except with regard to the academic achievement of English learners.
- C. Every child is reading at or above grade level every year, beginning in kindergarten, and multilingual learners and students receiving special education services are receiving

support in achieving their individualized reading goals pursuant to Policy XXX (Reading and the Read Act)

- Legal References:**
- Minn. Stat. § 120B.018 (Definitions)
 - Minn. Stat. § 120B.02 (Educational Expectations and Graduation Requirements for Minnesota Students)
 - Minn. Stat. § 120B.11 (School District Process for Reviewing Curriculum, Instruction, and Student Achievement Goals; Striving for Comprehensive Achievement and Civic Readiness)
 - Minn. Stat. § 120B.12 (Read Act Goal and Interventions)
 - Minn. Stat. § 120B.30, Subd. 1 (Statewide Testing and Reporting System)
 - Minn. Stat. § 120B.35, Subd. 3 (Student Academic Achievement and Growth)
 - Minn. Stat. § 122A.40, Subd. 8 (Employment; Contracts; Termination)
 - Minn. Stat. § 122A.41, Subd. 5 (Teacher Tenure Act; Cities of the First Class; Definitions)
 - Minn. Stat. § 123B.147, Subd. 3 (Principals)
 - Minn. Stat. § 125A.56, Subd. 1 (Alternate Instruction Required before Assessment Referral)
 - 20 U.S.C. § 5801, *et seq.* (National Education Goals)
 - 20 U.S.C. § 6301, *et seq.* (Every Student Succeeds Act)
- Cross References:**
- MSBA/MASA Model Policy 104 (School District Mission Statement)
 - MSBA/MASA Model Policy 613 (Graduation Requirements)
 - MSBA/MASA Model Policy 614 (School District Testing Plan and Procedure)
 - MSBA/MASA Model Policy 615 (Testing Accommodations, Modifications, and Exemptions for IEPs, Section 504 Plans, and LEP Students)
 - MSBA/MASA Model Policy 616 (School District System Accountability)
 - MSBA/MASA Model Policy 618 (Assessment of Student Achievement)

Adopted: 3/9/20, 5/13/19, 10/22/12, 1995

Revised: 12/08/25, 9/9/24, 8/14/23, 10/26/2020, 3/9/20, 5/13/19, 10/22/12, 2005

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career and college readiness and leading to the comprehensive achievement and civic readiness;

3. a system to periodically review and evaluate the effectiveness of all instruction and curriculum, taking into account strategies and best practices, student outcomes, principal evaluations under Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.147, subdivision 3, students' access to effective teachers who are members of populations underrepresented among the licensed teachers in the district or school and who reflect the diversity of enrolled students under Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.35, subdivision 3(b)(2), and teacher evaluations under Minnesota Statutes, section 122A.40, subdivision. 8, or 122A.41, subdivision 5;
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- Cross References:**
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 - MSBA/MASA Model Policy 616 (School District System Accountability)
 - MSBA/MASA Model Policy 618 (Assessment of Student Achievement)

Adopted: 5/13/19

Reviewed: 12/08/25, 5/13/19

612.1 DEVELOPMENT OF PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICIES FOR TITLE I PROGRAMS

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to encourage and facilitate involvement by parents of students participating in Title I in the educational programs and experiences of students. The policy shall provide the framework for organized, systematic, ongoing, informed, and timely parental involvement in relation to decisions about the Title I services within the school district. The involvement of parents by the school district shall be directed toward both public and private school children whose parents are school district residents or whose children attend school within the boundaries of the school district.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

- A. The policy of the school district is to plan and implement, with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children, programs, activities, and procedures for the engagement of parents and families in its Title I programs.
- B. The policy of the school district is to fully comply with 20 U.S.C. § 6318 which requires the school district to develop jointly with, agree upon with, and distribute to parents of children participating in Title I programs written parent and family engagement policies.

III. DEVELOPMENT OF DISTRICT LEVEL POLICY

The school board will direct the administration to develop jointly with, agree upon with, and distribute to parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy that will be incorporated into the school district's Title I plan. The policy will establish the expectations for meaningful parent and family involvement and describe how the school district will:

- A. Involve parents and family members in the joint development of the school district's Title I plan and the development of support and improvement plans;
- B. Provide the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build the capacity of all participating schools within the school district in planning and implementing effective parent and family involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance, which may include meaningful consultation with employers, business leaders, and philanthropic organizations, or individuals with expertise in effectively engaging parents and family members in education;

- C. Coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies with similar strategies, to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant federal, state, and local laws and programs;
- D. Conduct, with the meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality of the schools served, including identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parental involvement activities (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or who are of a racial or ethnic minority background); the needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with school personnel and teachers; and strategies to support successful school and family interactions;
- E. Use the findings of such evaluations to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement and to revise, if necessary, the district-level and school-level parent and family engagement policies; and
- F. Involve parents in the activities of the schools, which may include establishing a parent advisory board comprised of a sufficient number and representative group of parents or family members served by the school district to adequately represent the needs of the population served by the school district for the purposes of developing, revising, and reviewing the parent and family engagement policy.

IV. DEVELOPMENT OF SCHOOL LEVEL POLICY

The school board will direct the administration of each school to develop (or amend an existing parental involvement policy) jointly with, and distribute to, parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy, agreed upon by such parents and families, that shall describe the means for carrying out the federal requirements of parent and family engagement. Parents shall be notified of the policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, provided in a language the parents can understand. Such policy shall be made available to the local community and updated periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school.

- A. The policy will describe the means by which each school with a Title I program will:
 - 1. Convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents of participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of their school’s participation in Title I programs, and to explain to parents of participating children the program, its requirements, and their right to be involved;
 - 2. Offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide with Title I funds transportation, childcare, or home visits, as such services relate to parental involvement;

3. Involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely way in the planning, review, and improvement of the parental involvement programs, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school parent and family engagement policy and the joint development of the school-wide program plan, except that if a school has in place a process for involving parents in the joint planning and design of the school's programs, the school may use that process, if such process includes an adequate representation of parents of participating children;
 4. Provide parents of participating children with: timely information about Title I programs; a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the achievement levels of the challenging state academic standards; if requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible; and
 5. If the school-wide program plan is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parent's comments on the plan when it is submitted to the school district.
- B. As a component of this policy, each school shall jointly develop with parents a school/parent compact which outlines how parents, staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards. The compact shall:
1. Describe the school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables participating students to meet state student academic achievement standards;
 2. Describe the ways each parent will be responsible for supporting his or her child's learning by volunteering in his or her child's classroom and participating, as appropriate, in decisions relating to his or her child's education and use of extracurricular time.
 3. Address the importance of communication between teachers and parents on an on-going basis through the use of:
 - a. Annual parent-teacher conferences to discuss the compact and the child's achievement;
 - b. Frequent progress reports to the parents; and
 - c. Reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer, participate in the child's class, and observe in the child's classroom.

- d. Ensuring regular two-way, meaningful communication between family members and school staff and, to the extent practicable, in a language that family members can understand.
- C. To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and community to improve student academic achievement, the policy will describe how each school and the school district will:
1. Provide assistance to participating parents in understanding such topics as the state’s academic content standards and state academic achievement standards, state and local academic assessments, Title I requirements, and how to monitor a child’s progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children;
 2. Provide materials and training to assist parents in working with their children to improve their children’s achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement;
 3. Educate school staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and school;
 4. Coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with other federal, state, and local programs, including public preschool programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children to the extent feasible and appropriate;
 5. Ensure, to the extent practicable, that information about school and parent meetings, programs, and activities is sent to the parents of participating children in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand; and
 6. Provide such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities as requested by parents.
- D. The policy will also describe the process to be taken if the school district and school choose to:
1. Involve parents in the development of training for school staff to improve the effectiveness of such training;
 2. Provide necessary literacy training with funds received under Title I programs if all other funding has been exhausted;
 3. Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement

- activities, including transportation and childcare costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions;
4. Train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents;
 5. Arrange meetings at a variety of times or conduct in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, and parents who are unable to attend such conferences at school in order to maximize parental involvement and participation in school-related activities;
 6. Adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement;
 7. Develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and business in parental involvement activities; and
 8. Establish a district-wide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in Title I programs.
- E. To carry out the requirements of parent and family engagement, the school district and schools, to the extent practicable, will provide opportunities for the informed participation of parents and family members (including parents and family members who have limited English proficiency, parents and family members with disabilities, and parents and family members of migratory children), including providing information and school reports in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language that is understandable by the parents.
- F. The school district and each school shall inform parents and parent organizations of the existence of family engagement in education programs.

The policies will be updated periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school.

Legal References: 20 U.S.C. § 6318 (Parent and Family Engagement)

Cross References: none

Resources: U.S Department of Education: *Parent and Family Engagement Non-Regulatory Guidance (January 2025)*

Adopted: 5/13/19

Reviewed: 12/08/25, 5/13/19

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II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

- A. The policy of the school district is to plan and implement, with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children, programs, activities, and procedures for the engagement of parents and families in its Title I programs.
- B. The policy of the school district is to fully comply with 20 U.S.C. § 6318 which requires the school district to develop jointly with, agree upon with, and distribute to parents of children participating in Title I programs written parent and family engagement policies.

III. DEVELOPMENT OF DISTRICT LEVEL POLICY

The school board will direct the administration to develop jointly with, agree upon with, and distribute to parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy that will be incorporated into the school district's Title I plan. The policy will establish the expectations for meaningful parent and family involvement and describe how the school district will:

- A. Involve parents and family members in the joint development of the school district's Title I plan and the development of support and improvement plans;
- B. Provide the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist and build the capacity of all participating schools within the school district in planning and implementing effective parent and family involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance, which may include meaningful consultation with employers, business leaders, and philanthropic organizations, or individuals with expertise in effectively engaging parents and family members in education;

- C. Coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement strategies with similar strategies, to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant federal, state, and local laws and programs;
- D. Conduct, with the meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent and family engagement policy in improving the academic quality of the schools served, including identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parental involvement activities (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or who are of a racial or ethnic minority background); the needs of parents and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with school personnel and teachers; and strategies to support successful school and family interactions;
- E. Use the findings of such evaluations to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement and to revise, if necessary, the district-level and school-level parent and family engagement policies; and
- F. Involve parents in the activities of the schools, which may include establishing a parent advisory board comprised of a sufficient number and representative group of parents or family members served by the school district to adequately represent the needs of the population served by the school district for the purposes of developing, revising, and reviewing the parent and family engagement policy.

IV. DEVELOPMENT OF SCHOOL LEVEL POLICY

The school board will direct the administration of each school to develop (or amend an existing parental involvement policy) jointly with, and distribute to, parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy, agreed upon by such parents and families, that shall describe the means for carrying out the federal requirements of parent and family engagement. Parents shall be notified of the policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, provided in a language the parents can understand. Such policy shall be made available to the local community and updated periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school.

- A. The policy will describe the means by which each school with a Title I program will:
 - 1. Convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents of participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of their school’s participation in Title I programs, and to explain to parents of participating children the program, its requirements, and their right to be involved;
 - 2. Offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide with Title I funds transportation, childcare, or home visits, as such services relate to parental involvement;

3. Involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely way in the planning, review, and improvement of the parental involvement programs, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school parent and family engagement policy and the joint development of the school-wide program plan, except that if a school has in place a process for involving parents in the joint planning and design of the school's programs, the school may use that process, if such process includes an adequate representation of parents of participating children;
 4. Provide parents of participating children with: timely information about Title I programs; a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the achievement levels of the challenging state academic standards; if requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible; and
 5. If the school-wide program plan is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parent's comments on the plan when it is submitted to the school district.
- B. As a component of this policy, each school shall jointly develop with parents a school/parent compact which outlines how parents, staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards. The compact shall:
1. Describe the school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables participating students to meet state student academic achievement standards;
 2. Describe the ways each parent will be responsible for supporting his or her child's learning by volunteering in his or her child's classroom and participating, as appropriate, in decisions relating to his or her child's education and use of extracurricular time.
 3. Address the importance of communication between teachers and parents on an on-going basis through the use of:
 - a. Annual parent-teacher conferences to discuss the compact and the child's achievement;
 - b. Frequent progress reports to the parents; and
 - c. Reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer, participate in the child's class, and observe in the child's classroom.

- d. Ensuring regular two-way, meaningful communication between family members and school staff and, to the extent practicable, in a language that family members can understand.
- C. To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school, parents, and community to improve student academic achievement, the policy will describe how each school and the school district will:
- 1. Provide assistance to participating parents in understanding such topics as the state’s academic content standards and state academic achievement standards, state and local academic assessments, Title I requirements, and how to monitor a child’s progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children;
 - 2. Provide materials and training to assist parents in working with their children to improve their children’s achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement;
 - 3. Educate school staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and school;
 - 4. Coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with other federal, state, and local programs, including public preschool programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children to the extent feasible and appropriate;
 - 5. Ensure, to the extent practicable, that information about school and parent meetings, programs, and activities is sent to the parents of participating children in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand; and
 - 6. Provide such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities as requested by parents.
- D. The policy will also describe the process to be taken if the school district and school choose to:
- 1. Involve parents in the development of training for school staff to improve the effectiveness of such training;
 - 2. Provide necessary literacy training with funds received under Title I programs if all other funding has been exhausted;
 - 3. Pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities, including transportation and childcare costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions;

4. Train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents;
 5. Arrange meetings at a variety of times or conduct in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, and parents who are unable to attend such conferences at school in order to maximize parental involvement and participation in school-related activities;
 6. Adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement;
 7. Develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and business in parental involvement activities; and
 8. Establish a district-wide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in Title I programs.
- E. To carry out the requirements of parent and family engagement, the school district and schools, to the extent practicable, will provide opportunities for the informed participation of parents and family members (including parents and family members who have limited English proficiency, parents and family members with disabilities, and parents and family members of migratory children), including providing information and school reports in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language that is understandable by the parents.
- F. The school district and each school shall inform parents and parent organizations of the existence of family engagement in education programs.

The policies will be updated periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school.

Legal References: 20 U.S.C. § 6318 (Parent and Family Engagement)

Cross References: none

Resources: U.S Department of Education: *Parent and Family Engagement Non-Regulatory Guidance (January 2025)*

Adopted: _____

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 621

Orig. 2023

Revised: _____

Rev. 2025 [\(October\)](#)

621 LITERACY AND THE READ ACT

[NOTE: By the 2026-2027 school year, the school district must provide evidence-based reading instruction through a focus on student mastery of the foundational reading skills of phonemic awareness, phonics, and fluency, as well as the development of oral language, vocabulary, and reading comprehension skills. Students must receive evidence-based instruction that is proven to effectively teach children to read, consistent with Minnesota Statutes, sections 120B.118 to 120B.124.]

I. PURPOSE

This policy aligns with Minnesota law established in the Read Act and on other topics related to reading.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The school district recognizes the centrality of reading in a student's educational experience.

III. DEFINITIONS

- A. "Evidence-based" means the instruction or item described is based on reliable, trustworthy, and valid evidence and has demonstrated a record of success in increasing students' reading competency in the areas of phonological and phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary development, reading fluency, and reading comprehension. Evidence-based literacy instruction is explicit, systematic, and includes phonological and phonemic awareness, phonics and decoding, spelling, fluency, vocabulary, oral language, and comprehension that can be differentiated to meet the needs of individual students. Evidence-based instruction does not include the three-cueing system, as defined in subdivision 16.
- B. "Fluency" means the ability of students to read text accurately, automatically, and with proper expression.
- C. "Foundational reading skills" includes phonological and phonemic awareness, phonics and decoding, and fluency. Foundational reading skills appropriate to each grade level must be mastered in kindergarten, grade 1, grade 2, and grade 3. Struggling readers in grades 4 and above who do not demonstrate mastery of grade-level foundational reading skills must continue to receive explicit, systematic instruction to reach mastery.
- D. "Literacy specialist" means a person licensed by the Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board as a teacher of reading, a special education teacher, or a kindergarten through grade 6 teacher, who has completed professional development approved by the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) in structured literacy. A literacy specialist employed by the department under Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.123, subdivision 7, or by a district as a literacy lead, is not required to complete the approved training before August 30, 2025.
- E. "Literacy lead" means a literacy specialist with expertise in working with educators as adult learners. A district literacy lead must support the district's implementation of the

Read Act; provide support to school-based coaches; support the implementation of structured literacy, interventions, curriculum delivery, and teacher training; assist with the development of personal learning plans; and train paraprofessionals and other support staff to support classroom literacy instruction. A literacy lead may be employed by one district, jointly by two or more districts, or may provide services to districts through a partnership with the regional service cooperatives or another district.

- F. "Multitiered system of support" or "MTSS" means a systemic, continuous improvement framework for ensuring positive social, emotional, behavioral, developmental, and academic outcomes for every student. The MTSS framework provides access to layered tiers of culturally and linguistically responsive, evidence-based practices and relies on the understanding and belief that every student can learn and thrive. Through an MTSS at the core (Tier 1), supplemental (Tier 2), and intensive (Tier 3) levels, educators provide high quality, evidence-based instruction and intervention that is matched to a student's needs; progress is monitored to inform instruction and set goals and data is used for educational decision making.
- G. "Oral language," also called "expressive language" or "receptive language," includes speaking and listening, and consists of five (5) components: phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics.
- H. "Phonemic awareness" means the ability to notice, think about, and manipulate individual sounds in spoken syllables and words.
- I. "Phonics instruction" means the explicit, systematic, and direct instruction of the relationships between letters and the sounds they represent and the application of this knowledge in reading and spelling.
- J. "Progress monitoring" means using data collected to inform whether interventions are working. Progress monitoring involves ongoing monitoring of progress that quantifies rates of improvement and informs instructional practice and the development of individualized programs using state-approved screening that is reliable and valid for the intended purpose.
- K. "Reading comprehension" means a function of word recognition skills and language comprehension skills. It is an active process that requires intentional thinking during which meaning is constructed through interactions between the text and reader. Comprehension skills are taught explicitly by demonstrating, explaining, modeling, and implementing specific cognitive strategies to help beginning readers derive meaning through intentional, problem-solving thinking processes.
- L. "Structured literacy" means an approach to reading instruction in which teachers carefully structure important literacy skills, concepts, and the sequence of instruction to facilitate children's literacy learning and progress. Structured literacy is characterized by the provision of systematic, explicit, sequential, and diagnostic instruction in phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and oral language development, and reading comprehension. This approach is consistent with the principles identified in the science of reading and is designed to ensure all students develop strong foundational literacy skills.
- M. "Three-cueing system," also known as "meaning structure visual (MSV)," means a method that teaches students to use meaning, structure and syntax, and visual cues when attempting to read an unknown word.

- N. "Vocabulary development" means the process of acquiring new words. A robust vocabulary improves all areas of communication, including listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Vocabulary growth is directly related to school achievement and is a strong predictor for reading success.

