

**NORTH BRANCH INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 138  
NORTH BRANCH AREA EDUCATION CENTER, DO CONFERENCE ROOM  
B122  
38705 GRAND AVENUE  
NORTH BRANCH, MN 55056  
POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING  
JANUARY 13, 2022  
4:30 PM**

**AGENDA**

- I. Policies to be Discussed
  - A. Policy 516-NB - Student Medication (MSBA changes) 2
  - B. Policy 534 - Unpaid Meal Charges (MSBA changes) 13
  - C. Policy 607 - Organization of Grade Levels (MSBA changes) 21
  - D. Policy 491 - Policy Addressing OSHA and MNOSHA COVID-19 Emergency  
Temporary Standard

Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 516

Orig. 1995

Revised: \_\_\_\_\_

Rev. 2020

## **516 STUDENT MEDICATION**

*[Note: The necessary provisions for complying with Minn. Stat. §§ 121A.22, Administration of Drugs and Medicine, 121A.221, Possession and Use of Asthma Inhalers by Asthmatic Students, and 121A.222, Possession and Use of Nonprescription Pain Relievers by Secondary Students are included in this policy. The statutes do not regulate administration of drugs and medicine for students age 18 and over or other nonprescription medications. Please note that §121A.22 does not require school districts to apply the administration of medication rule to drugs or medicine used off school grounds, drugs or medicines used in connection with athletics or extra-curricular activities, and drugs and medicines that are used in connection with activities that occur before or after the regular school day.]*

### **I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to set forth the provisions that must be followed when administering nonemergency prescription medication to students at school.

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

The school district acknowledges that some students may require prescribed drugs or medication during the school day. The school district's licensed school nurse, trained health clerk, principal, or teacher will administer prescribed medications, except any form of medical cannabis, in accordance with law and school district procedures.

### **III. REQUIREMENTS**

- A. The administration of prescription medication or drugs at school requires a completed signed request from the student's parent. An oral request must be reduced to writing within two school days, provided that the school district may rely on an oral request until a written request is received.
- B. An "Administering Prescription Medications" form must be completed annually (once per school year) and/or when a change in the prescription or requirements for administration occurs. Prescription medication as used in this policy does not include any form of medical cannabis as defined in Minn. Stat. § 152.22, Subd. 6.
- C. Prescription medication must come to school in the original container labeled for the student by a pharmacist in accordance with law, and must be administered in a manner consistent with the instructions on the label.
- D. The school nurse may request to receive further information about the prescription, if needed, prior to administration of the substance.

- E. Prescription medications are not to be carried by the student, but will be left with the appropriate school district personnel. Exceptions to this requirement are: prescription asthma medications self-administered with an inhaler (See Part J.5. below), and medications administered as noted in a written agreement between the school district and the parent or as specified in an IEP (individualized education program), Section 504 plan, or IHP (individual health plan).
- F. The school must be notified immediately by the parent or student 18 years old or older in writing of any change in the student's prescription medication administration. A new medical authorization or container label with new pharmacy instructions shall be required immediately as well.
- G. For drugs or medicine used by children with a disability, administration may be as provided in the IEP, Section 504 plan or IHP.
- H. The school nurse, or other designated person, shall be responsible for the filing of the Administering Prescription Medications form in the health records section of the student file. The school nurse, or other designated person, shall be responsible for providing a copy of such form to the principal and to other personnel designated to administer the medication.
- I. Procedures for administration of drugs and medicine at school and school activities shall be developed in consultation with a school nurse, a licensed school nurse, or a public or private health organization or other appropriate party (if appropriately contracted by the school district under Minn. Stat. § 121A.21). The school district administration shall submit these procedures and any additional guidelines and procedures necessary to implement this policy to the school board for approval. Upon approval by the school board, such guidelines and procedures shall be an addendum to this policy.
- J. If the administration of a drug or medication described in this section requires the school district to store the drug or medication, the parent or legal guardian must inform the school if the drug or medication is a controlled substance. For a drug or medication that is not a controlled substance, the request must include a provision designating the school district as an authorized entity to transport the drug or medication for the purpose of destruction if any unused drug or medication remains in the possession of school personnel. For a drug or medication that is a controlled substance, the request must specify that the parent or legal guardian is required to retrieve the drug or controlled substance when requested by the school.

