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105 EQUITY, ACCESS AND EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that educational equity, access and excellence is provided for each learner. Each of the school district’s students deserves respectful learning environments in which the student’s identity and background is valued and contributes to successful academic outcomes for all students.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The policy of the school district is to raise achievement levels by creating a school district system which ensures equity, access and excellence for each student.

III. DEFINITIONS

- A. “Equal” in education means of the same measure, quantity, amount or access.
- B. “Equity” in education means each student has access to what they need to be successful.

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. School district administration will develop, support, model, and sustain a system that provides equal opportunity to all students and equitable access to supports each student needs to overcome barriers to success.
- B. School district administration will create multiple pathways to success in order to meet the needs of each learner and will actively encourage, support and expect high academic achievement for all.
- C. School district administration will monitor policies, programs and practices to ensure educational equity and access and work to eliminate racial, ethnic, socioeconomic gender identity and expression, and different-ability disparities in all district and school-level programs.
- D. School district administration will develop processes that uphold the district’s commitment to equal opportunities and equitable access to supports.

V. CULTURAL ADORNMENTS

Students may wear cultural adornments at graduation ceremonies that represent their culture, race, ethnicity, gender and/or sexual orientation. Adornments must be displayed respectfully, truly represent the identity of the wearer, and be consistent with other district policies and student handbook. A school district or charter school must not prohibit an American Indian student from wearing American Indian regalia, Tribal regalia, or objects of cultural significance at a graduation ceremony.

Legal Reference: Minn. Stat § 124 D.792 Graduation Ceremonies; Tribal Regalia and Objects of Cultural Significance.

Cross References: Burnsville-Eagan-Savage School District Policy 102 (Equal Educational Opportunity)
Burnsville-Eagan-Savage School District Policy 104 (School District Mission Statement)
Burnsville-Eagan-Savage School District Policy 402 (Disability Nondiscrimination)
Burnsville-Eagan-Savage School District Policy 413 (Harassment and Violence)
Burnsville-Eagan-Savage School District Policy 422 (Policies Incorporated by Reference)
Burnsville-Eagan-Savage School District Policy 504 (Student Dress and Appearance)
Burnsville-Eagan-Savage School District Policy 521 (Student Disability Nondiscrimination)
Burnsville-Eagan-Savage School District Policy 522 (Student Sex Nondiscrimination)
Burnsville-Eagan-Savage School District Policy 601 (School District Curriculum and Instruction Goals)