IV. READING SCREENER; PARENT NOTIFICATION AND INVOLVEMENT

- A. The school district must administer an approved reading screener to students in kindergarten through grade 3 within the first six weeks of the school year, by February 15 each year, and again within the last six weeks of the school year. The screener must be one of the screening tools approved by MDE.
- B. The school district must identify any screener it uses in the district's annual literacy plan, and submit screening data with the annual literacy plan by June 15.
- C. Schools, after administering each screener, must follow the language access plan under Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.32 and give the parent of each student who is not reading at or above grade level information from the screener about:
 - 1. the student's reading proficiency as measured by a screener approved by MDE;
 - 2. reading-related services currently being provided to the student and the student's progress; and
 - 3. strategies for parents to use at home in helping their student succeed in becoming grade-level proficient in reading in English and in their native language.
- D. For students enrolled in dual language immersion programs, the school district must measure the student's reading proficiency in English or in the program's partner language, if available, according to Article V below. Following its language access plan under Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.32, the school district must notify families with timely information about students' reading proficiency, including how the student's reading proficiency is assessed, any reading-related services or supports provided to the student and the student's progress, and strategies for families to use at home in helping students succeed in becoming grade-level proficient in reading in English or the partner language. The dual language immersion program may provide information about national research on reading proficiency for students in dual language immersion programs in the parent notification.
- E. The school district may not use this section to deny a student's right to a special education evaluation.

V. IDENTIFICATION AND REPORT

- A. Students enrolled in kindergarten, grade 1, grade 2, and grade 3, including multilingual learners and students receiving special education services, and students enrolled in dual language immersion programs, must be universally screened for mastery of foundational reading skills, including phonemic awareness, phonics, decoding, fluency, oral language, and for characteristics of dyslexia as measured by a screening tool approved by MDE. The screening for characteristics of dyslexia may be integrated with universal screening for mastery of foundational skills and expressive or receptive language mastery. The screening tool used must be a valid and reliable universal screener that is highly correlated with foundational reading skills. For students reading

at grade level, beginning in the winter of grade 2, the oral reading fluency screener may be used to assess reading difficulties, including characteristics of dyslexia, without requiring a separate screening of each subcomponent of foundational reading skills.

- B. The school district must submit data on student performance in kindergarten, grade 1, grade 2, and grade 3 on foundational reading skills, including phonemic awareness, phonics, decoding, fluency, and oral language to MDE in the annual local literacy plan submission due on June 15.
- C. For students enrolled in dual language immersion programs:
 - 1. if students are screened in the partner language, they must be screened at the same interval as the screenings in English under [Paragraph A](#) above;
 - 2. if the program provides instruction in foundational reading skills in English, the students receiving that instruction must be screened in English;
 - 3. if the program provides instruction in foundational reading skills in the partner language, the students receiving that instruction must be screened in the partner language;
 - 4. if no screener is available in the partner language, the school district must identify how students' reading proficiency is assessed and how the school district determines and provides targeted reading instruction in the partner language and supports to students identified as needing additional support in developing mastery of foundational reading skills; and
 - 5. the partner language screening tool must be approved by the school district for kindergarten through grade 3 students.
- D. Students in grades 4 and above, including multilingual learners and students receiving special education services, who are not reading at grade level must be screened for reading difficulties, including characteristics of dyslexia, using a screening tool approved by MDE and must continue to receive evidence-based instruction, interventions, and progress monitoring until the students achieve grade-level proficiency. A parent, in consultation with a teacher, may opt a student out of the literacy screener if the parent and teacher decide that continuing to screen would not be beneficial to the student. In such limited cases, the student must continue to receive progress monitoring and literacy interventions.
- E. Reading screeners in English, and in the predominant languages of school district students where practicable, must identify and evaluate students' areas of academic need related to literacy. The school district also must monitor the progress and provide reading instruction appropriate to the specific needs of multilingual learners. The school district must use an approved, developmentally appropriate, and culturally responsive screener and annually report summary screener results to the MDE Commissioner ("Commissioner") by June 15 in the form and manner determined by the Commissioner.
- F. The school district must include in its local literacy plan a summary of the district's efforts to screen, identify, and provide interventions to students who demonstrate characteristics of dyslexia as measured by a screening tool approved by MDE. With respect to students screened or identified under [Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.12, subdivision 2](#), paragraph (a), the report must include:

1. a summary of the school district's efforts to screen for characteristics of reading difficulties, including dyslexia;
2. the number of students universally screened for that reporting year;
3. the number of students demonstrating characteristics of dyslexia for that year; and
4. an explanation of how students identified under this subdivision are provided with alternate instruction and interventions under Minnesota Statutes, section 125A.56, subdivision 1.

VI. INTERVENTION

- A. For each student identified under the screening identification process, the school district shall provide aligned and targeted reading intervention to accelerate student growth and reach the goal of reading at or above grade level by the end of the current grade and school year.
- B. The school district must implement progress monitoring, as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.119, for a student not reading at grade level.
- C. The school district must use evidence-based curriculum and intervention materials at each grade level that are designed to ensure student mastery of phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary development, reading fluency, and reading comprehension. [Starting July 1, 2023](#), if the school district purchases new literacy curriculum, or literacy intervention or supplementary materials, the curriculum or materials must be evidence-based as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.119.

[NOTE: Starting in the 2026-2027 school year, a school district must use only evidence-based literary interventions. The 2025 Minnesota legislature amended Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.12, subdivision 3, to delay the 2025-26 requirement for one school year.]

- D. If a student does not read at or above grade level by the end of the current school year, the school district must continue to provide aligned and targeted reading intervention as defined by the MTSS framework until the student reads at grade level. School district intervention methods shall encourage family engagement and, where possible, collaboration with appropriate school and community programs that specialize in evidence-based instructional practices and measure mastery of foundational reading skills, including phonemic awareness, phonics, decoding, fluency, and oral language.
- E. By the 2025-2026 school year, intervention programs must be taught by an intervention teacher or special education teacher who has successfully completed training in evidence-based reading instruction approved by MDE. Intervention may include but is not limited to requiring student attendance in summer school, intensified reading instruction that may require that the student be removed from the regular classroom for part of the school day, extended-day programs, or programs that strengthen students' cultural connections.
- F. The school district must determine the format of the personal learning plan in collaboration with the student's educators and other appropriate professionals. The school must develop the learning plan in consultation with the student's parent or

guardian. The personal learning plan must include targeted instruction that is evidence-based and ongoing progress monitoring, and address knowledge gaps and skill deficiencies through strategies such as specific exercises and practices during and outside of the regular school day, group interventions, periodic assessments or screeners, and reasonable timelines. The personal learning plan may include grade retention, if it is in the student's best interest; a student may not be retained solely due to delays in literacy or not demonstrating grade-level proficiency. A school must maintain and regularly update and modify the personal learning plan until the student reads at grade level. This paragraph does not apply to a student under an individualized education program.

VII. LOCAL LITERACY PLAN

- A. The school district must adopt a local literacy plan to have every child reading at or above grade level every year beginning in kindergarten and to support multilingual learners and students receiving special education services in achieving their individualized reading goals. The school district must update and submit the plan to the Commissioner by June 15 each year. The plan must be consistent with the Read Act, and include the following:
1. a process to assess students' foundational reading skills, oral language, and level of reading proficiency and the screeners used, by school site and grade level, under Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.123;
 2. a process to notify and involve parents;
 3. a description of how schools in the school district will determine the targeted reading instruction that is evidence-based and includes an intervention strategy for a student and the process for intensifying or modifying the reading strategy in order to obtain measurable reading progress;
 4. evidence-based intervention methods for students who are not reading at or above grade level and progress monitoring to provide information on the effectiveness of the intervention;
 5. identification of staff development needs, including a plan to meet those needs;
 6. the curricula used by school site and grade level and, if applicable, the district plan and timeline for adopting evidence-based curricula and materials starting in the 2025-2026 school year;
 7. a statement of whether the school district has adopted an MTSS framework;
 8. student data using the measures of foundational literacy skills and mastery identified by MDE for the following students:
 9. the number of teachers and other staff that have completed training approved by the department;
 10. the number of teachers and other staff proposed for training in structured literacy;
 11. how the district used funding provided under the Read Act to implement the requirements of the Read Act;

12. beginning as soon as practicable after the end of fiscal year 2026, how the district used literacy aid funding received under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.98; and
 13. beginning on December 31, 2025, for a district with a dual language immersion program:
 - a. the program's partner language;
 - b. grade levels included in the program;
 - c. the language used to screen students' foundational reading skills;
 - d. the percentage of grade 3 students taking the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments; and
 - e. the number of students in the program in grades 4 to 12 who are identified as not reading at grade level.
- B. Annually by June 15, the school district must post its literacy plan on the official school district website and submit it to the Commissioner using the template developed by the Commissioner.
- C. The school district must use a streamlined template developed by the Commissioner for local literacy plans that meets the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.12, subdivision 4a, and requires all reading instruction and teacher training in reading instruction to be evidence-based.

VIII. STAFF TRAINING

- A. The district must provide training from a menu of approved evidence-based training programs to the following teachers and staff by July 1, 2026:
1. reading intervention teachers working with students in kindergarten through grade 12;
 2. all classroom teachers of students in kindergarten through grade 3 and children in prekindergarten programs;
 3. kindergarten through grade 12 special education teachers responsible for foundational reading instruction;
 4. curriculum directors;
 5. instructional support staff, contractors, and volunteers who assist in providing reading interventions under the oversight and monitoring of a trained licensed teacher;
 6. employees who select literacy instructional materials for a district; and
 7. teachers holding English as a second language teaching licenses.
- B. The school district must provide training from a menu of approved evidence-based

training programs to the following teachers by July 1, 2027:

1. teachers who provide foundational reading instruction to students in grades 4 to 12;
2. teachers who provide instruction to students in a state-approved alternative program; and
3. teachers who provide instruction to students in dual language immersion programs.

The Commissioner may grant a school district an extension to these deadlines.

- C. By August 30, 2025, the school district must employ or contract with a literacy lead, or be actively supporting a designated literacy specialist through the process of becoming a literacy lead. The school board may satisfy the requirements of this subdivision by contracting with another school board or cooperative unit under Minnesota Statutes, section 123A.24 for the services of a literacy lead by August 30, 2025. The school district literacy lead must collaborate with school district administrators and staff to support the school district's implementation of requirements under the Read Act.
- D. Training provided by the following may satisfy the professional development requirements under this Article:
 1. a certified trained facilitator; or
 2. a training program that MDE has determined meets the professional development requirements under the Read Act.

IX. STAFF DEVELOPMENT

- A. The school district must provide training programs on evidence-based reading instruction to teachers and instructional staff in accordance with [Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.12](#), subdivision 1, paragraphs (b) and (c). The training must include teaching in the areas of phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary development, reading fluency, reading comprehension, and culturally and linguistically responsive pedagogy.
- B. The school district shall use the data under Article V. above to identify the staff development needs so that:
 1. elementary teachers are able to implement explicit, systematic, evidence-based instruction in the five reading areas of phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension with emphasis on mastery of foundational reading skills as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.119 and other literacy-related areas including writing until the student achieves grade-level reading and writing proficiency;
 2. elementary teachers have sufficient training to provide students with evidence-based reading and oral language instruction that meets students' developmental, linguistic, and literacy needs using the intervention methods or programs selected by the school district for the identified students;
 3. licensed teachers employed by the school district have regular opportunities to improve reading and writing instruction;

4. licensed teachers recognize students' diverse needs in cross-cultural settings and are able to serve the oral language and linguistic needs of students who are multilingual learners by maximizing strengths in their native languages in order to cultivate students' English language development, including academic language development, and build academic literacy; and
 5. licensed teachers are well trained in culturally responsive pedagogy that enables students to master content, develop skills to access content, and build relationships.
- C. The school district must provide staff in early childhood programs sufficient training to provide children in early childhood programs with explicit, systematic instruction in phonological and phonemic awareness; oral language, including listening comprehension; vocabulary; and letter-sound correspondence.

X. LITERACY AID USES

The school district must use its literacy aid to meet the requirements and goals adopted in the school district's local literacy plan.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 120B.119 (Read Act Definitions)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.12 (Read Act Goal and Interventions)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.123 (Read Act Implementation)
Minn. Stat. § 123A.24 (Withdrawing from a Cooperative Unit; Appealing Denial of Membership)
Minn. Stat. § 124D.68 (Graduation Incentives Program)
Minn. Stat. § 124D.98 (Literacy Incentive Aid)
Minn. Stat. § 125A.56 (Alternate Instruction Required before Assessment Referral)

Cross References: None

Adopted: 8/14/23

Revised: 12/08/25, 8/11/25

621 LITERACY AND THE READ ACT

I. PURPOSE

This policy aligns with Minnesota law established in the Read Act and on other topics related to reading.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The school district recognizes the centrality of reading in a student's educational experience.

III. DEFINITIONS

- A. "Evidence-based" means the instruction or item described is based on reliable, trustworthy, and valid evidence and has demonstrated a record of success in increasing students' reading competency in the areas of phonological and phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary development, reading fluency, and reading comprehension. Evidence-based literacy instruction is explicit, systematic, and includes phonological and phonemic awareness, phonics and decoding, spelling, fluency, vocabulary, oral language, and comprehension that can be differentiated to meet the needs of individual students. Evidence-based instruction does not include the three-cueing system, as defined in subdivision 16.
- B. "Fluency" means the ability of students to read text accurately, automatically, and with proper expression.
- C. "Foundational reading skills" includes phonological and phonemic awareness, phonics and decoding, and fluency. Foundational reading skills appropriate to each grade level must be mastered in kindergarten, grade 1, grade 2, and grade 3. Struggling readers in grades 4 and above who do not demonstrate mastery of grade-level foundational reading skills must continue to receive explicit, systematic instruction to reach mastery.
- D. "Literacy specialist" means a person licensed by the Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board as a teacher of reading, a special education teacher, or a kindergarten through grade 6 teacher, who has completed professional development approved by the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) in structured literacy. A literacy specialist employed by the department under Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.123, subdivision 7, or by a district as a literacy lead, is not required to complete the approved training before August 30, 2025.
- E. "Literacy lead" means a literacy specialist with expertise in working with educators as adult learners. A district literacy lead must support the district's implementation

of the Read Act; provide support to school-based coaches; support the implementation of structured literacy, interventions, curriculum delivery, and teacher training; assist with the development of personal learning plans; and train paraprofessionals and other support staff to support classroom literacy instruction. A literacy lead may be employed by one district, jointly by two or more districts, or may provide services to districts through a partnership with the regional service cooperatives or another district.

- F. "Multitiered system of support" or "MTSS" means a systemic, continuous improvement framework for ensuring positive social, emotional, behavioral, developmental, and academic outcomes for every student. The MTSS framework provides access to layered tiers of culturally and linguistically responsive, evidence-based practices and relies on the understanding and belief that every student can learn and thrive. Through an MTSS at the core (Tier 1), supplemental (Tier 2), and intensive (Tier 3) levels, educators provide high quality, evidence-based instruction and intervention that is matched to a student's needs; progress is monitored to inform instruction and set goals and data is used for educational decision making.
- G. "Oral language," also called "expressive language" or "receptive language," includes speaking and listening, and consists of five (5) components: phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics.
- H. "Phonemic awareness" means the ability to notice, think about, and manipulate individual sounds in spoken syllables and words.
- I. "Phonics instruction" means the explicit, systematic, and direct instruction of the relationships between letters and the sounds they represent and the application of this knowledge in reading and spelling.
- J. "Progress monitoring" means using data collected to inform whether interventions are working. Progress monitoring involves ongoing monitoring of progress that quantifies rates of improvement and informs instructional practice and the development of individualized programs using state-approved screening that is reliable and valid for the intended purpose.
- K. "Reading comprehension" means a function of word recognition skills and language comprehension skills. It is an active process that requires intentional thinking during which meaning is constructed through interactions between the text and reader. Comprehension skills are taught explicitly by demonstrating, explaining, modeling, and implementing specific cognitive strategies to help beginning readers derive meaning through intentional, problem-solving thinking processes.
- L. "Structured literacy" means an approach to reading instruction in which teachers carefully structure important literacy skills, concepts, and the sequence of

instruction to facilitate children's literacy learning and progress. Structured literacy is characterized by the provision of systematic, explicit, sequential, and diagnostic instruction in phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and oral language development, and reading comprehension. This approach is consistent with the principles identified in the science of reading and is designed to ensure all students develop strong foundational literacy skills.

- M. "Three-cueing system," also known as "meaning structure visual (MSV)," means a method that teaches students to use meaning, structure and syntax, and visual cues when attempting to read an unknown word.
- N. "Vocabulary development" means the process of acquiring new words. A robust vocabulary improves all areas of communication, including listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Vocabulary growth is directly related to school achievement and is a strong predictor for reading success.

IV. READING SCREENER; PARENT NOTIFICATION AND INVOLVEMENT

- A. The school district must administer an approved reading screener to students in kindergarten through grade 3 within the first six weeks of the school year, by February 15 each year, and again within the last six weeks of the school year. The screener must be one of the screening tools approved by MDE.
- B. The school district must identify any screener it uses in the district's annual literacy plan, and submit screening data with the annual literacy plan by June 15.
- C. Schools, after administering each screener, must follow the language access plan under Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.32 and give the parent of each student who is not reading at or above grade level information from the screener about:
 1. the student's reading proficiency as measured by a screener approved by MDE;
 2. reading-related services currently being provided to the student and the student's progress; and
 3. strategies for parents to use at home in helping their student succeed in becoming grade-level proficient in reading in English and in their native language.
- D. For students enrolled in dual language immersion programs, the school district must measure the student's reading proficiency in English or in the program's partner language, if available, according to Article V below. Following its language access plan under Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.32, the school district must notify families with timely information about students' reading proficiency, including how the student's reading proficiency is assessed, any reading-related services or

supports provided to the student and the student's progress, and strategies for families to use at home in helping students succeed in becoming grade-level proficient in reading in English or the partner language. The dual language immersion program may provide information about national research on reading proficiency for students in dual language immersion programs in the parent notification.

- E. The school district may not use this section to deny a student's right to a special education evaluation.

V. IDENTIFICATION AND REPORT

- A. Students enrolled in kindergarten, grade 1, grade 2, and grade 3, including multilingual learners and students receiving special education services, and students enrolled in dual language immersion programs, must be universally screened for mastery of foundational reading skills, including phonemic awareness, phonics, decoding, fluency, oral language, and for characteristics of dyslexia as measured by a screening tool approved by MDE. The screening for characteristics of dyslexia may be integrated with universal screening for mastery of foundational skills and expressive or receptive language mastery. The screening tool used must be a valid and reliable universal screener that is highly correlated with foundational reading skills. For students reading at grade level, beginning in the winter of grade 2, the oral reading fluency screener may be used to assess reading difficulties, including characteristics of dyslexia, without requiring a separate screening of each subcomponent of foundational reading skills.
- B. The school district must submit data on student performance in kindergarten, grade 1, grade 2, and grade 3 on foundational reading skills, including phonemic awareness, phonics, decoding, fluency, and oral language to MDE in the annual local literacy plan submission due on June 15.
- C. For students enrolled in dual language immersion programs:
 1. if students are screened in the partner language, they must be screened at the same interval as the screenings in English under Paragraph A above;
 2. if the program provides instruction in foundational reading skills in English, the students receiving that instruction must be screened in English;
 3. if the program provides instruction in foundational reading skills in the partner language, the students receiving that instruction must be screened in the partner language;
 4. if no screener is available in the partner language, the school district must identify how students' reading proficiency is assessed and how the school district determines and provides targeted reading instruction in the partner

language and supports to students identified as needing additional support in developing mastery of foundational reading skills; and

5. the partner language screening tool must be approved by the school district for kindergarten through grade 3 students.
- D. Students in grades 4 and above, including multilingual learners and students receiving special education services, who are not reading at grade level must be screened for reading difficulties, including characteristics of dyslexia, using a screening tool approved by MDE and must continue to receive evidence-based instruction, interventions, and progress monitoring until the students achieve grade-level proficiency. A parent, in consultation with a teacher, may opt a student out of the literacy screener if the parent and teacher decide that continuing to screen would not be beneficial to the student. In such limited cases, the student must continue to receive progress monitoring and literacy interventions.
- E. Reading screeners in English, and in the predominant languages of school district students where practicable, must identify and evaluate students' areas of academic need related to literacy. The school district also must monitor the progress and provide reading instruction appropriate to the specific needs of multilingual learners. The school district must use an approved, developmentally appropriate, and culturally responsive screener and annually report summary screener results to the MDE Commissioner (“Commissioner”) by June 15 in the form and manner determined by the Commissioner.
- F. The school district must include in its local literacy plan a summary of the district's efforts to screen, identify, and provide interventions to students who demonstrate characteristics of dyslexia as measured by a screening tool approved by MDE. With respect to students screened or identified under Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.12, subdivision 2, paragraph (a), the report must include:
1. a summary of the school district's efforts to screen for characteristics of reading difficulties, including dyslexia;
 2. the number of students universally screened for that reporting year;
 3. the number of students demonstrating characteristics of dyslexia for that year; and
 4. an explanation of how students identified under this subdivision are provided with alternate instruction and interventions under Minnesota Statutes, section 125A.56, subdivision 1.