**K.J.** Specific Exceptions:

1. Special health treatments and health functions such as catheterization, tracheostomy suctioning, and gastrostomy feedings do not constitute administration of drugs and medicine;
2. Emergency health procedures, including emergency administration of drugs and medicine are not subject to this policy;

3. Drugs or medicine provided or administered by a public health agency to prevent or control an illness or a disease outbreak are not governed by this policy;
4. Drugs or medicines used at school in connection with services for which a minor may give effective consent are not governed by this policy;
5. Drugs or medicines that are prescription asthma or reactive airway disease medications can be self-administered by a student with an asthma inhaler if:
  - a. the school district has received a written authorization from the pupil's parent permitting the student to self-administer the medication;
  - b. the inhaler is properly labeled for that student; and
  - c. the parent has not requested school personnel to administer the medication to the student.

The parent must submit written authorization for the student to self-administer the medication each school year. In a school that does not have a school nurse or school nursing services, the student's parent or guardian must submit written verification from the prescribing professional which documents that an assessment of the student's knowledge and skills to safely possess and use an asthma inhaler in a school setting has been completed.

If the school district employs a school nurse or provides school nursing services under another arrangement, the school nurse or other appropriate party must assess the student's knowledge and skills to safely possess and use an asthma inhaler in a school setting and enter into the student's school health record a plan to implement safe possession and use of asthma inhalers;

6. Medications:
  - a. that are used off school grounds;
  - b. that are used in connection with athletics or extracurricular activities; or
  - c. that are used in connection with activities that occur before or after the regular school day

are not governed by this policy.

*[Note: The provisions of paragraph 6 are optional and the school board*

*may choose to include or exclude any of the provisions specified.]*

7. Nonprescription Medication. A secondary student may possess and use nonprescription pain relief in a manner consistent with the labeling, if the school district has received written authorization from the student's parent or guardian permitting the student to self-administer the medication. The parent or guardian must submit written authorization for the student to self-administer the medication each school year. The school district may revoke a student's privilege to possess and use nonprescription pain relievers if the school district determines that the student is abusing the privilege. This provision does not apply to the possession or use of any drug or product containing ephedrine or pseudoephedrine as its sole active ingredient or as one of its active ingredients. Except as stated in this paragraph, only prescription medications are governed by this policy.

***[Note: School districts should consult with licensed medical and nursing personnel to address whether nonprescription medications will be allowed at elementary schools and whether and under what conditions school personnel will participate in storing or administering nonprescription medications.]***

8. At the start of each school year or at the time a student enrolls in school, whichever is first, a student's parent, school staff, including those responsible for student health care, and the prescribing medical professional must develop and implement an individualized written health plan for a student who is prescribed epinephrine auto-injectors that enables the student to:
  - a. possess epinephrine auto-injectors; or
  - b. if the parent and prescribing medical professional determine the student is unable to possess the epinephrine, have immediate access to epinephrine auto-injectors in close proximity to the student at all times during the instructional day.

The plan must designate the school staff responsible for implementing the student's health plan, including recognizing anaphylaxis and administering epinephrine auto-injectors when required, consistent with state law. This health plan may be included in a student's § 504 plan.

9. A student may possess and apply a topical sunscreen product during the school day while on school property or at a school-sponsored event without a prescription, physician's note, or other documentation from a licensed health care professional. School personnel are not required to provide sunscreen or assist students in applying sunscreen.

L. "Parent" for students 18 years old or older is the student.

~~M. The school district discourages the administration and use of narcotic pain~~

medications (i.e. Vicodin, Percocet, Tylenol with codeine, among others) in the school setting. In the event it is necessary for a child to take a narcotic pain medication while at school, the child's parent will be asked to come to school and administer the narcotic pain medication directly to the child. School nurses will not maintain supplies of narcotic pain medications at school. (NB change in Dec 2014) **The nurses are recommending eliminating this paragraph. It will no longer be a NB policy.**

- M.** Districts and schools may obtain and possess epinephrine auto-injectors to be maintained and administered by school personnel to a student or other individual if, in good faith, it is determined that person is experiencing anaphylaxis regardless of whether the student or other individual has a prescription for an epinephrine auto-injector. The administration of an epinephrine auto-injector in accordance with this section is not the practice of medicine.

