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TO: School Board Members

FROM: Peter Mau, Assistant Superintendent

DATE: April 21, 2025

SUBJECT: Final reading of Policy 506, Student Discipline

BACKGROUND:

This policy was presented for a first reading at the meeting on March 17, 2025 and a second reading on April 7. To recap, the district's current policy was reviewed against MSBA's model policy and requires an annual review. After significant changes last year, there is only one for this year based on a legislative change. In item V. E., language was added that makes it clear that School Resource Officers are not employees or agents of the school district in response to Minnesota Statute, section 121A.582.

This policy was reviewed using the district's Four-Way Equity Test. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that students are aware of and comply with the school district's expectations for student conduct, which will help ensure that there is no interference with the educational process.

This policy provides for equitable access for all by helping to create an environment conducive to learning. In addition, clearly enumerating the expectations for conduct, the consequences of violating the code of conduct, and the procedures required for certain types of consequences (e.g., suspension) helps ensure fairness and due process for all students. Specific due process procedures are outlined for students receiving special education services.

District 197 administrators are working toward eliminating racial disproportionality in suspensions. Regular review of suspension data, implementation of restorative practices, and culturally responsive professional development are all aimed at creating more equitable practices.

RESOLUTION:

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of School District 197 to approve Policy 506, Student Discipline, as presented.