VI. INTERVENTION

- A. For each student identified under the screening identification process, the school district shall provide aligned and targeted reading intervention to accelerate student

growth and reach the goal of reading at or above grade level by the end of the current grade and school year.

- B. The school district must implement progress monitoring, as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.119, for a student not reading at grade level.
- C. The school district must use evidence-based curriculum and intervention materials at each grade level that are designed to ensure student mastery of phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary development, reading fluency, and reading comprehension. If the school district purchases new literacy curriculum, or literacy intervention or supplementary materials, the curriculum or materials must be evidence-based as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.119.
- D. If a student does not read at or above grade level by the end of the current school year, the school district must continue to provide aligned and targeted reading intervention as defined by the MTSS framework until the student reads at grade level. School district intervention methods shall encourage family engagement and, where possible, collaboration with appropriate school and community programs that specialize in evidence-based instructional practices and measure mastery of foundational reading skills, including phonemic awareness, phonics, decoding, fluency, and oral language.
- E. By the 2025-2026 school year, intervention programs must be taught by an intervention teacher or special education teacher who has successfully completed training in evidence-based reading instruction approved by MDE. Intervention may include but is not limited to requiring student attendance in summer school, intensified reading instruction that may require that the student be removed from the regular classroom for part of the school day, extended-day programs, or programs that strengthen students' cultural connections.
- F. The school district must determine the format of the personal learning plan in collaboration with the student's educators and other appropriate professionals. The school must develop the learning plan in consultation with the student's parent or guardian. The personal learning plan must include targeted instruction that is evidence-based and ongoing progress monitoring, and address knowledge gaps and skill deficiencies through strategies such as specific exercises and practices during and outside of the regular school day, group interventions, periodic assessments or screeners, and reasonable timelines. The personal learning plan may include grade retention, if it is in the student's best interest; a student may not be retained solely due to delays in literacy or not demonstrating grade-level proficiency. A school must maintain and regularly update and modify the personal learning plan until the student reads at grade level. This paragraph does not apply to a student under an individualized education program.

VII. LOCAL LITERACY PLAN

- A. The school district must adopt a local literacy plan to have every child reading at or above grade level every year beginning in kindergarten and to support multilingual learners and students receiving special education services in achieving their individualized reading goals. The school district must update and submit the plan to the Commissioner by June 15 each year. The plan must be consistent with the Read Act, and include the following:
1. a process to assess students' foundational reading skills, oral language, and level of reading proficiency and the screeners used, by school site and grade level, under Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.123;
 2. a process to notify and involve parents;
 3. a description of how schools in the school district will determine the targeted reading instruction that is evidence-based and includes an intervention strategy for a student and the process for intensifying or modifying the reading strategy in order to obtain measurable reading progress;
 4. evidence-based intervention methods for students who are not reading at or above grade level and progress monitoring to provide information on the effectiveness of the intervention;
 5. identification of staff development needs, including a plan to meet those needs;
 6. the curricula used by school site and grade level and, if applicable, the district plan and timeline for adopting evidence-based curricula and materials starting in the 2025-2026 school year;
 7. a statement of whether the school district has adopted an MTSS framework;
 8. student data using the measures of foundational literacy skills and mastery identified by MDE for the following students:
 9. the number of teachers and other staff that have completed training approved by the department;
 10. the number of teachers and other staff proposed for training in structured literacy;
 11. how the district used funding provided under the Read Act to implement the requirements of the Read Act;

12. beginning as soon as practicable after the end of fiscal year 2026, how the district used literacy aid funding received under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.98; and
 13. beginning on December 31, 2025, for a district with a dual language immersion program:
 - a. the program’s partner language;
 - b. grade levels included in the program;
 - c. the language used to screen students’ foundational reading skills;
 - d. the percentage of grade 3 students taking the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments; and
 - e. the number of students in the program in grades 4 to 12 who are identified as not reading at grade level.
- B. Annually by June 15, the school district must post its literacy plan on the official school district website and submit it to the Commissioner using the template developed by the Commissioner.
- C. The school district must use a streamlined template developed by the Commissioner for local literacy plans that meets the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.12, subdivision 4a, and requires all reading instruction and teacher training in reading instruction to be evidence-based.

VIII. STAFF TRAINING

- A. The district must provide training from a menu of approved evidence-based training programs to the following teachers and staff by July 1, 2026:
1. reading intervention teachers working with students in kindergarten through grade 12;
 2. all classroom teachers of students in kindergarten through grade 3 and children in prekindergarten programs;
 3. kindergarten through grade 12 special education teachers responsible for foundational reading instruction;
 4. curriculum directors;
 5. instructional support staff, contractors, and volunteers who assist in providing reading interventions under the oversight and monitoring of a trained licensed teacher;

6. employees who select literacy instructional materials for a district; and
 7. teachers holding English as a second language teaching licenses.
- B. The school district must provide training from a menu of approved evidence-based training programs to the following teachers by July 1, 2027:
1. teachers who provide foundational reading instruction to students in grades 4 to 12;
 2. teachers who provide instruction to students in a state-approved alternative program; and
 3. teachers who provide instruction to students in dual language immersion programs.

The Commissioner may grant a school district an extension to these deadlines.

- C. By August 30, 2025, the school district must employ or contract with a literacy lead, or be actively supporting a designated literacy specialist through the process of becoming a literacy lead. The school board may satisfy the requirements of this subdivision by contracting with another school board or cooperative unit under Minnesota Statutes, section 123A.24 for the services of a literacy lead by August 30, 2025. The school district literacy lead must collaborate with school district administrators and staff to support the school district's implementation of requirements under the Read Act.
- D. Training provided by the following may satisfy the professional development requirements under this Article:
1. a certified trained facilitator; or
 2. a training program that MDE has determined meets the professional development requirements under the Read Act.

IX. STAFF DEVELOPMENT

- A. The school district must provide training programs on evidence-based reading instruction to teachers and instructional staff in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.12, subdivision 1, paragraphs (b) and (c). The training must include teaching in the areas of phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary development, reading fluency, reading comprehension, and culturally and linguistically responsive pedagogy.
- B. The school district shall use the data under Article V. above to identify the staff development needs so that:

1. elementary teachers are able to implement explicit, systematic, evidence-based instruction in the five reading areas of phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension with emphasis on mastery of foundational reading skills as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.119 and other literacy-related areas including writing until the student achieves grade-level reading and writing proficiency;
 2. elementary teachers have sufficient training to provide students with evidence-based reading and oral language instruction that meets students' developmental, linguistic, and literacy needs using the intervention methods or programs selected by the school district for the identified students;
 3. licensed teachers employed by the school district have regular opportunities to improve reading and writing instruction;
 4. licensed teachers recognize students' diverse needs in cross-cultural settings and are able to serve the oral language and linguistic needs of students who are multilingual learners by maximizing strengths in their native languages in order to cultivate students' English language development, including academic language development, and build academic literacy; and
 5. licensed teachers are well trained in culturally responsive pedagogy that enables students to master content, develop skills to access content, and build relationships.
- C. The school district must provide staff in early childhood programs sufficient training to provide children in early childhood programs with explicit, systematic instruction in phonological and phonemic awareness; oral language, including listening comprehension; vocabulary; and letter-sound correspondence.

X. LITERACY AID USES

The school district must use its literacy aid to meet the requirements and goals adopted in the school district's local literacy plan.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 120B.119 (Read Act Definitions)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.12 (Read Act Goal and Interventions)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.123 (Read Act Implementation)
Minn. Stat. § 123A.24 (Withdrawing from a Cooperative Unit; Appealing Denial of Membership)
Minn. Stat. § 124D.68 (Graduation Incentives Program)
Minn. Stat. § 124D.98 (Literacy Incentive Aid)
Minn. Stat. § 125A.56 (Alternate Instruction Required before Assessment Referral)

Cross References: None

Adopted: _____

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 709

Orig. 1995

Revised: _____

Rev. 2025 (October)

709 STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SAFETY POLICY

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

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide safe transportation for students and to educate students on safety issues and the responsibilities of school bus ridership.

II. PLAN FOR STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SAFETY TRAINING

A. School Bus Safety Week

The school district may designate a school bus safety week. The National School Bus Safety Week is the third week in October.

B. Student School Bus Safety Training

1. The school district shall provide students enrolled in grades kindergarten (K) through 10 with age-appropriate school bus safety training of the following concepts:
 - a. transportation by school bus is a privilege, not a right;
 - b. school district policies for student conduct and school bus safety;
 - c. appropriate conduct while on the bus;
 - d. the danger zones surrounding a school bus;
 - e. procedures for safely boarding and leaving a school bus;
 - f. procedures for safe vehicle lane crossing; and
 - g. school bus evacuation and other emergency procedures.
2. All students in grades K through 6 who are transported by school bus and are enrolled during the first or second week of school must receive the school bus safety training by the end of the third week of school. All students in grades 7 through 10 who are transported by school bus and are enrolled during the first or second week of school must receive the school bus safety training or receive bus safety instruction materials by the end of the sixth week of school, if they have not previously received school bus training. Students in grades K through 10 who enroll in a school after the second week of school, are transported by school bus, and have not received training in their previous school districts shall undergo school bus safety training or receive bus safety instructional materials within four (4) weeks of their first day of attendance.
3. The school district and a nonpublic school with students transported by school bus at public expense must provide students enrolled in grades K through 3 school bus

safety training twice during the school year.

4. Students taking driver's training instructional classes must receive training in the laws and proper procedures for operating a motor vehicle in the vicinity of a school bus as required by Minnesota Statutes, section 169.446, subdivision 2.
5. The school district and a nonpublic school with students transported by school bus at public expense must conduct a school bus evacuation drill at least once during the school year.
6. The school district will make reasonable accommodations in training for students known to speak English as a second language and students with disabilities.
7. The school district may provide kindergarten students with school bus safety training before the first day of school.
8. The school district shall adopt and make available for public review a curriculum for transportation safety education.
9. Nonpublic school students transported by the school district will receive school bus safety training by their nonpublic school. The nonpublic schools may use the school district's school transportation safety education curriculum. Upon request by the school district superintendent, the nonpublic school must certify to the school district's school transportation safety director that all students enrolled in grades K through 10 have received the appropriate training.

C. Active Transportation Safety Training

1. Training Required

- a. The school district must provide public school pupils enrolled in kindergarten through grade 3 with age-appropriate active transportation safety training. At a minimum, the training must include pedestrian safety, including crossing roads.
- b. The school district must provide pupils enrolled in grades 4 through 8 with age-appropriate active transportation safety training. At a minimum, the training must include:
 - (1) pedestrian safety, including crossing roads safely using the searching left, right, left for vehicles in traffic technique;
 - (2) bicycle safety, including relevant traffic laws, use and proper fit of protective headgear, bicycle parts and safety features, and safe biking techniques; and
 - (3) electric-assisted bicycle safety, including that a person under the age of fifteen (15) is not allowed to operate an electric-assisted bicycle.

2. Instruction

- a. The school district may provide active transportation safety training through distance learning.

- b. The district and a nonpublic school must make reasonable accommodations for the active transportation safety training of pupils known to speak English as a second language and pupils with disabilities.

III. CONDUCT ON SCHOOL BUSES AND CONSEQUENCES FOR MISBEHAVIOR

- A. Riding the school bus is a privilege, not a right. The school district's general student behavior rules are in effect for all students on school buses, including nonpublic and charter school students.
- B. Consequences for school bus/bus stop misconduct will be imposed by the school district under adopted administrative discipline procedures. In addition, all school bus/bus stop misconduct will be reported to the school district's transportation safety director. Serious misconduct may be reported to local law enforcement.

1. School Bus and Bus Stop Rules

The school district school bus safety rules are to be posted on every bus. If these rules are broken, the school district's discipline procedures are to be followed. In most circumstances, consequences are progressive and may include suspension of bus privileges. It is the school bus driver's responsibility to report unacceptable behavior to the school district's Transportation Office/School Office.

2. Rules at the Bus Stop

- a. Get to your bus stop five (5) minutes before your scheduled pick up time. The school bus driver will not wait for late students.
- b. Respect the property of others while waiting at your bus stop.
- c. Keep your arms, legs, and belongings to yourself.
- d. Use appropriate language.
- e. Stay away from the street, road, or highway when waiting for the bus.
- f. Wait until the bus stops before approaching the bus.
- g. After getting off the bus, move away from the bus.
- h. If you must cross the street, always cross in front of the bus where the driver can see you. Wait for the driver to signal to you before crossing the street.
- i. No fighting, harassment, intimidation, or horseplay.
- j. No use of alcohol, tobacco, or drugs.

3. Rules on the Bus

- a. Immediately follow the directions of the driver.
- b. Sit in your seat facing forward.
- c. Talk quietly and use appropriate language.

- d. Keep all parts of your body inside the bus.
- e. Keep your arms, legs, and belongings to yourself.
- f. No fighting, harassment, intimidation, or horseplay.
- g. Do not throw any object.
- h. No eating, drinking, or use of alcohol, tobacco, or drugs.
- i. Do not bring any weapons or dangerous objects on the school bus.
- j. Do not damage the bus.

4. Consequences

- a. Consequences for school bus/bus stop misconduct will apply to all regular and late routes. Decisions regarding a student's ability to ride the bus in connection with cocurricular and extracurricular events (for example, field trips or competitions) will be in the sole discretion of the school district. Parents or guardians will be notified of any suspension of bus privileges.

(1) Elementary (grades K-6)

1st offense	warning
2nd offense	three (3) school-day suspension from riding the bus
3rd offense	five (5) school-day suspension from riding the bus
4th offense	ten (10) school-day suspension from riding the bus/meeting with parent
Further offenses	individually considered. Students may be suspended for longer periods of time, including the remainder of the school year.

(2) Secondary (grades 7-12)

1st offense	warning
2nd offense	five (5) school-day suspension from riding the bus
3rd offense	ten (10) school-day suspension from riding the bus
4th offense	twenty (20) school-day suspension from riding the bus/meeting with parent
5th offense	suspended from riding the bus for the remainder of the school year

[Note: When any student goes sixty (60) transportation days without a report, the student's consequences may start over at the first offense.]

(3) Other Discipline

Based on the severity of a student's conduct, more serious consequences may be imposed at any time. Depending on the nature of the offense, consequences such as suspension or expulsion from school also may result from school bus/bus stop misconduct.

(4) Records

Records of school bus/bus stop misconduct will be forwarded to the individual school building and will be retained in the same manner as other student discipline records. Reports of student misbehavior on a school bus or in a bus-loading or unloading area that are reasonably believed to cause an immediate and substantial danger to the student or surrounding persons or property shall be provided by the school district to local law enforcement and the Department of Public Safety in accordance with state and federal law.

(5) Vandalism/Bus Damage

Students damaging school buses will be responsible for the damages. Failure to pay such damages (or make arrangements to pay) within two (2) weeks may result in the loss of bus privileges until damages are paid.

(6) Notice

School bus and bus stop rules and consequences for violations of these rules will be reviewed with students annually and copies of these rules will be made available to students. School bus rules are to be posted on each school bus.

(7) Criminal Conduct

In cases involving criminal conduct (for example, assault, weapons, drug possession, or vandalism), the appropriate school district personnel and local law enforcement officials will be informed.

IV. PARENT AND GUARDIAN INVOLVEMENT

A. Parent and Guardian Notification

The school district school bus and bus stop rules will be provided to each family. Parents and guardians are asked to review the rules with their children.

B. Parents/Guardians Responsibilities for Transportation Safety

Parents/Guardians are responsible to:

1. Become familiar with school district rules, policies, regulations, and the principles of school bus safety, and thoroughly review them with their children;
2. Support safe riding and walking practices, and recognize that students are responsible for their actions;
3. Communicate safety concerns to their school administrators;
4. Monitor bus stops, if possible;
5. Have their children to the bus stop five (5) minutes before the bus arrives;
6. Have their children properly dressed for the weather; and
7. Have a plan in case the bus is late.

V. SCHOOL BUS DRIVER DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. School bus drivers shall have a valid Class A, B, or C Minnesota driver's license with a school bus endorsement. A person possessing a valid driver's license, without a school bus endorsement, may drive a type III vehicle set forth in [Paragraphs VII.B. and VII.C.](#), below. Drivers with a valid Class D driver's license, without a school bus endorsement, may operate a "type A-I" school bus as set forth in [Paragraph VII.D.](#), below.
- B. The school district shall conduct mandatory drug and alcohol testing of all school district bus drivers and bus driver applicants in accordance with state and federal law and school district policy.
- C. A school bus driver, with the exception of a driver operating a type A-I school bus or type III vehicle, who has a commercial driver's license and who is convicted of a criminal offense, a serious traffic violation, or of violating any other state or local law relating to motor vehicle traffic control, other than a parking violation, in any type of motor vehicle in a state or jurisdiction other than Minnesota, shall notify the Minnesota Division of Driver and Vehicle Services (Division) of the conviction within thirty (30) days of the conviction. For purposes of this paragraph, a "serious traffic violation" means a conviction of any of the following offenses:
 1. excessive speeding, involving any single offense for any speed of fifteen (15) miles per hour or more above the posted speed limit;
 2. reckless driving;
 3. improper or erratic traffic lane changes;
 4. following the vehicle ahead too closely;
 5. a violation of state or local law, relating to motor vehicle traffic control, arising in connection with a fatal accident;
 6. driving a commercial vehicle without obtaining a commercial driver's license or without having a commercial driver's license in the driver's possession;
 7. driving a commercial vehicle without the proper class of commercial driver's license

and/or endorsements for the specific vehicle group being operated or for the passengers or type of cargo being transported;

8. a violation of a state or local law prohibiting texting while driving a commercial vehicle; and
 9. a violation of a state or local law prohibiting the use of a hand-held mobile telephone while driving a commercial vehicle.
- D. A school bus driver, with the exception of a driver operating a type A-I school bus or type III vehicle, who has a commercial driver's license and who is convicted of violating, in any type of motor vehicle, a Minnesota state or local law relating to motor vehicle traffic control, other than a parking violation, shall notify the person's employer of the conviction within thirty (30) days of conviction. The notification shall be in writing and shall contain all the information set forth in Attachment A accompanying this policy.
- E. A school bus driver, with the exception of a driver operating a type A-I school bus or type III vehicle, who has a Minnesota commercial driver's license suspended, revoked, or cancelled by the state of Minnesota or any other state or jurisdiction and who loses the right to operate a commercial vehicle for any period or who is disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle for any period shall notify the person's employer of the suspension, revocation, cancellation, lost privilege, or disqualification. Such notification shall be made before the end of the business day following the day the employee received notice of the suspension, revocation, cancellation, lost privilege, or disqualification. The notification shall be in writing and shall contain all the information set forth in Attachment B accompanying this policy.
- F. A person who operates a type III vehicle and who sustains a conviction as described in [Subparagraph VII.C.1.g.](#) (i.e., driving while impaired offenses), VII.C.1.h. (i.e., felony, controlled substance, criminal sexual conduct offenses, or offenses for surreptitious observation, indecent exposure, use of minor in a sexual performance, or possession of child pornography or display of pornography to a minor), or VII.C.1.i. (multiple moving violations) while employed by the entity that owns, leases, or contracts for the school bus, shall report the conviction to the person's employer within ten (10) days of the date of the conviction. The notification shall be in writing and shall contain all the information set forth in Attachment C accompanying this policy.