A district or school may enter into arrangements with manufacturers of epinephrine auto-injectors to obtain epinephrine auto-injectors at fair-market, free, or reduced prices. A third party, other than a manufacturer or supplier, may pay for a school's supply of epinephrine auto-injectors.

**N. Procedure regarding unclaimed drugs or medications.**

1. The school district has adopted the following procedure for the collection and transport of any unclaimed or abandoned prescription drugs or medications remaining in the possession of school personnel in accordance with this policy. Before the transportation of any prescription drug or medication under this policy, the school district shall make a reasonable attempt to return the unused prescription drug or medication to the student's parent or legal guardian. Transportation of unclaimed or unused prescription drugs or medications will occur at least annually, but may occur more frequently at the discretion of the school district.
2. If the unclaimed or abandoned prescription drug is not a controlled substance as defined under Minnesota Statutes § 152.01, subdivision 4, or is an over-the-counter medication, the school district will either designate an individual who shall be responsible for transporting the drug or medication to a designated drop-off box or collection site or request that a law enforcement agency transport the drug or medication to a drop-off box or collection site on behalf of the school district.
3. If the unclaimed or abandoned prescription drug is a controlled substance as defined in Minnesota Statutes § 152.01, subdivision 4, the school district or school personnel is prohibited from transporting the prescription drug to a drop-off box or collection site for prescription drugs identified under this paragraph. The school district must request that a law enforcement agency transport the prescription drug or medication to a collection bin that complies with Drug Enforcement Agency regulations, or if a site is not available, under the agency's procedure for transporting drugs.

- Legal References:** Minn. Stat. § 13.32 (Student Health Data)  
Minn. Stat. § 121A.21 (Hiring of Health Personnel)  
Minn. Stat. § 121A.22 (Administration of Drugs and Medicine)  
Minn. Stat. § 121A.221 (Possession and Use of Asthma Inhalers by Asthmatic Students)  
Minn. Stat. § 121A.222 (Possession and Use of Nonprescription Pain Relievers by Secondary Students)  
Minn. Stat. § 121A.2205 (Possession and Use of Epinephrine Auto-Injectors; Model Policy)  
Minn. Stat. § 121A.2207 (Life-Threatening Allergies in Schools; Stock Supply of Epinephrine Auto-Injectors)  
Minn. Stat. § 121A.223 (Possession and Use of Sunscreen)  
**Minn. Stat. § 152.01 (Definitions)**  
Minn. Stat. § 151.212 (Label of Prescription Drug Containers)  
Minn. Stat. § 152.22 (Medical Cannabis; Definitions)  
Minn. Stat. § 152.23 (Medical Cannabis; Limitations)  
20 U.S.C. § 1400 *et seq.* (Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004)  
29 U.S.C. § 794 *et seq.* (Rehabilitation Act of 1973, § 504)
- Cross References:** MSBA/MASA Model Policy 418 (Drug-Free Workplace/Drug-Free School)

# STUDENTS

## STUDENT MEDICATION

516-NB

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### II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

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### III. REQUIREMENTS

- A. The administration of prescription medication or drugs at school requires a completed signed request from the student's parent. An oral request must be reduced to writing within two school days, provided that the school district may rely on an oral request until a written request is received.
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- C. Prescription medication must come to school in the original container labeled for the student by a pharmacist in accordance with law, and must be administered in a manner consistent with the instructions on the label.
- D. The school nurse may request to receive further information about the prescription, if needed, prior to administration of the substance.
- E. Prescription medications are not to be carried by the student, but will be left with the appropriate school district personnel. Exceptions to this requirement are: prescription asthma medications self-administered with an inhaler (See Part J.5. below), and medications administered as noted in a written agreement between the school district and the parent or as specified in an IEP (individualized education program), Section 504 plan, or IHP (individual health plan).
- F. The school must be notified immediately by the parent or student 18 years old or older in writing of any change in the student's prescription medication administration. A new medical authorization or container label with new pharmacy instructions shall be required immediately as well.