VI. SCHOOL BUS DRIVER TRAINING

A. Training

1. All new school bus drivers shall be provided with pre-service training, including in-vehicle (actual driving) instruction, before transporting students and shall meet the competency testing specified in the Minnesota Department of Public Safety's *Minnesota Model School Bus Driver Training Program*. All school bus drivers shall receive in-service training annually. For purposes of this section, "annually" means at least once every 380 days from the initial or previous evaluation and at least once every 380 days from the initial or previous license verification. The school district shall retain on file an annual individual school bus driver "evaluation certification" form for each school district driver as contained in the *Minnesota Model School Bus Driver Training Program*.

[NOTE: The *Minnesota Model School Bus Driver Training Program* is available online through the Minnesota Department of Public Safety State Patrol web page listed under Resources below.]

2. All bus drivers operating a type III vehicle will be provided with annual training and certification as set forth in [Subparagraph VII.C.1.b.](#), below, by either the school district or the entity from whom such services are contracted by the school district.

B. Evaluation

School bus drivers with a Class D license will be evaluated annually and all other bus drivers will be assessed periodically for the following competencies:

1. Safely operate the type of school bus the driver will be driving;
2. Understand student behavior, including issues relating to students with disabilities;
3. Ensure orderly conduct of students on the bus and handling incidents of misconduct appropriately;
4. Know and understand relevant laws, rules of the road, and local school bus safety policies;
5. Handle emergency situations; and
6. Safely load and unload students.

The evaluation must include completion of an individual "school bus driver evaluation form" (road test evaluation) as contained in the *Minnesota Model School Bus Driver Training Program*.

[NOTE: The school district may use alternative assessments rather than those set forth in the *Minnesota Model School Bus Driver Training Program* for bus driver training competencies with the approval of the Commissioner of Public Safety. A driver also may receive at least eight (8) hours of school bus in-service training in any year as an alternative to being assessed for bus driver competencies after the initial year of being assessed for bus driver competencies.]

VII. OPERATING RULES AND PROCEDURES

A. General Operating Rules

1. School buses shall be operated in accordance with state traffic and school bus safety laws and the procedures contained in the ~~Minnesota Department of Public Safety's~~ *Minnesota Model School Bus Driver Training Program*.
2. Only students assigned to the school bus by the school district shall be transported. The number of students or other authorized passengers transported in a school bus shall not be more than the legal capacity for the bus. No person shall be allowed to stand when the bus is in motion.
3. The parent/guardian may designate, pursuant to school district policy, a day care facility, respite care facility, the residence of a relative, or the residence of a person chosen by the parent or guardian as the address of the student for transportation purposes. The address must be in the attendance area of the assigned school and meet all other eligibility requirements.

4. Bus drivers must minimize, to the extent practical, the idling of school bus engines and exposure of children to diesel exhaust fumes.
5. To the extent practical, the school district will designate school bus loading/unloading zones at a sufficient distance from school air-intake systems to avoid diesel fumes from being drawn into the systems.

[NOTE: A school district is not required to comply with Subparagraph VII.A.5. if the school board determines that alternative locations block traffic, impair student safety, or are not cost effective.]

6. A bus driver may not operate a school bus while communicating over, or otherwise operating, a cellular phone for personal reasons, whether hand-held or hands free, when the vehicle is in motion or a part of traffic. For purposes of this paragraph, "school bus" has the meaning given in Minnesota Statutes, section 169.011, subdivision 71. In addition, "school bus" also includes type III vehicles when driven by employees or agents of the school district. "Cellular phone" means a cellular, analog, wireless, or digital telephone capable of sending or receiving telephone or text messages without an access line for service.

B. Type III Vehicles

1. Type III vehicles are restricted to passenger cars, station wagons, vans, and buses having a maximum manufacturer's rated seating capacity of ten (10) or fewer people including the driver and a gross vehicle weight rating of 10,000 pounds or less. A van or bus converted to a seating capacity of ten (10) or fewer and placed in service on or after August 1, 1999, must have been originally manufactured to comply with the passenger safety standards.
2. Type III vehicles must be painted a color other than national school bus yellow.
3. Type III vehicles shall be state inspected in accordance with legal requirements.
4. Vehicles model year 2007 or older must not be used as type III vehicles to transport school children, except those vehicles that are manufactured to meet the structural requirements of federal motor vehicle safety standard 222, 49 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 571.
5. If a type III vehicle is school district owned, the school district name will be clearly marked on the side of the vehicle. The type III vehicle must not have the words "school bus" in any location on the exterior of the vehicle or in any interior location visible to a motorist.
6. A "type III vehicle" must not be outwardly equipped and identified as a type A, B, C, or D bus.
7. Eight-lamp warning systems and stop arms must not be installed or used on type III vehicles.
8. Type III vehicles must be equipped with mirrors as required by law.
9. Any type III vehicle may not stop traffic and may not load or unload before making a complete stop and disengaging gears by shifting into neutral or park. Any type III vehicle used to transport students must not load or unload so that a student has to cross the road, except where not possible or impractical, then the driver or

assistant must escort a student across the road. If the driver escorts the student across the road, then the motor must be stopped, the ignition key removed, the brakes set, and the vehicle otherwise rendered immobile.

10. Any type III vehicle used to transport students must carry emergency equipment including:

- a. Fire extinguisher

A minimum of one (1) 10BC rated dry chemical type fire extinguisher is required. The extinguisher must be mounted in a bracket and must be located in the driver's compartment and be readily accessible to the driver and passengers. A pressure indicator is required and must be easily read without removing the extinguisher from its mounted position.

- b. First aid kit and body fluids cleanup kit

A minimum of a 10-unit first aid kit and a body fluids cleanup kit is required. They must be contained in removable, moisture- and dust-proof containers mounted in an accessible place within the driver's compartment and must be marked to indicate their identity and location.

- c. Passenger cars and station wagons may carry a fire extinguisher, a first aid kit, and warning triangles in the trunk or trunk area of the vehicle if a label in the driver and front passenger area clearly indicates the location of these items.

11. Students will not be regularly transported in private vehicles that are not state inspected as type III vehicles. Only emergency, unscheduled transportation may be conducted in vehicles with a seating capacity of ten (10) or fewer without meeting the requirements for a type III vehicle. Also, parents may use a private vehicle to transport their own children under a contract with the district. The school district has no system of inspection for private vehicles.

12. All drivers of type III vehicles will be licensed drivers and will be familiar with the use of required emergency equipment. The school district will not knowingly allow a person to operate a type III vehicle if the person has been convicted of an offense that disqualifies the person from operating a school bus.

13. Type III vehicles will be equipped with child passenger restraints, and child passenger restraints will be utilized to the extent required by law.

C. Type III Vehicle Driven by Employees with a Driver's License Without a School Bus Endorsement

1. The holder of a Class A, B, C, or D driver's license, without a school bus endorsement, may operate a type III vehicle, described above, under the following conditions:

- a. The operator is an employee of the entity that owns, leases, or contracts for the school bus, which may include the school district.

- b. The operator's employer, which may include the school district, has adopted and implemented a policy that provides for annual training and certification of the operator in:

- (1) safe operation of a type III vehicle;
- (2) understanding student behavior, including issues relating to students with disabilities;
- (3) encouraging orderly conduct of students on the bus and handling incidents of misconduct appropriately;
- (4) knowing and understanding relevant laws, rules of the road, and local school bus safety policies;
- (5) handling emergency situations;
- (6) proper use of seat belts and child safety restraints;
- (7) performance of pre-trip vehicle inspections;
- (8) safe loading and unloading of students, including, but not limited to:
 - (a) utilizing a safe location for loading and unloading students at the curb, on the nontraffic side of the roadway, or at off-street loading areas, driveways, yards, and other areas to enable the student to avoid hazardous conditions;
 - (b) refraining from loading and unloading students in a vehicular traffic lane, on the shoulder, in a designated turn lane, or a lane adjacent to a designated turn lane;
 - (c) avoiding a loading or unloading location that would require a student to cross a road, or ensuring that the driver or an aide personally escort the student across the road if it is not reasonably feasible to avoid such a location;
 - (d) placing the type III vehicle in "park" during loading and unloading;
 - (e) escorting a student across the road under clause (c) only after the motor is stopped, the ignition key is removed, the brakes are set, and the vehicle is otherwise rendered immobile; and
- (9) compliance with Paragraph V.F. concerning reporting convictions to the employer within ten (10) days of the date of conviction.

c. A background check or background investigation of the operator has been conducted that meets the requirements under Minnesota Statutes, section 122A.18, subdivision 8, or Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.03 for school district employees; Minnesota Statutes, section 144.057 or Minnesota Statutes, chapter 245C for day care employees; or Minnesota Statutes, section 171.321, subdivision 3, for all other persons operating a type III vehicle under this section.

d. Operators shall submit to a physical examination as required by Minnesota

Statutes, section 171.321, subdivision 2.

- e. The operator's employer requires preemployment drug testing of applicants for operator positions. Current operators must comply with the employer's policy under Minnesota Statutes, section 181.951, subdivisions 2, 4, and 5. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the operator's employer may use a breathalyzer or similar device to fulfill random alcohol testing requirements.
- f. The operator's driver's license is verified annually by the entity that owns, leases, or contracts for the type III vehicle as required by Minnesota Statutes, section 171.321, subdivision 5.
- g. A person who sustains a conviction, as defined under Minnesota Statutes, 609.02, of violating Minnesota Statutes, section 169A.25, 169A.26, 169A.27 (driving while impaired offenses), or 169A.31 (alcohol-related school bus driver offenses), or whose driver's license is revoked under Minnesota Statutes, sections 169A.50 to 169A.53 of the implied consent law, or who is convicted of violating or whose driver's license is revoked under a similar statute or ordinance of another state, is precluded from operating a type III vehicle for five (5) years from the date of conviction.
- h. A person who has ever been convicted of a disqualifying offense as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 171.3215, subdivision 1(c), (i.e., felony, controlled substance, criminal sexual conduct offenses, or offenses for surreptitious observation, indecent exposure, use of minor in a sexual performance, or possession of child pornography or display of pornography to a minor) may not operate a type III vehicle.
- i. A person who sustains a conviction, as defined under Minnesota Statutes, section 609.02, of a moving offense in violation of Minnesota Statutes, chapter 169 within three (3) years of the first of three (3) other moving offenses is precluded from operating a type III vehicle for one (1) year from the date of the last conviction.
- j. Students riding the type III vehicle must have training required under Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.90, subdivision 2 (See [Paragraph II.B.](#), above).
- k. Documentation of meeting the requirements listed in this section must be maintained under separate file at the business location for each type III vehicle operator. The school district or any other entity that owns, leases, or contracts for the type III vehicle operating under this section is responsible for maintaining these files for inspection.

- 2. The Type III vehicle must bear a current certificate of inspection issued under Minnesota Statutes, section 169.451.
- 3. An employee of the school district who is not employed for the sole purpose of operating a type III vehicle may, in the discretion of the school district, be exempt from Subparagraphs VII.C.1.d. (physical examination) and VII.C.1.e. (drug testing), above.

D. Type A-I "Activity" Buses Driven by Employees with a Driver's License Without a School Bus Endorsement

1. The holder of a Class D driver's license, without a school bus endorsement, may operate a type A-I school bus or a Multifunction School Activity Bus (MFSAB) under the following conditions:
 - a. The operator is an employee of the school district or an independent contractor with whom the school district contracts for the school bus and is not solely hired to provide transportation services under this paragraph.
 - b. The operator drives the school bus only from points of origin to points of destination, not including home-to-school trips to pick up or drop off students.
 - c. The operator is prohibited from using the 8-light system if the vehicle is so equipped.
 - d. The operator has submitted to a background check and physical examination as required by Minnesota Statutes, section 171.321, subdivision 2.
 - e. The operator has a valid driver's license and has not sustained a conviction of a disqualifying offense as set forth in Minnesota Statutes, section 171.02, subdivisions 2a(h) - 2a(j).
 - f. The operator has been trained in the proper use of child safety restraints as set forth in the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's *Guideline for the Safe Transportation of Pre-school Age Children in School Buses*, if child safety restraints are used by passengers, in addition to the training required in Article VI., above.
 - g. The bus has a gross vehicle weight rating of 14,500 pounds or less and is designed to transport fifteen (15) or fewer passengers, including the driver.
2. The school district shall maintain annual certification of the requirements listed in this section for each Class D license operator.
3. A school bus operated under this section must bear a current certificate of inspection.
4. The word "School" on the front and rear of the bus must be covered by a sign that reads "Activities" when the bus is being operated under authority of this section.

VIII. SCHOOL DISTRICT EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

- A. If possible, school bus drivers or their supervisors shall call "911" or the local emergency phone number in the event of a serious emergency.
- B. School bus drivers shall meet the emergency training requirements contained in Unit III "Crash & Emergency Preparedness" of the ~~Minnesota Department of Public Safety's~~ *Minnesota Model School Bus Driver Training Program*. This includes procedures in the event of a crash (accident).
- C. School bus drivers and bus assistants for special education students requiring special transportation service because of ~~a disability~~~~their handicapping condition~~ shall be trained

in basic first aid procedures, shall within one (1) month after the effective date of assignment participate in a program of in-service training on the proper methods for dealing with the specific needs and problems of students with disabilities, assist students with disabilities on and off the bus when necessary for their safe ingress and egress from the bus; and ensure that protective safety devices are in use and fastened properly.

- D. Emergency health information shall be maintained on the school bus for students requiring special transportation service because of a disability~~their handicapping condition~~. The information shall state:
1. the student's name and address;
 2. the nature of the student's disabilities;
 3. emergency health care information; and
 4. the names and telephone numbers of the student's physician, parents, guardians, or custodians, and some person other than the student's parents or custodians who can be contacted in case of an emergency.

IX. SCHOOL DISTRICT VEHICLE MAINTENANCE STANDARDS

- A. All school vehicles shall be maintained in safe operating conditions through a systematic preventive maintenance and inspection program adopted or approved by the school district.
- B. All school vehicles shall be state inspected in accordance with legal requirements.
- C. A copy of the current daily pre-trip inspection report must be carried in the bus. Daily pre-trip inspections shall be maintained on file in accordance with the school district's record retention schedule. Prompt reports of defects to be immediately corrected will be submitted.
- D. Daily post-trip inspections shall be performed to check for any children or lost items remaining on the bus and for vandalism.

X. SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY DIRECTOR

The school board has designated an individual to serve as the school district's school transportation safety director. The school transportation safety director shall have day-to-day responsibility for student transportation safety, including transportation of nonpublic school children when provided by the school district. The school transportation safety director will assure that this policy is periodically reviewed to ensure that it conforms to law. The school transportation safety director shall certify annually to the school board that each school bus driver meets the school bus driver training competencies required Minnesota Statutes, section 171.321, subdivision 4. The transportation safety director also shall annually verify or ensure that the private contractor utilized by the school has verified the validity of the driver's license of each employee who regularly transports students for the school district in a type A, B, C, or D school bus, type III vehicle, or MFSAB with the National Driver Register or the Department of Public Safety. Upon request of the school district superintendent or the superintendent of the school district where nonpublic students are transported, the school transportation safety director also shall certify to the superintendent that students have received school bus safety training in accordance with state law. The name, address and telephone number of the school transportation safety director are on file in the school district office. Any questions regarding student transportation or this policy may be addressed to the school transportation safety director.

XI. STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SAFETY COMMITTEE

The school board may establish a student transportation safety committee. The chair of the student transportation safety committee is the school district's school transportation safety director. The school board shall appoint the other members of the student transportation safety committee. Membership may include parents, school bus drivers, representatives of school bus companies, local law enforcement officials, other school district staff, and representatives from other units of local government.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 122A.18, Subd. 8 (Board to Issue Licenses)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.03 (Background Check)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.42 (Textbooks; Individual Instruction or Cooperative Learning Material; Standard Tests)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.88 (Independent School Districts; Transportation)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.885 (Diesel School Buses; Operation of Engine; Parking)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.90 (School Bus Safety Training)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.91 (School District Bus Safety Responsibilities)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.935 (Active Transportation Safety Training)
Minn. Stat. § 144.057 (Background Studies on Licensees and Other Personnel)
Minn. Stat. Ch. 169 (Traffic Regulations)
Minn. Stat. § 169.011, Subds. 15, 16, and 71 (Definitions)
Minn. Stat. § 169.02 (Scope)
Minn. Stat. § 169.443 (Safety of School Children; Bus Driver's Duties)
Minn. Stat. § 169.446, Subd. 2 (Safety of School Children; Training and Education Rules)
Minn. Stat. § 169.451 (Inspecting School and Head Start Buses; Rules; Misdemeanor)
Minn. Stat. § 169.454 (Type III Vehicle Standards)
Minn. Stat. § 169.4582 (Reportable Offense on School Buses)
Minn. Stat. §§ 169A.25-169A.27 (Driving While Impaired)
Minn. Stat. § 169A.31 (Alcohol-Related School Bus or Head Start Bus Driving)
Minn. Stat. §§ 169A.50-169A.53 (Implied Consent Law)
Minn. Stat. § 171.02, Subds. 2, 2a, and 2b (Licenses; Types, Endorsements, Restrictions)
Minn. Stat. § 171.168 (Notice of Violation by Commercial Driver)
Minn. Stat. § 171.169 (Notice of Commercial License Suspension)
Minn. Stat. § 171.321 (Qualifications of School Bus and Type III Vehicle Drivers)
Minn. Stat. § 171.3215, Subd. 1(c) (Canceling Bus Endorsement for Certain Offenses)
Minn. Stat. § 181.951 (Authorized Drug and Alcohol Testing)
Minn. Stat. Ch. 245C (Human Services Background Studies)
Minn. Stat. § 609.02 (Definitions)
Minn. Rules Parts 7470.1000-7470.1700 (School Bus Inspection)
49 C.F.R. Part 383 (Commercial Driver's License Standards; Requirements and Penalties)
49 C.F.R. § 383.31 (Notification of Convictions for Driver Violations)
49 C.F.R. § 383.33 (Notification of Driver's License Suspensions)
49 C.F.R. § 383.5 (Transportation Definitions)
49 C.F.R. § 383.51 (Disqualification of Drivers)
49 C.F.R. Part 571 (Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 416 (Drug, ~~and~~ Alcohol, and Cannabis Testing)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 506 (Student Discipline)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 515 (Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records)

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 707 (Transportation of Public Students)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 708 (Transportation of Nonpublic Students)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 710 (Extracurricular Transportation)

Resources:

Minnesota Department of Public Safety: [School Bus Resources](#) (accessed 10/12/25)
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration: [Guideline for the Safe Transportation of Pre-school Age Children in School Buses](#) (Feb. 1999) (accessed 10/12/25)

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709 STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SAFETY POLICY

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide safe transportation for students and to educate students on safety issues and the responsibilities of school bus ridership.

II. PLAN FOR STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SAFETY TRAINING

A. School Bus Safety Week

The school district may designate a school bus safety week. The National School Bus Safety Week is the third week in October.

B. Student School Bus Safety Training

1. The school district shall provide students enrolled in grades kindergarten (K) through 10 with age-appropriate school bus safety training of the following concepts:
 - a. transportation by school bus is a privilege, not a right;
 - b. school district policies for student conduct and school bus safety;
 - c. appropriate conduct while on the bus;
 - d. the danger zones surrounding a school bus;
 - e. procedures for safely boarding and leaving a school bus;
 - f. procedures for safe vehicle lane crossing; and
 - g. school bus evacuation and other emergency procedures.
2. All students in grades K through 6 who are transported by school bus and are enrolled during the first or second week of school must receive the school bus safety training by the end of the third week of school. All students in grades 7 through 10 who are transported by school bus and are enrolled during the first or second week of school must receive the school bus safety training or receive bus safety instruction materials by the end of the sixth week of school, if they have not previously received school bus training. Students in grades K through 10 who enroll in a school after the second week of school, are transported by school bus, and have not received training in their previous school districts shall undergo

school bus safety training or receive bus safety instructional materials within four (4) weeks of their first day of attendance.

3. The school district and a nonpublic school with students transported by school bus at public expense must provide students enrolled in grades K through 3 school bus safety training twice during the school year.
4. Students taking driver's training instructional classes must receive training in the laws and proper procedures for operating a motor vehicle in the vicinity of a school bus as required by Minnesota Statutes, section 169.446, subdivision 2.
5. The school district and a nonpublic school with students transported by school bus at public expense must conduct a school bus evacuation drill at least once during the school year.
6. The school district will make reasonable accommodations in training for students known to speak English as a second language and students with disabilities.
7. The school district may provide kindergarten students with school bus safety training before the first day of school.
8. The school district shall adopt and make available for public review a curriculum for transportation safety education.
9. Nonpublic school students transported by the school district will receive school bus safety training by their nonpublic school. The nonpublic schools may use the school district's school transportation safety education curriculum. Upon request by the school district superintendent, the nonpublic school must certify to the school district's school transportation safety director that all students enrolled in grades K through 10 have received the appropriate training.

C. Active Transportation Safety Training

1. Training Required

- a. The school district must provide public school pupils enrolled in kindergarten through grade 3 with age-appropriate active transportation safety training. At a minimum, the training must include pedestrian safety, including crossing roads.
- b. The school district must provide pupils enrolled in grades 4 through 8 with age-appropriate active transportation safety training. At a minimum, the training must include:
 - (1) pedestrian safety, including crossing roads safely using the searching left, right, left for vehicles in traffic technique;

- (2) bicycle safety, including relevant traffic laws, use and proper fit of protective headgear, bicycle parts and safety features, and safe biking techniques; and
- (3) electric-assisted bicycle safety, including that a person under the age of fifteen (15) is not allowed to operate an electric-assisted bicycle.

2. Instruction

- a. The school district may provide active transportation safety training through distance learning.
- b. The district and a nonpublic school must make reasonable accommodations for the active transportation safety training of pupils known to speak English as a second language and pupils with disabilities.

III. CONDUCT ON SCHOOL BUSES AND CONSEQUENCES FOR MISBEHAVIOR

- A. Riding the school bus is a privilege, not a right. The school district's general student behavior rules are in effect for all students on school buses, including nonpublic and charter school students.
- B. Consequences for school bus/bus stop misconduct will be imposed by the school district under adopted administrative discipline procedures. In addition, all school bus/bus stop misconduct will be reported to the school district's transportation safety director. Serious misconduct may be reported to local law enforcement.

1. School Bus and Bus Stop Rules

The school district school bus safety rules are to be posted on every bus. If these rules are broken, the school district's discipline procedures are to be followed. In most circumstances, consequences are progressive and may include suspension of bus privileges. It is the school bus driver's responsibility to report unacceptable behavior to the school district's Transportation Office/School Office.

2. Rules at the Bus Stop

- a. Get to your bus stop five (5) minutes before your scheduled pick up time. The school bus driver will not wait for late students.
- b. Respect the property of others while waiting at your bus stop.
- c. Keep your arms, legs, and belongings to yourself.
- d. Use appropriate language.
- e. Stay away from the street, road, or highway when waiting for the bus.

- f. Wait until the bus stops before approaching the bus.
- g. After getting off the bus, move away from the bus.
- h. If you must cross the street, always cross in front of the bus where the driver can see you. Wait for the driver to signal to you before crossing the street.
- i. No fighting, harassment, intimidation, or horseplay.
- j. No use of alcohol, tobacco, or drugs.

3. Rules on the Bus

- a. Immediately follow the directions of the driver.
- b. Sit in your seat facing forward.
- c. Talk quietly and use appropriate language.
- d. Keep all parts of your body inside the bus.
- e. Keep your arms, legs, and belongings to yourself.
- f. No fighting, harassment, intimidation, or horseplay.
- g. Do not throw any object.
- h. No eating, drinking, or use of alcohol, tobacco, or drugs.
- i. Do not bring any weapons or dangerous objects on the school bus.
- j. Do not damage the bus.

4. Consequences

- a. Consequences for school bus/bus stop misconduct will apply to all regular and late routes. Decisions regarding a student's ability to ride the bus in connection with cocurricular and extracurricular events (for example, field trips or competitions) will be in the sole discretion of the school district. Parents or guardians will be notified of any suspension of bus privileges.

(1) Elementary (grades K-6)

1st offense warning

2nd offense three (3) school-day suspension from riding the bus

- 3rd offense five (5) school-day suspension from riding the bus
- 4th offense ten (10) school-day suspension from riding the bus/meeting with parent
- Further offenses individually considered. Students may be suspended for longer periods of time, including the remainder of the school year.

(2) Secondary (grades 7-12)

- 1st offense warning
- 2nd offense five (5) school-day suspension from riding the bus
- 3rd offense ten (10) school-day suspension from riding the bus
- 4th offense twenty (20) school-day suspension from riding the bus/meeting with parent
- 5th offense suspended from riding the bus for the remainder of the school year

(3) Other Discipline

Based on the severity of a student's conduct, more serious consequences may be imposed at any time. Depending on the nature of the offense, consequences such as suspension or expulsion from school also may result from school bus/bus stop misconduct.

(4) Records

Records of school bus/bus stop misconduct will be forwarded to the individual school building and will be retained in the same manner as other student discipline records. Reports of student misbehavior on a school bus or in a bus-loading or unloading area that are reasonably believed to cause an immediate and substantial danger to the student or surrounding persons or property shall be provided by the school district to local law enforcement and the Department of Public Safety in accordance with state and federal law.

(5) Vandalism/Bus Damage

Students damaging school buses will be responsible for the damages. Failure to pay such damages (or make arrangements to pay) within two (2) weeks may result in the loss of bus privileges until damages are paid.

(6) Notice

School bus and bus stop rules and consequences for violations of these rules will be reviewed with students annually and copies of these rules will be made available to students. School bus rules are to be posted on each school bus.

(7) Criminal Conduct

In cases involving criminal conduct (for example, assault, weapons, drug possession, or vandalism), the appropriate school district personnel and local law enforcement officials will be informed.

IV. PARENT AND GUARDIAN INVOLVEMENTA. Parent and Guardian Notification

The school district school bus and bus stop rules will be provided to each family. Parents and guardians are asked to review the rules with their children.

B. Parents/Guardians Responsibilities for Transportation Safety

Parents/Guardians are responsible to:

1. Become familiar with school district rules, policies, regulations, and the principles of school bus safety, and thoroughly review them with their children;
2. Support safe riding and walking practices, and recognize that students are responsible for their actions;
3. Communicate safety concerns to their school administrators;
4. Monitor bus stops, if possible;
5. Have their children to the bus stop five (5) minutes before the bus arrives;
6. Have their children properly dressed for the weather; and
7. Have a plan in case the bus is late.

V. SCHOOL BUS DRIVER DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. School bus drivers shall have a valid Class A, B, or C Minnesota driver's license with a school bus endorsement. A person possessing a valid driver's license, without a school bus endorsement, may drive a type III vehicle set forth in Paragraphs VII.B. and VII.C., below. Drivers with a valid Class D driver's license, without a school bus endorsement, may operate a "type A-I" school bus as set forth in Paragraph VII.D., below.
- B.

- B. The school district shall conduct mandatory drug and alcohol testing of all school district bus drivers and bus driver applicants in accordance with state and federal law and school district policy.
- C. A school bus driver, with the exception of a driver operating a type A-I school bus or type III vehicle, who has a commercial driver's license and who is convicted of a criminal offense, a serious traffic violation, or of violating any other state or local law relating to motor vehicle traffic control, other than a parking violation, in any type of motor vehicle in a state or jurisdiction other than Minnesota, shall notify the Minnesota Division of Driver and Vehicle Services (Division) of the conviction within thirty (30) days of the conviction. For purposes of this paragraph, a "serious traffic violation" means a conviction of any of the following offenses:
1. excessive speeding, involving any single offense for any speed of fifteen (15) miles per hour or more above the posted speed limit;
 2. reckless driving;
 3. improper or erratic traffic lane changes;
 4. following the vehicle ahead too closely;
 5. a violation of state or local law, relating to motor vehicle traffic control, arising in connection with a fatal accident;
 6. driving a commercial vehicle without obtaining a commercial driver's license or without having a commercial driver's license in the driver's possession;
 7. driving a commercial vehicle without the proper class of commercial driver's license and/or endorsements for the specific vehicle group being operated or for the passengers or type of cargo being transported;
 8. a violation of a state or local law prohibiting texting while driving a commercial vehicle; and
 9. a violation of a state or local law prohibiting the use of a hand-held mobile telephone while driving a commercial vehicle.
- D. A school bus driver, with the exception of a driver operating a type A-I school bus or type III vehicle, who has a commercial driver's license and who is convicted of violating, in any type of motor vehicle, a Minnesota state or local law relating to motor vehicle traffic control, other than a parking violation, shall notify the person's employer of the conviction within thirty (30) days of conviction. The notification shall be in writing and shall contain all the information set forth in Attachment A accompanying this policy.
- E. A school bus driver, with the exception of a driver operating a type A-I school bus or type III vehicle, who has a Minnesota commercial driver's license suspended, revoked, or cancelled by the state of Minnesota or any other state or jurisdiction and who loses the right

to operate a commercial vehicle for any period or who is disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle for any period shall notify the person's employer of the suspension, revocation, cancellation, lost privilege, or disqualification. Such notification shall be made before the end of the business day following the day the employee received notice of the suspension, revocation, cancellation, lost privilege, or disqualification. The notification shall be in writing and shall contain all the information set forth in Attachment B accompanying this policy.

- F. A person who operates a type III vehicle and who sustains a conviction as described in Subparagraph VII.C.1.g. (i.e., driving while impaired offenses), VII.C.1.h. (i.e., felony, controlled substance, criminal sexual conduct offenses, or offenses for surreptitious observation, indecent exposure, use of minor in a sexual performance, or possession of child pornography or display of pornography to a minor), or VII.C.1.i. (multiple moving violations) while employed by the entity that owns, leases, or contracts for the school bus, shall report the conviction to the person's employer within ten (10) days of the date of the conviction. The notification shall be in writing and shall contain all the information set forth in Attachment C accompanying this policy.

VI. SCHOOL BUS DRIVER TRAINING

A. Training

1. All new school bus drivers shall be provided with pre-service training, including in-vehicle (actual driving) instruction, before transporting students and shall meet the competency testing specified in the Minnesota Department of Public Safety's *Minnesota Model School Bus Driver Training Program*. All school bus drivers shall receive in-service training annually. For purposes of this section, "annually" means at least once every 380 days from the initial or previous evaluation and at least once every 380 days from the initial or previous license verification. The school district shall retain on file an annual individual school bus driver "evaluation certification" form for each school district driver as contained in the *Minnesota Model School Bus Driver Training Program*.
2. All bus drivers operating a type III vehicle will be provided with annual training and certification as set forth in Subparagraph VII.C.1.b., below, by either the school district or the entity from whom such services are contracted by the school district.

B. Evaluation

School bus drivers with a Class D license will be evaluated annually and all other bus drivers will be assessed periodically for the following competencies:

1. Safely operate the type of school bus the driver will be driving;
2. Understand student behavior, including issues relating to students with disabilities;
3. Ensure orderly conduct of students on the bus and handling incidents of misconduct appropriately;

4. Know and understand relevant laws, rules of the road, and local school bus safety policies;
5. Handle emergency situations; and
6. Safely load and unload students.

The evaluation must include completion of an individual “school bus driver evaluation form” (road test evaluation) as contained in the *Minnesota Model School Bus Driver Training Program*.

VII. OPERATING RULES AND PROCEDURES

A. General Operating Rules

1. School buses shall be operated in accordance with state traffic and school bus safety laws and the procedures contained in the *Minnesota Model School Bus Driver Training Program*.
2. Only students assigned to the school bus by the school district shall be transported. The number of students or other authorized passengers transported in a school bus shall not be more than the legal capacity for the bus. No person shall be allowed to stand when the bus is in motion.
3. The parent/guardian may designate, pursuant to school district policy, a day care facility, respite care facility, the residence of a relative, or the residence of a person chosen by the parent or guardian as the address of the student for transportation purposes. The address must be in the attendance area of the assigned school and meet all other eligibility requirements.
4. Bus drivers must minimize, to the extent practical, the idling of school bus engines and exposure of children to diesel exhaust fumes.
5. To the extent practical, the school district will designate school bus loading/unloading zones at a sufficient distance from school air-intake systems to avoid diesel fumes from being drawn into the systems.
6. A bus driver may not operate a school bus while communicating over, or otherwise operating, a cellular phone for personal reasons, whether hand-held or hands free, when the vehicle is in motion or a part of traffic. For purposes of this paragraph, “school bus” has the meaning given in Minnesota Statutes, section 169.011, subdivision 71. In addition, “school bus” also includes type III vehicles when driven by employees or agents of the school district. “Cellular phone” means a cellular, analog, wireless, or digital telephone capable of sending or receiving telephone or text messages without an access line for service.

B. Type III Vehicles

1. Type III vehicles are restricted to passenger cars, station wagons, vans, and buses having a maximum manufacturer's rated seating capacity of ten (10) or fewer people including the driver and a gross vehicle weight rating of 10,000 pounds or less. A van or bus converted to a seating capacity of ten (10) or fewer and placed in service on or after August 1, 1999, must have been originally manufactured to comply with the passenger safety standards.
2. Type III vehicles must be painted a color other than national school bus yellow.
3. Type III vehicles shall be state inspected in accordance with legal requirements.
4. Vehicles model year 2007 or older must not be used as type III vehicles to transport school children, except those vehicles that are manufactured to meet the structural requirements of federal motor vehicle safety standard 222, 49 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 571.
5. If a type III vehicle is school district owned, the school district name will be clearly marked on the side of the vehicle. The type III vehicle must not have the words "school bus" in any location on the exterior of the vehicle or in any interior location visible to a motorist.
6. A "type III vehicle" must not be outwardly equipped and identified as a type A, B, C, or D bus.
7. Eight-lamp warning systems and stop arms must not be installed or used on type III vehicles.
8. Type III vehicles must be equipped with mirrors as required by law.
9. Any type III vehicle may not stop traffic and may not load or unload before making a complete stop and disengaging gears by shifting into neutral or park. Any type III vehicle used to transport students must not load or unload so that a student has to cross the road, except where not possible or impractical, then the driver or assistant must escort a student across the road. If the driver escorts the student across the road, then the motor must be stopped, the ignition key removed, the brakes set, and the vehicle otherwise rendered immobile.
10. Any type III vehicle used to transport students must carry emergency equipment including:

a. Fire extinguisher

A minimum of one (1) 10BC rated dry chemical type fire extinguisher is required. The extinguisher must be mounted in a bracket and must be located in the driver's compartment and be readily accessible to the driver and passengers. A pressure indicator is required and must be easily read without removing the extinguisher from its mounted position.

b. First aid kit and body fluids cleanup kit

A minimum of a 10-unit first aid kit and a body fluids cleanup kit is required. They must be contained in removable, moisture- and dust-proof containers mounted in an accessible place within the driver's compartment and must be marked to indicate their identity and location.

c. Passenger cars and station wagons may carry a fire extinguisher, a first aid kit, and warning triangles in the trunk or trunk area of the vehicle if a label in the driver and front passenger area clearly indicates the location of these items.

11. Students will not be regularly transported in private vehicles that are not state inspected as type III vehicles. Only emergency, unscheduled transportation may be conducted in vehicles with a seating capacity of ten (10) or fewer without meeting the requirements for a type III vehicle. Also, parents may use a private vehicle to transport their own children under a contract with the district. The school district has no system of inspection for private vehicles.
12. All drivers of type III vehicles will be licensed drivers and will be familiar with the use of required emergency equipment. The school district will not knowingly allow a person to operate a type III vehicle if the person has been convicted of an offense that disqualifies the person from operating a school bus.
13. Type III vehicles will be equipped with child passenger restraints, and child passenger restraints will be utilized to the extent required by law.

C. Type III Vehicle Driven by Employees with a Driver's License Without a School Bus Endorsement

1. The holder of a Class A, B, C, or D driver's license, without a school bus endorsement, may operate a type III vehicle, described above, under the following conditions:
 - a. The operator is an employee of the entity that owns, leases, or contracts for the school bus, which may include the school district.
 - b. The operator's employer, which may include the school district, has adopted and implemented a policy that provides for annual training and certification of the operator in:
 - (1) safe operation of a type III vehicle;
 - (2) understanding student behavior, including issues relating to students with disabilities;
 - (3) encouraging orderly conduct of students on the bus and handling incidents of misconduct appropriately;

- (4) knowing and understanding relevant laws, rules of the road, and local school bus safety policies;
 - (5) handling emergency situations;
 - (6) proper use of seat belts and child safety restraints;
 - (7) performance of pre-trip vehicle inspections;
 - (8) safe loading and unloading of students, including, but not limited to:
 - (a) utilizing a safe location for loading and unloading students at the curb, on the nontraffic side of the roadway, or at off-street loading areas, driveways, yards, and other areas to enable the student to avoid hazardous conditions;
 - (b) refraining from loading and unloading students in a vehicular traffic lane, on the shoulder, in a designated turn lane, or a lane adjacent to a designated turn lane;
 - (c) avoiding a loading or unloading location that would require a student to cross a road, or ensuring that the driver or an aide personally escort the student across the road if it is not reasonably feasible to avoid such a location;
 - (d) placing the type III vehicle in “park” during loading and unloading;
 - (e) escorting a student across the road under clause (c) only after the motor is stopped, the ignition key is removed, the brakes are set, and the vehicle is otherwise rendered immobile; and
 - (9) compliance with Paragraph V.F. concerning reporting convictions to the employer within ten (10) days of the date of conviction.
- c. A background check or background investigation of the operator has been conducted that meets the requirements under Minnesota Statutes, section 122A.18, subdivision 8, or Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.03 for school district employees; Minnesota Statutes, section 144.057 or Minnesota Statutes, chapter 245C for day care employees; or Minnesota Statutes, section 171.321, subdivision 3, for all other persons operating a type III vehicle under this section.
- d. Operators shall submit to a physical examination as required by Minnesota Statutes, section 171.321, subdivision 2.