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**North Branch Independent School District No. 138: District Policy #516-NB**

**Adopted:** February 12, 1998

**Replaced:** Policy #5141.3 Administration of Prescription Medication in Schools (Student)

**Revised:** June 12, 2003, May 13, 2004, October 8, 2009, December 11, 2014, June 8, 2017, January 9, 2020

**Effective:** October 8, 2009, December 11, 2014, June 8, 2017, January 9, 2020

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# STUDENTS

## STUDENT MEDICATION

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- G. For drugs or medicine used by children with a disability, administration may be as provided in the IEP, Section 504 plan or IHP.
- H. The school nurse, or other designated person, shall be responsible for the filing of the Administering Prescription Medications form in the health records section of the student file. The school nurse, or other designated person, shall be responsible for providing a copy of such form to the principal and to other personnel designated to administer the medication.
- I. Procedures for administration of drugs and medicine at school and school activities shall be developed in consultation with a school nurse, a licensed school nurse, or a public or private health organization or other appropriate party (if appropriately contracted by the school district under Minn. Stat. § 121A.21). The school district administration shall submit these procedures and any additional guidelines and procedures necessary to implement this policy to the school board for approval. Upon approval by the school board, such guidelines and procedures shall be an addendum to this policy.
- J. Specific Exceptions:
1. Special health treatments and health functions such as catheterization, tracheostomy suctioning, and gastrostomy feedings do not constitute administration of drugs and medicine;
  2. Emergency health procedures, including emergency administration of drugs and medicine are not subject to this policy;
  3. Drugs or medicine provided or administered by a public health agency to prevent or control an illness or a disease outbreak are not governed by this policy;
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  5. Drugs or medicines that are prescription asthma or reactive airway disease medications can be self-administered by a student with an asthma inhaler if:
    - a. the school district has received a written authorization from the pupil's parent permitting the student to self-administer the medication;
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# STUDENTS

## STUDENT MEDICATION

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The parent must submit written authorization for the student to self-administer the medication each school year. In a school that does not have a school nurse or school nursing services, the student's parent or guardian must submit written verification from the prescribing professional which documents that an assessment of the student's knowledge and skills to safely possess and use an asthma inhaler in a school setting has been completed.

If the school district employs a school nurse or provides school nursing services under another arrangement, the school nurse or other appropriate party must assess the student's knowledge and skills to safely possess and use an asthma inhaler in a school setting and enter into the student's school health record a plan to implement safe possession and use of asthma inhalers;

6. Medications:
  - a. that are used off school grounds;
  - b. that are used in connection with athletics or extracurricular activities; or
  - c. that are used in connection with activities that occur before or after the regular school day

are not governed by this policy.

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8. At the start of each school year or at the time a student enrolls in school, whichever is first, a student's parent, school staff, including those responsible for student health care, and the prescribing medical professional must develop and implement an individualized written health plan for a student who is prescribed epinephrine auto-injectors that enables the student to:
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# STUDENTS

## STUDENT MEDICATION

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- b. if the parent and prescribing medical professional determine the student is unable to possess the epinephrine, have immediate access to epinephrine auto-injectors in close proximity to the student at all times during the instructional day.

The plan must designate the school staff responsible for implementing the student's health plan, including recognizing anaphylaxis and administering epinephrine auto-injectors when required, consistent with state law. This health plan may be included in a student's § 504 plan.

- 9. A student may possess and apply a topical sunscreen product during the school day while on school property or at a school-sponsored event without a prescription, physician's note, or other documentation from a licensed health care professional. School personnel are not required to provide sunscreen or assist students in applying sunscreen.
- K. "Parent" for students 18 years old or older is the student.
- L. The school district discourages the administration and use of narcotic pain medications (i.e. Vicodin, Percocet, Tylenol with codeine, among others) in the school setting. In the event it is necessary for a child to take a narcotic pain medication while at school, the child's parent will be asked to come to school and administer the narcotic pain medication directly to the child. School nurses will not maintain supplies of narcotic pain medications at school.
- M. Districts and schools may obtain and possess epinephrine auto-injectors to be maintained and administered by school personnel to a student or other individual if, in good faith, it is determined that person is experiencing anaphylaxis regardless of whether the student or other individual has a prescription for an epinephrine auto-injector. The administration of an epinephrine auto-injector in accordance with this section is not the practice of medicine.

A district or school may enter into arrangements with manufacturers of epinephrine auto-injectors to obtain epinephrine auto-injectors at fair-market, free, or reduced prices. A third party, other than a manufacturer or supplier, may pay for a school's supply of epinephrine auto-injectors.

### **Legal References:**

Minn. Stat. § 13.32 (Student Health Data)  
Minn. Stat. § 121A.21 (Hiring of Health Personnel)  
Minn. Stat. § 121A.22 (Administration of Drugs and Medicine)  
Minn. Stat. § 121A.221 (Possession and Use of Asthma Inhalers by Asthmatic Students)  
Minn. Stat. § 121A.222 (Possession and Use of Nonprescription Pain Relievers by Secondary Students)  
Minn. Stat. § 121A.2205 (Possession and Use of Epinephrine Auto-Injectors; Model Policy)

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# STUDENTS

## STUDENT MEDICATION

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Minn. Stat. § 121A.2207 (Life-Threatening Allergies in Schools; Stock Supply of Epinephrine Auto-Injectors)

Minn. Stat. § 121A.223 (Possession and Use of Sunscreen)

Minn. Stat. § 151.212 (Label of Prescription Drug Containers)

Minn. Stat. § 152.22 (Medical Cannabis; Definitions)

Minn. Stat. § 152.23 (Medical Cannabis; Limitations)

20 U.S.C. § 1400 *et seq.* (Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004)

29 U.S.C. § 794 *et seq.* (Rehabilitation Act of 1973, § 504)

**Cross References:** NB Policy 418 (Drug-Free Workplace/Drug-Free School)

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Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 534

Orig. 2017

Revised: \_\_\_\_\_

Rev. ~~2019~~2021

## 534 UNPAID MEAL CHARGES SCHOOL MEALS POLICY

*[Note: ~~In 2021, the Minnesota legislature amended Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.111, which now states that Minnesota school districts that participate in the national school lunch program must adopt a school meals policy.~~ United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Policy Memorandum SP 46-2016 requires all School Food Authorities (i.e., school districts) operating federal school meal programs to have a written and clearly communicated system to address unpaid meal charges by July 1, 2017. USDA Policy Memorandum SP 23-2017 clarified that school districts could adopt a “policy” or “standard practice.” Although this document is styled as a “policy,” school districts may establish and implement a set of written procedures instead of a policy, provided that the written document explains how the school district will handle situations where students eligible to receive reduced-price or paid meals do not have money in their account or in hand to cover the cost of their meals at the time of service. The policy or standard practice must be implemented throughout the school district.]*

*[Note: This MSBA/MASA model policy is drafted to be consistent for all grade levels. However, local school districts may vary the meal charge policy for elementary, middle, and high schools.]*

*[Note: School districts must follow appropriate debt collection practices when attempting to recover unpaid meal charges.]*

### I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that students receive healthy and nutritious meals through the school district’s nutrition program and that school district employees, families, and students have a shared understanding of expectations regarding meal charges. The policy of the school district is to provide meals to students in a respectful manner and to maintain the dignity of students by prohibiting lunch shaming or otherwise ostracizing the student. The policy seeks to allow students to receive the nutrition they need to stay focused during the school day and minimize identification of students with insufficient funds to pay for school meals as well as to maintain the financial integrity of the school nutrition program.

### II. PAYMENT OF MEALS

*[Note: Payment systems and procedures will likely vary from school district to school district. The school district should select one of the following options and delete the remaining options.]*

A. [OPTION 1: *All meal purchases are to be prepaid before meal service begins. [Insert description for how families may add money to students' accounts (e.g., electronic payment options, pay at the school office, etc.).] A student who does not have sufficient funds will not be allowed to charge meals or a la carte items until additional money is deposited in the student's account.*]

[OPTION 2: *Students have use of a meal account. When the balance reaches zero, a student may charge no more than \$[insert amount] or [insert number of meals] to this account]. When an account reaches this limit, a student shall not be allowed to charge further meals or a la carte items until the negative account balance is paid. [Insert description for how families may add money to students' accounts (e.g., electronic payment options, pay at the school office, etc.).]*]

[OPTION 3: *Insert a school district-specific process for payment of meals.*]

B. If the school district receives school lunch aid under Minnesota Statutes, ~~§section~~ 124D.111, it must make lunch available without charge to all participating students who qualify for free or reduced-price meals regardless of account balance.

C. A student with an outstanding meal charge debt will be allowed to purchase a meal if the student pays for the meal when it is received.

D. -A student who has been determined to be eligible for free and reduced-price lunch ~~must~~ always must be served a reimbursable meal even if the student has an outstanding debt.