- e. The operator's employer requires preemployment drug testing of applicants for operator positions. Current operators must comply with the employer's policy under Minnesota Statutes, section 181.951, subdivisions 2, 4, and 5. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the operator's employer may use a breathalyzer or similar device to fulfill random alcohol testing requirements.
 - f. The operator's driver's license is verified annually by the entity that owns, leases, or contracts for the type III vehicle as required by Minnesota Statutes, section 171.321, subdivision 5.
 - g. A person who sustains a conviction, as defined under Minnesota Statutes, 609.02, of violating Minnesota Statutes, section 169A.25, 169A.26, 169A.27 (driving while impaired offenses), or 169A.31 (alcohol-related school bus driver offenses), or whose driver's license is revoked under Minnesota Statutes, sections 169A.50 to 169A.53 of the implied consent law, or who is convicted of violating or whose driver's license is revoked under a similar statute or ordinance of another state, is precluded from operating a type III vehicle for five (5) years from the date of conviction.
 - h. A person who has ever been convicted of a disqualifying offense as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 171.3215, subdivision 1(c), (i.e., felony, controlled substance, criminal sexual conduct offenses, or offenses for surreptitious observation, indecent exposure, use of minor in a sexual performance, or possession of child pornography or display of pornography to a minor) may not operate a type III vehicle.
 - i. A person who sustains a conviction, as defined under Minnesota Statutes, section 609.02, of a moving offense in violation of Minnesota Statutes, chapter 169 within three (3) years of the first of three (3) other moving offenses is precluded from operating a type III vehicle for one (1) year from the date of the last conviction.
 - j. Students riding the type III vehicle must have training required under Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.90, subdivision 2 (See Paragraph II.B., above).
 - k. Documentation of meeting the requirements listed in this section must be maintained under separate file at the business location for each type III vehicle operator. The school district or any other entity that owns, leases, or contracts for the type III vehicle operating under this section is responsible for maintaining these files for inspection.
2. The Type III vehicle must bear a current certificate of inspection issued under Minnesota Statutes, section 169.451.
 3. An employee of the school district who is not employed for the sole purpose of operating a type III vehicle may, in the discretion of the school district, be exempt

from Subparagraphs VII.C.1.d. (physical examination) and VII.C.1.e. (drug testing), above.

D. Type A-I “Activity” Buses Driven by Employees with a Driver’s License Without a School Bus Endorsement

1. The holder of a Class D driver’s license, without a school bus endorsement, may operate a type A-I school bus or a Multifunction School Activity Bus (MFSAB) under the following conditions:
 - a. The operator is an employee of the school district or an independent contractor with whom the school district contracts for the school bus and is not solely hired to provide transportation services under this paragraph.
 - b. The operator drives the school bus only from points of origin to points of destination, not including home-to-school trips to pick up or drop off students.
 - c. The operator is prohibited from using the 8-light system if the vehicle is so equipped.
 - d. The operator has submitted to a background check and physical examination as required by Minnesota Statutes, section 171.321, subdivision 2.
 - e. The operator has a valid driver’s license and has not sustained a conviction of a disqualifying offense as set forth in Minnesota Statutes, section 171.02, subdivisions 2a(h) - 2a(j).
 - f. The operator has been trained in the proper use of child safety restraints as set forth in the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration’s *Guideline for the Safe Transportation of Pre-school Age Children in School Buses*, if child safety restraints are used by passengers, in addition to the training required in Article VI., above.
 - g. The bus has a gross vehicle weight rating of 14,500 pounds or less and is designed to transport fifteen (15) or fewer passengers, including the driver.
2. The school district shall maintain annual certification of the requirements listed in this section for each Class D license operator.
3. A school bus operated under this section must bear a current certificate of inspection.
4. The word “School” on the front and rear of the bus must be covered by a sign that reads “Activities” when the bus is being operated under authority of this section.

VIII. SCHOOL DISTRICT EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

- A. If possible, school bus drivers or their supervisors shall call “911” or the local emergency phone number in the event of a serious emergency.
- B. School bus drivers shall meet the emergency training requirements contained in Unit III “Crash & Emergency Preparedness” of the *Minnesota Model School Bus Driver Training Program*. This includes procedures in the event of a crash (accident).
- C. School bus drivers and bus assistants for special education students requiring special transportation service because of a disability shall be trained in basic first aid procedures, shall within one (1) month after the effective date of assignment participate in a program of in-service training on the proper methods for dealing with the specific needs and problems of students with disabilities, assist students with disabilities on and off the bus when necessary for their safe ingress and egress from the bus; and ensure that protective safety devices are in use and fastened properly.
- D. Emergency health information shall be maintained on the school bus for students requiring special transportation service because of a disability. The information shall state:
 - 1. the student’s name and address;
 - 2. the nature of the student’s disabilities;
 - 3. emergency health care information; and
 - 4. the names and telephone numbers of the student’s physician, parents, guardians, or custodians, and some person other than the student’s parents or custodians who can be contacted in case of an emergency.

IX. SCHOOL DISTRICT VEHICLE MAINTENANCE STANDARDS

- A. All school vehicles shall be maintained in safe operating conditions through a systematic preventive maintenance and inspection program adopted or approved by the school district.
- B. All school vehicles shall be state inspected in accordance with legal requirements.
- C. A copy of the current daily pre-trip inspection report must be carried in the bus. Daily pre-trip inspections shall be maintained on file in accordance with the school district’s record retention schedule. Prompt reports of defects to be immediately corrected will be submitted.
- D. Daily post-trip inspections shall be performed to check for any children or lost items remaining on the bus and for vandalism.

X. SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY DIRECTOR

The school board has designated an individual to serve as the school district's school transportation safety director. The school transportation safety director shall have day-to-day responsibility for student transportation safety, including transportation of nonpublic school children when provided by the school district. The school transportation safety director will assure that this policy is periodically reviewed to ensure that it conforms to law. The school transportation safety director shall certify annually to the school board that each school bus driver meets the school bus driver training competencies required Minnesota Statutes, section 171.321, subdivision 4. The transportation safety director also shall annually verify or ensure that the private contractor utilized by the school has verified the validity of the driver's license of each employee who regularly transports students for the school district in a type A, B, C, or D school bus, type III vehicle, or MFSAB with the National Driver Register or the Department of Public Safety. Upon request of the school district superintendent or the superintendent of the school district where nonpublic students are transported, the school transportation safety director also shall certify to the superintendent that students have received school bus safety training in accordance with state law. The name, address and telephone number of the school transportation safety director are on file in the school district office. Any questions regarding student transportation or this policy may be addressed to the school transportation safety director.

XI. STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SAFETY COMMITTEE

The school board may establish a student transportation safety committee. The chair of the student transportation safety committee is the school district's school transportation safety director. The school board shall appoint the other members of the student transportation safety committee. Membership may include parents, school bus drivers, representatives of school bus companies, local law enforcement officials, other school district staff, and representatives from other units of local government.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 122A.18, Subd. 8 (Board to Issue Licenses)
 Minn. Stat. § 123B.03 (Background Check)
 Minn. Stat. § 123B.42 (Textbooks; Individual Instruction or Cooperative Learning Material; Standard Tests)
 Minn. Stat. § 123B.88 (Independent School Districts; Transportation)
 Minn. Stat. § 123B.885 (Diesel School Buses; Operation of Engine; Parking)
 Minn. Stat. § 123B.90 (School Bus Safety Training)
 Minn. Stat. § 123B.91 (School District Bus Safety Responsibilities)
 Minn. Stat. § 123B.935 (Active Transportation Safety Training)
 Minn. Stat. § 144.057 (Background Studies on Licensees and Other Personnel)
 Minn. Stat. Ch. 169 (Traffic Regulations)
 Minn. Stat. § 169.011, Subds. 15, 16, and 71 (Definitions)
 Minn. Stat. § 169.02 (Scope)
 Minn. Stat. § 169.443 (Safety of School Children; Bus Driver's Duties)
 Minn. Stat. § 169.446, Subd. 2 (Safety of School Children; Training and Education Rules)
 Minn. Stat. § 169.451 (Inspecting School and Head Start Buses; Rules; Misdemeanor)
 Minn. Stat. § 169.454 (Type III Vehicle Standards)

Minn. Stat. § 169.4582 (Reportable Offense on School Buses)
 Minn. Stat. §§ 169A.25-169A.27 (Driving While Impaired)
 Minn. Stat. § 169A.31 (Alcohol-Related School Bus or Head Start Bus Driving)
 Minn. Stat. §§ 169A.50-169A.53 (Implied Consent Law)
 Minn. Stat. § 171.02, Subds. 2, 2a, and 2b (Licenses; Types, Endorsements, Restrictions)
 Minn. Stat. § 171.168 (Notice of Violation by Commercial Driver)
 Minn. Stat. § 171.169 (Notice of Commercial License Suspension)
 Minn. Stat. § 171.321 (Qualifications of School Bus and Type III Vehicle Drivers)
 Minn. Stat. § 171.3215, Subd. 1(c) (Canceling Bus Endorsement for Certain Offenses)
 Minn. Stat. § 181.951 (Authorized Drug and Alcohol Testing)
 Minn. Stat. Ch. 245C (Human Services Background Studies)
 Minn. Stat. § 609.02 (Definitions)
 Minn. Rules Parts 7470.1000-7470.1700 (School Bus Inspection)
 49 C.F.R. Part 383 (Commercial Driver’s License Standards; Requirements and Penalties)
 49 C.F.R. § 383.31 (Notification of Convictions for Driver Violations)
 49 C.F.R. § 383.33 (Notification of Driver’s License Suspensions)
 49 C.F.R. § 383.5 (Transportation Definitions)
 49 C.F.R. § 383.51 (Disqualification of Drivers)
 49 C.F.R. Part 571 (Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 416 (Drug, Alcohol, and Cannabis Testing)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 506 (Student Discipline)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 515 (Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 707 (Transportation of Public Students)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 708 (Transportation of Nonpublic Students)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 710 (Extracurricular Transportation)

Resources: Minnesota Department of Public Safety: *School Bus Resources* (accessed 10/12/25)
 National Highway Traffic Safety Administration: *Guideline for the Safe Transportation of Pre-school Age Children in School Buses* (Feb. 1999) (accessed 10/12/25)

Adopted: _____

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 306

Orig. 1995

Revised: _____

Rev. 2025

306 ADMINISTRATOR CODE OF ETHICS

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish the requirements of the school board that school administrators adhere to the standards of ethics and professional conduct in this policy and Minnesota law.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The standards of professional conduct are as follows:

- A. A school administrator must provide professional educational services in a nondiscriminatory manner.
- B. A school administrator must take reasonable action to protect students and staff from conditions harmful to health and safety.
- C. A school administrator must take reasonable action to provide an atmosphere conducive to learning.
- D. A school administrator must not use professional relationships with students, parents and caregivers, staff, or colleagues to private advantage.
- E. A school administrator must disclose confidential information about individuals only when a compelling professional purpose is served in accordance with state and federal laws and school district policies.
- F. A school administrator must not knowingly falsify or misrepresent records or facts relating to the administrator's qualifications or to the qualifications of other staff or personnel.
- G. A school administrator must not knowingly make false or malicious statements about students, students' families, staff, or colleagues.
- H. A school administrator must not accept gratuities, gifts, or favors that impair professional judgment, nor offer any favor, service, or item of value to obtain special advantage.
- I. A school administrator must only accept a contract for a position when licensed for the position or when a school district is issued a variance by the board.
- J. A school administrator, in filling positions requiring licensure, must employ, recommend for employment, and assign only appropriately licensed personnel, or persons for whom the school district has been issued a variance by the appropriate state board or agency, unless, after making reasonable efforts to obtain a variance, an appropriately licensed person cannot be assigned and the position must be filled to meet a legitimate emergency educational need.
- K. A school administrator must not engage in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, or

misrepresentation in the performance of professional duties.

- A. ~~An educational administrator's professional behavior must conform to an ethical code. The code must be idealistic and at the same time practical, so that it can apply reasonably to all educational administrators. The administrator acknowledges that the schools belong to the public they serve for the purpose of providing educational opportunities to all. However, the administrator assumes responsibility for providing professional leadership in the school and community. This responsibility requires the administrator to maintain standards of exemplary professional conduct. It must be recognized that the administrator's actions will be viewed and appraised by the community, professional associates, and students. To these ends, the administrator must subscribe to the following standards.~~
- B. ~~The Educational Administrator:~~
1. ~~Makes the well-being of students the fundamental value of all decision-making and actions.~~
 2. ~~Fulfills professional responsibilities with honesty and integrity.~~
 3. ~~Supports the principle of due process and protects the civil and human rights of all individuals.~~
 4. ~~Obeys local, state, and national laws and does not knowingly join or support organizations that advocate, directly or indirectly, the overthrow of the government.~~
 5. ~~Implements the school board's policies.~~
 6. ~~Pursues appropriate measures to correct those laws, policies, and regulations that are not consistent with sound educational goals.~~
 7. ~~Avoids using positions for personal gain through political, social, religious, economic, or other influence.~~
 8. ~~Accepts academic degrees or professional certification only from duly accredited institutions.~~
 9. ~~Maintains the standards and seeks to improve the effectiveness of the profession through research and continuing professional development.~~
 10. ~~Honors all contracts until fulfillment, release, or dissolution is mutually agreed upon by all parties to the contract.~~
 11. ~~Adheres to the Code of Ethics for School Administrators in Minnesota Rule.~~

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 122A.14, Subd. 4 (Duties of Board of School Administrators)
Minn. Rules Part 3512.5200 (Code of Ethics for School Administrators)

Cross References: None

Adopted: 10/24/95

Revised:

306 ADMINISTRATOR CODE OF ETHICS

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- D. A school administrator must not use professional relationships with students, parents and caregivers, staff, or colleagues to private advantage.
- E. A school administrator must disclose confidential information about individuals only when a compelling professional purpose is served in accordance with state and federal laws and school district policies.
- F. A school administrator must not knowingly falsify or misrepresent records or facts relating to the administrator's qualifications or to the qualifications of other staff or personnel.
- G. A school administrator must not knowingly make false or malicious statements about students, students' families, staff, or colleagues.
- H. A school administrator must not accept gratuities, gifts, or favors that impair professional judgment, nor offer any favor, service, or item of value to obtain special advantage.
- I. A school administrator must only accept a contract for a position when licensed for the position or when a school district is issued a variance by the board.
- J. A school administrator, in filling positions requiring licensure, must employ, recommend for employment, and assign only appropriately licensed personnel, or

persons for whom the school district has been issued a variance by the appropriate state board or agency, unless, after making reasonable efforts to obtain a variance, an appropriately licensed person cannot be assigned and the position must be filled to meet a legitimate emergency educational need.

- K. A school administrator must not engage in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, or misrepresentation in the performance of professional duties.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 122A.14, Subd. 4 (Duties of Board of School Administrators)
Minn. Rules Part 3512.5200 (Code of Ethics for School Administrators)

Cross References: None

Adopted: 10/14/19

Revised: 9/9/24, 10/14/19, 3/20/23

722 PUBLIC DATA AND DATA SUBJECT REQUESTS

I. PURPOSE

The school district recognizes its responsibility relative to the collection, maintenance, and dissemination of public data as provided in state statutes.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The school district will comply with the requirements of the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minnesota Statutes chapter 13 (MGDPA), and Minnesota Rules parts 1205.0100-1205.2000 in responding to requests for public data.

III. DEFINITIONS

A. Confidential Data on Individuals

Data made not public by statute or federal law applicable to the data and are inaccessible to the individual subject of those data.

B. Data on Individuals

All government data in which any individual is or can be identified as the subject of that data, unless the appearance of the name or other identifying data can be clearly demonstrated to be only incidental to the data and the data are not accessed by the name or other identifying data of any individual.

C. Data Practices Compliance Officer

The data practices compliance official is the designated employee of the school district to whom persons may direct questions or concerns regarding problems in obtaining access to data or other data practices problems. The responsible authority may be the data practices compliance official.

D. Government Data

All data collected, created, received, maintained or disseminated by any government entity regardless of its physical form, storage media or conditions of use.

E. Individual

“Individual” means a natural person. In the case of a minor or an incapacitated person as defined in Minnesota Statutes section 524.5-102, subdivision 6, "individual" includes a parent or guardian or an individual acting as a parent or guardian in the absence of a parent

or guardian, except that the responsible authority shall withhold data from parents or guardians, or individuals acting as parents or guardians in the absence of parents or guardians, upon request by the minor if the responsible authority determines that withholding the data would be in the best interest of the minor.

F. Inspection

“Inspection” means the visual inspection of paper and similar types of government data. Inspection does not include printing copies by the school district, unless printing a copy is the only method to provide for inspection of the data. For data stored in electronic form and made available in electronic form on a remote access basis to the public by the school district, inspection includes remote access to the data by the public and the ability to print copies of or download the data on the public’s own computer equipment.

G. Not Public Data

Any government data classified by statute, federal law, or temporary classification as confidential, private, nonpublic, or protected nonpublic.

H. Nonpublic Data

Data not on individuals made by statute or federal law applicable to the data: (a) not accessible to the public; and (b) accessible to the subject, if any, of the data.

I. Private Data on Individuals

Data made by statute or federal law applicable to the data: (a) not public; and (b) accessible to the individual subject of those data.

J. Protected Nonpublic Data

Data not on individuals made by statute or federal law applicable to the data (a) not public and (b) not accessible to the subject of the data.

K. Public Data

All government data collected, created, received, maintained, or disseminated by the school district, unless classified by statute, temporary classification pursuant to statute, or federal law, as nonpublic or protected nonpublic; or, with respect to data on individuals, as private or confidential.

L. Public Data Not on Individuals

Data accessible to the public pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 13.03.

M. Public Data on Individuals

Data accessible to the public in accordance with the provisions of section 13.03.

N. Responsible Authority

The individual designated by the school board as the individual responsible for the collection, use, and dissemination of any set of data on individuals, government data, or summary data, unless otherwise provided by state law. Until an individual is designated by the school board, the responsible authority is the superintendent.

O. Summary Data

Statistical records and reports derived from data on individuals but in which individuals are not identified and from which neither their identities nor any other characteristic that could uniquely identify an individual is ascertainable. Unless classified pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 13.06, another statute, or federal law, summary data is public.

IV. REQUESTS FOR PUBLIC DATA

A. All requests for public data must be made in writing directed to the responsible authority.

1. A request for public data must include the following information:
 - a. Date the request is made;
 - b. A clear description of the data requested;
 - c. Identification of the form in which the data is to be provided (e.g., inspection, copying, both inspection and copying, etc.); and
 - d. Method to contact the requestor (such as phone number, address, or email address).
2. Unless specifically authorized by statute, the school district may not require persons to identify themselves, state a reason for, or justify a request to gain access to public government data. A person may be asked to provide certain identifying or clarifying information for the sole purpose of facilitating access to the data.
3. The identity of the requestor is public, if provided, but cannot be required by the government entity.
4. The responsible authority may seek clarification from the requestor if the request is not clear before providing a response to the data request.