E. Once a meal has been placed on a student's tray or otherwise served to a student, the meal may not be subsequently withdrawn from the student by the cashier or other school official, whether or not the student has an outstanding meals balance.

~~DE.~~ The school district may provide an alternate meal that meets federal and state requirements to a student who does not have sufficient funds in the student's account or cannot pay cash for a meal. The school district will accommodate special dietary needs with respect to alternate meals. The cost of the alternative meal (\$[insert amount]) will be charged to the student's account or otherwise charged to the student.

~~EG.~~ When a student has a negative account balance, the student will not be allowed to charge a snack item.

~~FH.~~ If a parent or guardian chooses to send in one payment that is to be divided between sibling accounts, the parent or guardian must specify how the funds are to be distributed to the students' accounts. Funds may not be transferred between sibling accounts unless written permission is received from the parent or guardian.

### III. LOW OR NEGATIVE ACCOUNT BALANCES – NOTIFICATION

- A. The school district will make reasonable efforts to notify families when meal account balances are low or fall below zero.
- B. Families will be notified of an outstanding negative balance once the negative balance reaches  $[\textit{insert amount}]$  or  $[\textit{insert number of meals}]$ . Families will be notified by  $[\textit{insert the method used to notify families (e.g., automated calling system, email, letters sent home)}]$ .
- C. Reminders for payment of outstanding student meal balances will not demean or stigmatize any student participating in the school lunch program. ~~A meal will not be taken away from a student with an overdrawn account, including, but not limited to, dumping meals, withdrawing a meal that has been served, announcing or listing students' names publicly, or affixing stickers, stamps, or pins.~~

### IV. UNPAID MEAL CHARGES

- A. The school district will make reasonable efforts to communicate with families to resolve the matter of unpaid charges. Where appropriate, families may be encouraged to apply for free and reduced-price meals for their children.
- B. The school district will make reasonable efforts to collect unpaid meal charges classified as delinquent debt. Unpaid meal charges are designated as delinquent debt when payment is overdue, the debt is considered collectable, and efforts are being made to collect it.
- C. Negative balances of more than  $[\textit{insert amount}]$ , not paid prior to  $[\textit{enter time period (e.g., end of the month, end of the semester, end of the school year)}]$ , will be turned over to the superintendent or superintendent's designee for collection. In some instances, the school district does use a collection agency to collect unpaid school meal debts after reasonable efforts first have been made by the school district to collect the debt. Collection options may include, but are not limited to, use of collection agencies, claims in the conciliation court, or any other legal method permitted by law.
- D. The school district may not enlist the assistance of non-school district employees, such as volunteers, to engage in debt collection efforts.
- E. The school district ~~may not must~~ will not impose any other restriction prohibited under Minnesota Statutes, §section 123B.37 due to unpaid student meal balances. The school district must will not limit a student's participation in any school activities, graduation ceremonies, field trips, athletics, activity clubs, or other extracurricular activities or access to materials, technology, or other items provided to students due to an unpaid student meal balance. deny any student the opportunity to participate in graduation ceremonies or other commencement activities due to unpaid meal charges.

## V. COMMUNICATION OF POLICY

- A. This policy and any pertinent supporting information shall be provided in writing (i.e., mail, email, back-to-school packet, student handbook, etc.) to:
1. all households at or before the start of each school year;
  2. students and families who transfer into the school district, at the time of enrollment; and
  3. all school district personnel who are responsible for enforcing this policy.
- B. The school district ~~may~~ must ~~will~~ post ~~the~~ is policy on the school district's website, or the website of the organization where the meal is served, in addition to providing the required written notification described above.
- C. If the school district contracts with a third party for its meal services, it ~~must~~ will provide the vendor with its school meals policy. ~~Any contract between the~~ The school district will ensure that and any third-party provider with whom the school district entered into either an original or modified contract after July 1, 2021, must ensure that the third party provider adheres to the school district's school meals policy.

**Legal References:** Minn. Stat. § 123B.37 (Prohibited Fees)  
Minn. Stat. § 124D.111, Subd. 4 (Lunch Aid; Food Service Accounting)  
42 U.S.C. § 1751 et seq. (Healthy and Hunger-Free Kids Act)  
7 C.F.R. § 210 et seq. (School Lunch Program Regulations)  
7 C.F.R. § 220.8 (School Breakfast Program Regulations)  
USDA Policy Memorandum SP 46-2016, Unpaid Meal Charges: Local Meal Charge Policies (2016)  
USDA Policy Memorandum SP 47-2016, Unpaid Meal Charges: Clarification on Collection of Delinquent Meal Payments (2016)  
USDA Policy Memorandum SP 23-2017, Unpaid Meal Charges: Guidance and Q&A  
Minn. Op. Atty. Gen. 169j (May 14, 2019) (Letter to Ricker)

**Cross References:** None

# STUDENTS

## Unpaid Meal Charges

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### I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that students receive healthy and nutritious meals through the school district's nutrition program and that school district employees, families, and students have a shared understanding of expectations regarding meal charges. The policy seeks to allow students to receive the nutrition they need to stay focused during the school day and minimize identification of students with insufficient funds to pay for school meals as well as to maintain the financial integrity of the school nutrition program.

### II. PAYMENT OF MEALS

#### A. Unpaid Meal Charge and Debt Collection Procedures

##### Charge Procedure

1. If the student or family account has insufficient funds to pay for breakfast and/or lunch meals, the following will apply:
  - All students will be provided a Type A meal, regardless of meal account status. The charge for the meal will be added to the family account.
  - Students with an overdrawn account will not be allowed to charge ala carte items.
2. Students eligible for free or reduced-price meals will always be served a meal regardless of unpaid food service accounts. When a student eligible for PAID meals has "cash in hand" to pay for a meal, the student will be served a meal regardless of unpaid food service accounts. The "cash in hand" will not be applied towards past due balances.

##### Notification of Account Status

1. There are several ways families can obtain their lunch account balances.
  - Families can check their student's meal account balance via Wordware.
  - Families can contact the Food Service Department at (651) 674-1521 for account balances.
2. The parent/guardian will be notified when their account has a low balance.
  - When a family's balance reaches \$10.00 or less, an e-mail will be sent daily to the parent/guardian advising them of the student meal account balance(s).
  - At the end of each month, a letter will be mailed home to parents when a family's balance reaches -\$30.00 or less.
  - The Food Service Department will encourage parents to complete the free/reduced-price meal application.

# STUDENTS

## Unpaid Meal Charges

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### Collection of Unpaid Meal Debt

1. Prior to the end of the school year, the following collection actions ~~will~~ **may** be taken on any accounts with a balance of -\$50.00 or less:
  - A formal letter will be sent to the household notifying that the debt ~~will~~ **may** be turned over to a collection agency if the balance isn't paid by a designated date or if a payment plan isn't established. If there is no response by the designated date, the account ~~will~~ **may** be turned over to a collection agency.
  - Two attempts will be made by phone to discuss the status of the negative accounts.
  - The expectation is all fees owed to the district will be paid in full on the last day the student will be attending classes.
- B. If the school district receives school lunch aid under Minn. Stat. § 124D.111, it must make lunch available without charge to all participating students who qualify for free or reduced-price meals regardless of account balance.
- C. A student with an outstanding meal charge debt will be allowed to purchase a meal if the student pays for the meal when it is received.
- D. The school district may provide an alternate meal that meets federal and state requirements to a student who does not have sufficient funds in the student's account or cannot pay cash for a meal. The school district will accommodate special dietary needs with respect to alternate meals. The cost of the alternative meal will be the same as a standard meal price and will be charged to the student's account or otherwise charged to the student.
- E. When a student has a negative account balance, the student will not be allowed to charge a snack item.
- F. If a parent or guardian chooses to send in one payment that is to be divided between sibling accounts, the parent or guardian must specify how the funds are to be distributed to the students' accounts. Funds may not be transferred between sibling accounts unless written permission is received from the parent or guardian.

### III. **LOW OR NEGATIVE ACCOUNT BALANCES – NOTIFICATION**

- A. The school district will make reasonable efforts to notify families when meal account balances are low or fall below zero.
- B. Families will be notified of an outstanding negative balance once the negative balance reaches -\$10.00 or less. Families will be notified by email.

# STUDENTS

## Unpaid Meal Charges

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Families will be notified of an outstanding negative balance once the negative balance reaches -\$30.00 or less. Families will be notified by mail.

- C. Reminders for payment of outstanding student meal balances will not demean or stigmatize any student participating in the school lunch program.