B. The responsible authority will respond to a data request at reasonable times and places as follows:

1. The responsible authority will notify the requestor in writing as follows:
 - a. The requested data does not exist; or

- b. The requested data does exist but either all or a portion of the data is not accessible to the requestor; or
 - (1) If the responsible authority determines that the requested data is classified so that access to the requestor is denied, the responsible authority will inform the requestor of the determination in writing, as soon thereafter as possible, and shall cite the specific statutory section, temporary classification, or specific provision of federal law on which the determination is based.
 - (2) Upon the request of a requestor who is denied access to data, the responsible authority shall certify in writing that the request has been denied and cite the specific statutory section, temporary classification, or specific provision of federal law upon which the denial was based.
 - c. The requested data does exist and provide arrangements for inspection of the data, identify when the data will be available for pick-up, or indicate that the data will be sent by mail. If the requestor does not appear at the time and place established for inspection of the data or the data is not picked up within ten (10) business days after the requestor is notified, the school district will conclude that the data is no longer wanted and will consider the request closed.
2. The school district's response time may be affected by the size and complexity of the particular request, including necessary redactions of the data, and also by the number of requests made within a particular period of time.
 3. The school district will provide an explanation of technical terminology, abbreviations, or acronyms contained in the responsive data on request.
 4. The school district is not required by the MGDPA to create or collect new data in response to a data request, or to provide responsive data in a specific form or arrangement if the school district does not keep the data in that form or arrangement.
 5. The school district is not required to respond to questions that are not about a particular data request or requests for data in general.

C. If the school district notifies the requesting person that responsive data or copies are available for inspection or collection, and the requesting person does not inspect the data or collect the copies within five business days of the notification, the school district may suspend any further response to the request until the requesting person inspects the data that has been made available, or collects and pays for the copies that have been produced.

V. REQUEST FOR SUMMARY DATA

- A. A request for the preparation of summary data shall be made in writing directed to the responsible authority.
 - 1. A request for the preparation of summary data must include the following information:
 - a. Date the request is made;
 - b. A clear description of the data requested;
 - c. Identify the form in which the data is to be provided (e.g., inspection, copying, both inspection and copying, etc.); and
 - d. Method to contact requestor (phone number, address, or email address).

- B. The responsible authority will respond within ten (10) business days of the receipt of a request to prepare summary data and inform the requestor of the following:
 - 1. The estimated costs of preparing the summary data, if any; and
 - 2. The summary data requested; or
 - 3. A written statement describing a time schedule for preparing the requested summary data, including reasons for any time delays; or
 - 4. A written statement describing the reasons why the responsible authority has determined that the requestor’s access would compromise the private or confidential data.

- C. The school district may require the requestor to pre-pay all or a portion of the cost of creating the summary data before the school district begins to prepare the summary data.

VI. DATA BY AN INDIVIDUAL DATA SUBJECT

- A. Collection and storage of all data on individuals and the use and dissemination of private and confidential data on individuals shall be limited to that necessary for the administration and management of programs specifically authorized by the legislature or local governing body or mandated by the federal government.

- B. Private or confidential data on an individual shall not be collected, stored, used, or disseminated by the school district for any purposes other than those stated to the individual at the time of collection in accordance with Minnesota Statutes section 13.04, except as provided in Minnesota Statutes section 13.05, subdivision 4.

- C. Upon request to the responsible authority or designee, an individual shall be informed whether the individual is the subject of stored data on individuals, and whether it is classified as public, private or confidential. Upon further request, an individual who is the subject of stored private or public data on individuals shall be shown the data without any charge and, if desired, shall be informed of the content and meaning of that data.

- D. After an individual has been shown the private data and informed of its meaning, the data need not be disclosed to that individual for six (6) months thereafter unless a dispute or action pursuant to this section is pending or additional data on the individual has been collected or created.
- E. The responsible authority or designee shall provide copies of the private or public data upon request by the individual subject of the data. The responsible authority or designee may require the requesting person to pay the actual costs of making and certifying the copies.
- F. The responsible authority or designee shall comply immediately, if possible, with any request made pursuant to this subdivision, or within ten (10) days of the date of the request, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays, if immediate compliance is not possible.
- G. An individual subject of the data may contest the accuracy or completeness of public or private data. To exercise this right, an individual shall notify in writing the responsible authority describing the nature of the disagreement. The responsible authority shall within 30 days either: (1) correct the data found to be inaccurate or incomplete and attempt to notify past recipients of inaccurate or incomplete data, including recipients named by the individual; or (2) notify the individual that the authority believes the data to be correct. Data in dispute shall be disclosed only if the individual's statement of disagreement is included with the disclosed data.
- H. The determination of the responsible authority may be appealed by a data subject pursuant to the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act relating to contested cases. Upon receipt of an appeal by an individual, the Ceommissioner of the Minnesota Department of Administration ("Commissioner") shall, before issuing the order and notice of a contested case hearing required by Minnesota Statutes chapter 14, try to resolve the dispute through education, conference, conciliation, or persuasion. If the parties consent, the commissioner may refer the matter to mediation. Following these efforts, the commissioner shall dismiss the appeal or issue the order and notice of hearing.
- I. Data on individuals that have been successfully challenged by an individual must be completed, corrected, or destroyed by a government entity without regard to the requirements of Minnesota Statutes section 138.17.
- J. After completing, correcting, or destroying successfully challenged data, the school district may retain a copy of the Ceommissioner's of administration's order issued under Minnesota Statutes chapter 14 or, if no order were issued, a summary of the dispute between the parties that does not contain any particulars of the successfully challenged data.

VII. REQUESTS FOR DATA BY AN INDIVIDUAL SUBJECT OF THE DATA

- A. All requests for individual subject data must be made in writing directed to the responsible authority.

- B. A request for individual subject data must include the following information:
1. Statement that one is making a request as a data subject for data about the individual or about a student for whom the individual is the parent or guardian;
 2. Date the request is made;
 3. A clear description of the data requested;
 4. Proof that the individual is the data subject or the data subject's parent or guardian;
 5. Identification of the form in which the data is to be provided (e.g., inspection, copying, both inspection and copying, etc.); and
 6. Method to contact the requestor (such as phone number, address, or email address).
- C. The identity of the requestor of private data is private.
- D. The responsible authority may seek clarification from the requestor if the request is not clear before providing a response to the data request.
- E. Policy 515 (Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records) addresses requests of students or their parents for educational records and data.

VIII. COSTS

A. Public Data

1. The school district will charge for copies provided as follows:
 - a. One hundred (100) or fewer pages of black and white, letter or legal sized paper copies will be charged at twenty-five (25) cents for a one-sided copy or fifty (50) cents for a two-sided copy.
 - b. More than one hundred (100) pages or copies on other materials are charged based upon the actual cost of searching for and retrieving the data and making the copies or electronically sending the data, unless the cost is specifically set by statute or rule.
 - (1) The actual cost of making copies includes employee time, the cost of the materials onto which the data is copied (paper, CD, DVD, etc.), and mailing costs (if any).
 - (2) Also, if the school district does not have the capacity to make the copies, e.g., photographs, the actual cost paid by the school district to an outside vendor will be charged.
2. All charges must be paid for in cash in advance of receiving the copies.

B. Summary Data

1. Any costs incurred in the preparation of summary data shall be paid by the requestor prior to preparing or supplying the summary data.
2. The school district may assess costs associated with the preparation of summary data as follows:
 - a. The cost of materials, including paper, the cost of the labor required to prepare the copies, any schedule of standard copying charges established by the school district, any special costs necessary to produce such copies from a machine-based record-keeping system, including computers and microfilm systems;
 - b. The school district may consider the reasonable value of the summary data prepared and, where appropriate, reduce the costs assessed to the requestor.

C. Data Belonging to an Individual Subject

1. The responsible authority or designee may require the requesting person to pay the actual costs of making and certifying the copies.

The responsible authority shall not charge the data subject any fee in those instances where the data subject only desires to view private data.

The responsible authority or designee may require the requesting person to pay the actual costs of making and certifying the copies. Based on the factors set forth in Minnesota Rule 1205.0300, subpart 4, the school district determines that a reasonable fee would be the charges set forth in section VIII.A of this policy that apply to requests for data by the public.

2. The school district may not charge a fee to search for or to retrieve educational records of a child with a disability by the child's parent or guardian or by the child upon the child reaching the age of majority.

IX. Annual Review and Posting

- A. The responsible authority shall prepare a written data access policy and a written policy for the rights of data subjects (including specific procedures the school district uses for access by the data subject to public or private data on individuals). The responsible authority shall update the policies no later than August 1 of each year, and at any other time as necessary to reflect changes in personnel, procedures, or other circumstances that impact the public's ability to access data.
- B. Copies of the policies shall be easily available to the public by distributing free copies to the public or by posting the policies in a conspicuous place within the school district that is easily accessible to the public or by posting them on the school district's website.

Data Practices Contacts**Responsible Authority:**

Dr. Michael Cary
 Superintendent
 Cloquet Public Schools
 302 14th Street
 Cloquet, MN 55720
mcary@isd94.org
 218-879-6721, ext. 6202

Data Practices Compliance Official:

Candace Nelis
 Business Manager
 Cloquet Public Schools
 302 14th Street
 Cloquet, MN 55720
cnelis@isd94.org
 218-879-6721, ext. 6213

Data Practices Designee(s):

Candace Nelis
 Business Manager
 Cloquet Public Schools
 302 14th Street
 Cloquet, MN 55720
cnelis@isd94.org
 218-879-6721, ext. 6213

Legal References: Minn. Stat. Ch. 13 (Minnesota Government Data Practices Act)
 Minn. Stat. § 13.01 (Government Data)
 Minn. Stat. § 13.02 (Definitions)
 Minn. Stat. § 13.025 (Government Entity Obligation)
 Minn. Stat. § 13.03 (Access to Government Data)
 Minn. Stat. § 13.04 (Rights of Subjects to Data)
 Minn. Stat. § 13.05 (Duties of Responsible Authority)
 Minn. Stat. § 13.32 (Educational Data)
 Minn. Rules Part 1205.0300 (Access to Public Data)
 Minn. Rules Part 1205.0400 (Access to Private Data)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 406 (Public and Private Personnel Data)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 515 (Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records)

Resources: MN Department of Administration: *Actual Cost*
MN Department of Administration: *Copy Costs*
MN Department of Administration: *Education Data*

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 94 PUBLIC DATA REQUEST FORM

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REQUESTOR

REQUESTOR NAME (NOT REQUIRED):	PHONE NUMBER:*
ADDRESS: *	EMAIL ADDRESS:*
DATE OF REQUEST:	
DESCRIPTION OF THE INFORMATION REQUESTED: (attach additional page if necessary)	
MANNER IN WHICH RESPONSIVE DATA IS TO BE PROVIDED:	
INSPECTION ONLY _____ COPIES ONLY** _____ BOTH INSPECTION AND COPIES _____ **	
**Inspection is free, but there is a charge for copies. Payment must be received before copies will be provided.	

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

DATE REQUEST RECEIVED:	REQUEST RECEIVED BY:
DATE OF RESPONSE:	RESPONSE PROVIDED BY:

* Requestor's name is optional. However, contact information is necessary to mail/email the data. Also, contact information is needed if the school district does not understand the request. We will not work on such a request until clarified.

Adopted: 10/14/19

Revised: 9/9/24, 10/14/19, 3/20/23

722 PUBLIC DATA AND DATA SUBJECT REQUESTS

I. PURPOSE

The school district recognizes its responsibility relative to the collection, maintenance, and dissemination of public data as provided in state statutes.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The school district will comply with the requirements of the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minnesota Statutes chapter 13 (MGDPA), and Minnesota Rules parts 1205.0100-1205.2000 in responding to requests for public data.

III. DEFINITIONS

A. Confidential Data on Individuals

Data made not public by statute or federal law applicable to the data and are inaccessible to the individual subject of those data.

B. Data on Individuals

All government data in which any individual is or can be identified as the subject of that data, unless the appearance of the name or other identifying data can be clearly demonstrated to be only incidental to the data and the data are not accessed by the name or other identifying data of any individual.

C. Data Practices Compliance Officer

The data practices compliance official is the designated employee of the school district to whom persons may direct questions or concerns regarding problems in obtaining access to data or other data practices problems. The responsible authority may be the data practices compliance official.

D. Government Data

All data collected, created, received, maintained or disseminated by any government entity regardless of its physical form, storage media or conditions of use.

E. Individual

“Individual” means a natural person. In the case of a minor or an incapacitated person as defined in Minnesota Statutes section 524.5-102, subdivision 6, "individual" includes a parent or guardian or an individual acting as a parent or guardian in the absence of a parent

or guardian, except that the responsible authority shall withhold data from parents or guardians, or individuals acting as parents or guardians in the absence of parents or guardians, upon request by the minor if the responsible authority determines that withholding the data would be in the best interest of the minor.

F. Inspection

“Inspection” means the visual inspection of paper and similar types of government data. Inspection does not include printing copies by the school district, unless printing a copy is the only method to provide for inspection of the data. For data stored in electronic form and made available in electronic form on a remote access basis to the public by the school district, inspection includes remote access to the data by the public and the ability to print copies of or download the data on the public’s own computer equipment.

G. Not Public Data

Any government data classified by statute, federal law, or temporary classification as confidential, private, nonpublic, or protected nonpublic.

H. Nonpublic Data

Data not on individuals made by statute or federal law applicable to the data: (a) not accessible to the public; and (b) accessible to the subject, if any, of the data.

I. Private Data on Individuals

Data made by statute or federal law applicable to the data: (a) not public; and (b) accessible to the individual subject of those data.

J. Protected Nonpublic Data

Data not on individuals made by statute or federal law applicable to the data (a) not public and (b) not accessible to the subject of the data.

K. Public Data

All government data collected, created, received, maintained, or disseminated by the school district, unless classified by statute, temporary classification pursuant to statute, or federal law, as nonpublic or protected nonpublic; or, with respect to data on individuals, as private or confidential.

L. Public Data Not on Individuals

Data accessible to the public pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 13.03.

M. Public Data on Individuals

Data accessible to the public in accordance with the provisions of section 13.03.

N. Responsible Authority

The individual designated by the school board as the individual responsible for the collection, use, and dissemination of any set of data on individuals, government data, or summary data, unless otherwise provided by state law. Until an individual is designated by the school board, the responsible authority is the superintendent.

O. Summary Data

Statistical records and reports derived from data on individuals but in which individuals are not identified and from which neither their identities nor any other characteristic that could uniquely identify an individual is ascertainable. Unless classified pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 13.06, another statute, or federal law, summary data is public.

IV. REQUESTS FOR PUBLIC DATA

A. All requests for public data must be made in writing directed to the responsible authority.

1. A request for public data must include the following information:
 - a. Date the request is made;
 - b. A clear description of the data requested;
 - c. Identification of the form in which the data is to be provided (e.g., inspection, copying, both inspection and copying, etc.); and
 - d. Method to contact the requestor (such as phone number, address, or email address).
2. Unless specifically authorized by statute, the school district may not require persons to identify themselves, state a reason for, or justify a request to gain access to public government data. A person may be asked to provide certain identifying or clarifying information for the sole purpose of facilitating access to the data.
3. The identity of the requestor is public, if provided, but cannot be required by the government entity.
4. The responsible authority may seek clarification from the requestor if the request is not clear before providing a response to the data request.

B. The responsible authority will respond to a data request at reasonable times and places as follows:

1. The responsible authority will notify the requestor in writing as follows:
 - a. The requested data does not exist; or

- b. The requested data does exist but either all or a portion of the data is not accessible to the requestor; or
 - (1) If the responsible authority determines that the requested data is classified so that access to the requestor is denied, the responsible authority will inform the requestor of the determination in writing, as soon thereafter as possible, and shall cite the specific statutory section, temporary classification, or specific provision of federal law on which the determination is based.
 - (2) Upon the request of a requestor who is denied access to data, the responsible authority shall certify in writing that the request has been denied and cite the specific statutory section, temporary classification, or specific provision of federal law upon which the denial was based.
 - c. The requested data does exist and provide arrangements for inspection of the data, identify when the data will be available for pick-up, or indicate that the data will be sent by mail. If the requestor does not appear at the time and place established for inspection of the data or the data is not picked up within ten (10) business days after the requestor is notified, the school district will conclude that the data is no longer wanted and will consider the request closed.
2. The school district's response time may be affected by the size and complexity of the particular request, including necessary redactions of the data, and also by the number of requests made within a particular period of time.
 3. The school district will provide an explanation of technical terminology, abbreviations, or acronyms contained in the responsive data on request.
 4. The school district is not required by the MGDPA to create or collect new data in response to a data request, or to provide responsive data in a specific form or arrangement if the school district does not keep the data in that form or arrangement.
 5. The school district is not required to respond to questions that are not about a particular data request or requests for data in general.
- C. If the school district notifies the requesting person that responsive data or copies are available for inspection or collection, and the requesting person does not inspect the data or collect the copies within five business days of the notification, the school district may suspend any further response to the request until the requesting person inspects the data that has been made available, or collects and pays for the copies that have been produced.

V. REQUEST FOR SUMMARY DATA

- A. A request for the preparation of summary data shall be made in writing directed to the responsible authority.
 - 1. A request for the preparation of summary data must include the following information:
 - a. Date the request is made;
 - b. A clear description of the data requested;
 - c. Identify the form in which the data is to be provided (e.g., inspection, copying, both inspection and copying, etc.); and
 - d. Method to contact requestor (phone number, address, or email address).
- B. The responsible authority will respond within ten (10) business days of the receipt of a request to prepare summary data and inform the requestor of the following:
 - 1. The estimated costs of preparing the summary data, if any; and
 - 2. The summary data requested; or
 - 3. A written statement describing a time schedule for preparing the requested summary data, including reasons for any time delays; or
 - 4. A written statement describing the reasons why the responsible authority has determined that the requestor's access would compromise the private or confidential data.
- C. The school district may require the requestor to pre-pay all or a portion of the cost of creating the summary data before the school district begins to prepare the summary data.

VI. DATA BY AN INDIVIDUAL DATA SUBJECT

- A. Collection and storage of all data on individuals and the use and dissemination of private and confidential data on individuals shall be limited to that necessary for the administration and management of programs specifically authorized by the legislature or local governing body or mandated by the federal government.
- B. Private or confidential data on an individual shall not be collected, stored, used, or disseminated by the school district for any purposes other than those stated to the individual at the time of collection in accordance with Minnesota Statutes section 13.04, except as provided in Minnesota Statutes section 13.05, subdivision 4.
- C. Upon request to the responsible authority or designee, an individual shall be informed whether the individual is the subject of stored data on individuals, and whether it is

- D. classified as public, private or confidential. Upon further request, an individual who is the subject of stored private or public data on individuals shall be shown the data without any charge and, if desired, shall be informed of the content and meaning of that data.
- E. After an individual has been shown the private data and informed of its meaning, the data need not be disclosed to that individual for six (6) months thereafter unless a dispute or action pursuant to this section is pending or additional data on the individual has been collected or created.
- F. The responsible authority or designee shall provide copies of the private or public data upon request by the individual subject of the data. The responsible authority or designee may require the requesting person to pay the actual costs of making and certifying the copies.
- G. The responsible authority or designee shall comply immediately, if possible, with any request made pursuant to this subdivision, or within ten (10) days of the date of the request, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays, if immediate compliance is not possible.
- H. An individual subject of the data may contest the accuracy or completeness of public or private data. To exercise this right, an individual shall notify in writing the responsible authority describing the nature of the disagreement. The responsible authority shall within 30 days either: (1) correct the data found to be inaccurate or incomplete and attempt to notify past recipients of inaccurate or incomplete data, including recipients named by the individual; or (2) notify the individual that the authority believes the data to be correct. Data in dispute shall be disclosed only if the individual's statement of disagreement is included with the disclosed data.
- I. The determination of the responsible authority may be appealed by a data subject pursuant to the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act relating to contested cases. Upon receipt of an appeal by an individual, the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Administration ("Commissioner") shall, before issuing the order and notice of a contested case hearing required by Minnesota Statutes chapter 14, try to resolve the dispute through education, conference, conciliation, or persuasion. If the parties consent, the commissioner may refer the matter to mediation. Following these efforts, the commissioner shall dismiss the appeal or issue the order and notice of hearing.
- J. Data on individuals that have been successfully challenged by an individual must be completed, corrected, or destroyed by a government entity without regard to the requirements of Minnesota Statutes section 138.17.
- K. After completing, correcting, or destroying successfully challenged data, the school district may retain a copy of the Commissioner's order issued under Minnesota Statutes chapter 14 or, if no order were issued, a summary of the dispute between the parties that does not contain any particulars of the successfully challenged data.

VII. REQUESTS FOR DATA BY AN INDIVIDUAL SUBJECT OF THE DATA

- A. All requests for individual subject data must be made in writing directed to the responsible authority.
- B. A request for individual subject data must include the following information:
 - 1. Statement that one is making a request as a data subject for data about the individual or about a student for whom the individual is the parent or guardian;
 - 2. Date the request is made;
 - 3. A clear description of the data requested;
 - 4. Proof that the individual is the data subject or the data subject's parent or guardian;
 - 5. Identification of the form in which the data is to be provided (e.g., inspection, copying, both inspection and copying, etc.); and
 - 6. Method to contact the requestor (such as phone number, address, or email address).
- C. The identity of the requestor of private data is private.
- D. The responsible authority may seek clarification from the requestor if the request is not clear before providing a response to the data request.
- E. Policy 515 (Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records) addresses requests of students or their parents for educational records and data.

VIII. COSTS

- A. Public Data
 - 1. The school district will charge for copies provided as follows:
 - a. One hundred (100) or fewer pages of black and white, letter or legal sized paper copies will be charged at twenty-five (25) cents for a one-sided copy or fifty (50) cents for a two-sided copy.
 - b. More than one hundred (100) pages or copies on other materials are charged based upon the actual cost of searching for and retrieving the data and making the copies or electronically sending the data, unless the cost is specifically set by statute or rule.
 - (1) The actual cost of making copies includes employee time, the cost of the materials onto which the data is copied (paper, CD, DVD, etc.), and mailing costs (if any).

- (2) Also, if the school district does not have the capacity to make the copies, e.g., photographs, the actual cost paid by the school district to an outside vendor will be charged.

2. All charges must be paid for in cash in advance of receiving the copies.

B. Summary Data

1. Any costs incurred in the preparation of summary data shall be paid by the requestor prior to preparing or supplying the summary data.
2. The school district may assess costs associated with the preparation of summary data as follows:
 - a. The cost of materials, including paper, the cost of the labor required to prepare the copies, any schedule of standard copying charges established by the school district, any special costs necessary to produce such copies from a machine-based record-keeping system, including computers and microfilm systems;
 - b. The school district may consider the reasonable value of the summary data prepared and, where appropriate, reduce the costs assessed to the requestor.

C. Data Belonging to an Individual Subject

1. The responsible authority or designee may require the requesting person to pay the actual costs of making and certifying the copies.

The responsible authority shall not charge the data subject any fee in those instances where the data subject only desires to view private data.

The responsible authority or designee may require the requesting person to pay the actual costs of making and certifying the copies. Based on the factors set forth in Minnesota Rule 1205.0300, subpart 4, the school district determines that a reasonable fee would be the charges set forth in section VIII.A of this policy that apply to requests for data by the public.

2. The school district may not charge a fee to search for or to retrieve educational records of a child with a disability by the child's parent or guardian or by the child upon the child reaching the age of majority.

IX. Annual Review and Posting

- A. The responsible authority shall prepare a written data access policy and a written policy for the rights of data subjects (including specific procedures the school district uses for access by the data subject to public or private data on individuals). The responsible authority shall update the policies no later than August 1 of each year, and at any other time as necessary

to reflect changes in personnel, procedures, or other circumstances that impact the public’s ability to access data.

- B. Copies of the policies shall be easily available to the public by distributing free copies to the public or by posting the policies in a conspicuous place within the school district that is easily accessible to the public or by posting them on the school district’s website.

Data Practices Contacts

Responsible Authority:

Dr. Michael Cary
 Superintendent
 Cloquet Public Schools
 302 14th Street
 Cloquet, MN 55720
mcary@isd94.org
 218-879-6721, ext. 6202

Data Practices Compliance Official:

Candace Nelis
 Business Manager
 Cloquet Public Schools
 302 14th Street
 Cloquet, MN 55720
cnelis@isd94.org
 218-879-6721, ext. 6213

Data Practices Designee(s):

Candace Nelis
 Business Manager
 Cloquet Public Schools
 302 14th Street
 Cloquet, MN 55720
cnelis@isd94.org
 218-879-6721, ext. 6213

Legal References: Minn. Stat. Ch. 13 (Minnesota Government Data Practices Act)

- Minn. Stat. § 13.01 (Government Data)
- Minn. Stat. § 13.02 (Definitions)
- Minn. Stat. § 13.025 (Government Entity Obligation)
- Minn. Stat. § 13.03 (Access to Government Data)
- Minn. Stat. § 13.04 (Rights of Subjects to Data)
- Minn. Stat. § 13.05 (Duties of Responsible Authority)
- Minn. Stat. § 13.32 (Educational Data)
- Minn. Rules Part 1205.0300 (Access to Public Data)
- Minn. Rules Part 1205.0400 (Access to Private Data)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 406 (Public and Private Personnel Data)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 515 (Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records)

Resources: MN Department of Administration: [*Actual Cost*](#)
MN Department of Administration: [*Copy Costs*](#)
MN Department of Administration: [*Education Data*](#)

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 94 PUBLIC DATA REQUEST FORM

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REQUESTOR

REQUESTOR NAME (NOT REQUIRED):	PHONE NUMBER:*
ADDRESS: *	EMAIL ADDRESS:*
DATE OF REQUEST:	
DESCRIPTION OF THE INFORMATION REQUESTED: (attach additional page if necessary)	
MANNER IN WHICH RESPONSIVE DATA IS TO BE PROVIDED:	
INSPECTION ONLY _____ COPIES ONLY** _____ BOTH INSPECTION AND COPIES _____ **	
**Inspection is free, but there is a charge for copies. Payment must be received before copies will be provided.	

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

DATE REQUEST RECEIVED:	REQUEST RECEIVED BY:
DATE OF RESPONSE:	RESPONSE PROVIDED BY:

* Requestor's name is optional. However, contact information is necessary to mail/email the data. Also, contact information is needed if the school district does not understand the request. We will not work on such a request until clarified.

Adopted: _____

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 606

Orig. 1995

Revised: _____

Rev. 2025

606 TEXTBOOKS AND INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide direction for selection of textbooks and instructional materials.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The school board recognizes that selection of textbooks and instructional materials is a vital component of the school district's curriculum. The school board also recognizes that it has the authority to make final decisions on selection of all textbooks and instructional materials.

III. RESPONSIBILITY OF SELECTION

- A. While the school board retains its authority to make final decisions on the selection of textbooks and instructional materials, the school board recognizes the expertise of the professional staff and the vital need of such staff to be primarily involved in the recommendation of textbooks and instructional materials. Accordingly, the school board delegates to the superintendent the responsibility to direct the professional staff in formulating recommendations to the school board on textbooks and other instructional materials.
- B. In reviewing textbooks and instructional materials during the selection process, the professional staff shall select materials that:
1. support the goals and objectives of the education programs;
 2. consider the needs, age, and maturity of students;
 3. foster respect and appreciation for cultural diversity and varied opinion;
 4. fit within the constraints of the school district budget;
 5. are in the English language. Another language may be used, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, sections 124D.59 to 124D.61;
 6. permit grade-level instruction for students to read and study America's founding documents, including documents that contributed to the foundation or maintenance of America's representative form of limited government, the Bill of Rights, our free-market economic system, and patriotism; and
 7. do not censor or restrain instruction in American or Minnesota state history or heritage based on religious references in original source documents, writings, speeches, proclamations, or records.
- C. The superintendent shall be responsible for developing procedures and guidelines to establish an orderly process for the review and recommendation of textbooks and other instructional materials by the professional staff. Such procedures and guidelines shall

provide opportunity for input and consideration of the views of students, parents, and other interested members of the school district community. This procedure shall be coordinated with the school district's curriculum development effort and may utilize advisory committees.

IV. SELECTION OF TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

- A. The superintendent shall be responsible for keeping the school board informed of progress on the part of staff and others involved in the textbook and other instructional materials review and selection process.
- B. The superintendent shall present a recommendation to the school board on the selection of textbooks and other instructional materials after completion of the review process as outlined in this policy.

V. RECONSIDERATION OF TEXTBOOKS OR OTHER INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

- A. The school board recognizes differences of opinion on the part of some members of the school district community relating to certain areas of the instruction program. Interested persons may request an opportunity to review materials and submit a request for reconsideration of the use of certain textbooks or instructional materials.
- B. The superintendent shall be responsible for the development of guidelines and procedures to identify the steps to be followed to seek reconsideration of textbooks or other instructional materials.
- C. The superintendent shall present a procedure to the school board for review and approval regarding reconsideration of textbooks or other instructional materials. When approved by the school board, such procedure shall be an addendum to this policy.

D. All instructional materials, including teacher's manuals, films, tapes, or other supplementary material which will be used in connection with any survey, analysis, or evaluation as part of any applicable program shall be available for inspection by the parents or guardians of the students.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 120A.22, Subd. 9 (Compulsory Instruction)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.235 (American Heritage Education)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.02, Subd. 2 (General Powers of Independent School Districts)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.09, Subd. 8 (School Board Responsibilities)
Minn. Stat. § 124D.59-124D.61 (Education for English Learners Act)
Minn. Stat. § 127A.10 (State Officials and School Board Members to be Disinterested; Penalty)
20 U.S.C. 1232h(a) (Protection of Pupil Rights)
Hazelwood Sch. Dist. v. Kuhlmeier, 484 U.S. 260 (1988)
Pratt v. Independent Sch. Dist. No. 831, 670 F.2d 771 (8th Cir. 1982)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 603 (Curriculum Development)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 604 (Instructional Curriculum)

Adopted: 2/28/22

Revised: 2/28/22

606 TEXTBOOKS AND INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide direction for selection of textbooks and instructional materials.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The school board recognizes that selection of textbooks and instructional materials is a vital component of the school district's curriculum. The school board also recognizes that it has the authority to make final decisions on selection of all textbooks and instructional materials.

III. RESPONSIBILITY OF SELECTION

- A. While the school board retains its authority to make final decisions on the selection of textbooks and instructional materials, the school board recognizes the expertise of the professional staff and the vital need of such staff to be primarily involved in the recommendation of textbooks and instructional materials. Accordingly, the school board delegates to the superintendent the responsibility to direct the professional staff in formulating recommendations to the school board on textbooks and other instructional materials.
- B. In reviewing textbooks and instructional materials during the selection process, the professional staff shall select materials that:
1. support the goals and objectives of the education programs;
 2. consider the needs, age, and maturity of students;
 3. foster respect and appreciation for cultural diversity and varied opinion;
 4. fit within the constraints of the school district budget;
 5. are in the English language. Another language may be used, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, sections 124D.59 to 124D.61;
 6. permit grade-level instruction for students to read and study America's founding documents, including documents that contributed to the foundation or maintenance of America's representative form of limited government, the Bill of Rights, our free-market economic system, and patriotism; and
 7. do not censor or restrain instruction in American or Minnesota state history or heritage based on religious references in original source documents, writings, speeches, proclamations, or records.

- C. The superintendent shall be responsible for developing procedures and guidelines to establish an orderly process for the review and recommendation of textbooks and other instructional materials by the professional staff. Such procedures and guidelines shall provide opportunity for input and consideration of the views of students, parents, and other interested members of the school district community. This procedure shall be coordinated with the school district's curriculum development effort and may utilize advisory committees.

IV. SELECTION OF TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

- A. The superintendent shall be responsible for keeping the school board informed of progress on the part of staff and others involved in the textbook and other instructional materials review and selection process.
- B. The superintendent shall present a recommendation to the school board on the selection of textbooks and other instructional materials after completion of the review process as outlined in this policy.

V. RECONSIDERATION OF TEXTBOOKS OR OTHER INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

- A. The school board recognizes differences of opinion on the part of some members of the school district community relating to certain areas of the instruction program. Interested persons may request an opportunity to review materials and submit a request for reconsideration of the use of certain textbooks or instructional materials.
- B. The superintendent shall be responsible for the development of guidelines and procedures to identify the steps to be followed to seek reconsideration of textbooks or other instructional materials.
- C. The superintendent shall present a procedure to the school board for review and approval regarding reconsideration of textbooks or other instructional materials. When approved by the school board, such procedure shall be an addendum to this policy.
- D. All instructional materials, including teacher's manuals, films, tapes, or other supplementary material which will be used in connection with any survey, analysis, or evaluation as part of any applicable program shall be available for inspection by the parents or guardians of the students.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 120A.22, Subd. 9 (Compulsory Instruction)
 Minn. Stat. § 120B.235 (American Heritage Education)
 Minn. Stat. § 123B.02, Subd. 2 (General Powers of Independent School Districts)
 Minn. Stat. § 123B.09, Subd. 8 (School Board Responsibilities)
 Minn. Stat. § 124D.59-124D.61 (Education for English Learners Act)
 Minn. Stat. § 127A.10 (State Officials and School Board Members to be Disinterested; Penalty)
 20 U.S.C. 1232h(a) (Protection of Pupil Rights)
 Hazelwood Sch. Dist. v. Kuhlmeier, 484 U.S. 260 (1988)

Pratt v. Independent Sch. Dist. No. 831, 670 F.2d 771 (8th Cir. 1982)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 603 (Curriculum Development)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 604 (Instructional Curriculum)



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Central Administration	302 14th St	218.879.6721
Cloquet Senior High School	1000 18th St	218.879.3393
Cloquet Middle School	2001 Washington Ave	218.879.3328
Churchill Elementary School	515 Granite St	218.879.3308
Washington Elementary School	801 12th St.	218.879.3369
Cloquet Area Alternative Education	302 14th St	218.879.0115
Community Education	2001 Washington Ave	218.879.1261

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Michael Cary, Superintendent

FROM: Erin Bates, Community Education Director

DATE: November 21, 2025

RE: **REQUEST TO POST**

We are requesting permission to post for the following positions due to staff resignation beginning January 2026 through the end of the 25/26 school year:

- Rate of Pay: Starting Pay \$33.06
- Hours Worked: Approximately 35/School Readiness Calendar
- Start Date: December 2025/January 2026
- Length of Contract: Duration of the 25/26 School Year
- Reason for Hire: Resignation
- Qualifies for Benefits: Yes As Per the Teachers Union Contract-
Sick and Personal Time
Other pending union negotiations.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Dec. 1 — 2nd Trimester begins
- Dec. 1-12 — Roller Skating Unit in PE (grades 2-4)
- Dec. 2 — EXCEL After School Programming begins
- Dec. 5 — No school for students (Professional Day for Staff)
- Dec. 16 — High School Madrigal Performance at Washington
- Dec. 18 — Spirit Day: Red, White and Green Day
- Dec. 18 — 1st Grade Music Program 6:30 pm in the Washington Gym
- Dec. 19 — Spirit Day: Winter Wear Day
- Dec. 19 — December Birthday Lunch
- Dec. 22 — Spirit Day: student choice (tbd)
- Dec. 22 — All School Movie Day (Thank you to PIE for fully funding our Movie Day)
- Dec. 23 — Spirit Day: Deck Yourself!
- Dec. 24-Jan. 4 — Winter Break
- Jan. 5 — School Resumes



Our Mission: The staff, students and parents of Washington Elementary School are dedicated to creating a climate that promotes academic, artistic, and physical excellence, high expectations, cultural pride, respect for individual differences, and the rights of others in a safe and nurturing environment.

POSITIVE BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTIONS & SUPPORTS (PBIS) UPDATE

Welcome to December from your PBIS team!! Hopefully you and your family have a wonderful Thanksgiving break!!

Here are a few PBIS updates.... Our December character education themes are **Responsibility and Doing Your Best** and the Anishinaabe teaching of **Courage**. We will be talking with students and sharing examples about taking responsibility for all we do. We hope that you can reinforce these important character traits and teachings at home in your conversations throughout the month of December as well.

Additionally, doing our best also means that we want to show kindness, empathy, and flexibility to others as part of the Washington community. We want to be our best selves! We remind students that all of us have good days and bad days, and it's important to do our best to support each other and be kind and flexible when others may be having tough moments or days. Occasionally students are required to be flexible and adjust their plans or even their learning space to accommodate others. Doing so with a kind and understanding attitude is part of how we can **Do Our Best** at Washington!

Our Student Advisory Team (S.A.T.) is finding ways to positively contribute here at Washington. They are tutoring and recycling, as well as helping around the building! S.A.T. representatives are 3rd and 4th graders who were selected by their classmates to serve on the team. The S.A.T. students helped at Conferences with the family surveys. For PBIS resources check out our Washington School webpage. From all of us at Washington, students and staff both, we wish you a safe and happy December and holiday season!

December 3rd is the **International Disabilities Day**. For our December Unified lesson, we will learn about Disability Awareness and how we can all understand and help people with disabilities.

Each month we learn about disabilities to spread awareness. So far this school year we have learned about the Deaf & Hard of Hearing community in September, Down Syndrome Awareness in October, and Epilepsy in November. Throughout the year, we will continue to learn about disabilities and how we can all be advocates for our community.

Staying Healthy During the Holidays

- ask for help if you need it
- get plenty of sleep each night
- eat healthy
- don't overdo it this holiday season; do what works best for you and your family
- exercise and find ways to get moving
- do something that is relaxing and calming (GoNoodle, MindYeti, take a walk outside, deep breathing, or yoga)
- limit screen time and spend time with friends and family





THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Field of Flags—November 11th



Some of our 4th grade Student Advisory Team members are pictured with Commander Stan from the Cloquet D.A.V. as he received our school donation of \$152.78

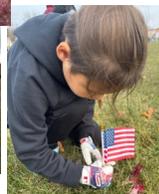


Please dress me warm enough!



IMPORTANT:

Make sure your child has warm enough winter gear! Boots, hats, mittens, coat (even if no snow) will keep students warm and safe.



3rd Grade did a wonderful job on their music program! Thanks to the 3rd grade and Mrs. Buytaert!



If your family is in need of assistance to acquire needed winter clothing and gear please contact our Dean of Students, Misha Alaspa, to request assistance. malaspa@isd94.org 218-878-5595

Community Resources to Check Out:

- Cloquet Public Library: Great resources for kids and families! <https://www.cloquetlibrary.org/kidzone>
- United Way of Carlton County: Fighting for the health, education, and financial stability of every person in every community. <http://unitedwaycarltoncounty.org/>
- Minnesota Association for Children's Mental Health: Excellent organization with family support resources. <https://macmh.org/>
- Backpack Program (Second Harvest Northern Lakes Food Bank): If your family would like more information to see if you meet criteria and would like to be considered for our Backpack Program please contact Mrs. Sewell our School Counselor at asewell@isd94.org or 218-879-3369 x5074, or Mrs. Alaspa our Dean of Students at malaspa@isd94.org or 218-878-5595 <https://northernlakesfoodbank.org/what-we-do/our-programs/backpack-program/>



4th and 1st grades doing a combined project!