### IV. UNPAID MEAL CHARGES

- A. The school district will make reasonable efforts to communicate with families to resolve the matter of unpaid charges. Where appropriate, families may be encouraged to apply for free and reduced-price meals for their children.
- B. The school district will make reasonable efforts to collect unpaid meal charges classified as delinquent debt. Unpaid meal charges are designated as delinquent debt when payment is overdue, the debt is considered collectable, and efforts are being made to collect it.
- C. Negative balances of more than -\$50.00 or less not paid prior to the end of the school year will be turned over to the superintendent or superintendent's designee for collection. Collection options may include, but are not limited to, use of collection agencies, claims in the conciliation court, or any other legal method permitted by law.
- D. The school district may not enlist the assistance of non-school district employees, such as volunteers, to engage in debt collection efforts.
- E. The school district may not deny any student the opportunity to participate in graduation ceremonies or other commencement activities due to unpaid meal charges.

### V. COMMUNICATION OF POLICY

- A. This policy and any pertinent supporting information shall be provided in writing in the student handbook to:
  - 1. all households at or before the start of each school year;
  - 2. students and families who transfer into the school district, at the time of enrollment; and
  - 3. all school district personnel who are responsible for enforcing this policy.
- B. The school district may post the policy on the school district's website, in addition to providing the required written notification described above.

# STUDENTS

## Unpaid Meal Charges

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- Legal References:**
- Minn. Stat. § 124D.111, Subd. 4
  - 2 U.S.C. § 1751 *et seq.* (Healthy and Hunger-Free Kids Act)
  - 7 C.F.R. § 210 *et seq.* (School Lunch Program Regulations)
  - 7 C.F.R. § 220.8 (School Breakfast Program Regulations)
  - USDA Policy Memorandum SP 46-2016, Unpaid Meal Charges: Local Meal Charge Policies (2016)
  - USDA Policy Memorandum SP 47-2016, Unpaid Meal Charges: Clarification on Collection of Delinquent Meal Payments (2016)
  - USDA Policy Memorandum SP 23-2017, Unpaid Meal Charges: Guidance and Q&A
  - Minn. Op. Atty. Gen. 169j (May 14, 2019) (*Letter to Ricker*)

Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 607

Orig. 1995

Revised: \_\_\_\_\_

Rev. 2020

## 607 ORGANIZATION OF GRADE LEVELS

### I. PURPOSE

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

### II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

A. The policy of the school district is to address the groupings of grade levels as recognized in Minn. Stat. § 120A.05, as follows:

*[Note: Each school district should identify within the groupings as defined in Minn. Stat. § 120A.05, how grade levels shall be organized within the school district from the options listed below:*

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

B. The superintendent may seek school board approval to administer certain programs on a nongraded basis or a design different from that indicated. Program proposals that seek school board approval must meet all state requirements and reflect the rationale for the modification.

C. The school district may request documentation that verifies a student falls within the school’s minimum and maximum age requirements for admission to publicly funded prekindergarten, preschool, kindergarten, or grades 1 through 12. Documentation may include a passport, a hospital birth record or physician’s certificate, a baptismal or religious certificate, an adoption record, health records, immunization records, immigration records, previously verified school records, early childhood screening records, Minnesota Immunization Information Connection records, or an affidavit from a parent.

### III. DEFINITIONS

A. “Kindergarten” means a program designed for students five years of age on September 1 of the calendar year in which the school year commences that prepares

students to enter first grade the following school year.

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

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

***Cross References:***

# EDUCATION PROGRAMS

## Organization of Grade Levels

607

### I. PURPOSE

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

### II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

- A. It is the policy of the school district to address the groupings of grade levels as recognized in Minn. Stat. § 120A.05, as follows:

Prekindergarten **Early Learning**: Birth – Age 5 **Kindergarten**

Elementary: Kindergarten – Grades **1 - 5**

Middle: Grades 6 – 8

High: Grades 9 - 12

- B. The superintendent may seek school board approval to administer certain programs on a nongraded basis or a design different from that indicated. Program proposals that seek school board approval must meet all state requirements and reflect the rationale for the modification.

### III. DEFINITIONS

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

**Legal References:** Minn. Stat. § 120A.05, Subds. 9, 11, 13, 17 (Public Schools)  
Minn. Stat. § 123B.02, Subd. 2 (General Powers of Independent School Districts)

**Cross References:**