

**701 ESTABLISHMENT AND ADOPTION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET**

[Note: The provisions of this policy substantially reflect the requirements of Minnesota Statutes.]

**I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to establish lines of authority and procedures for the establishment of Crosslake Community Schools' (CCS) revenue and expenditure budgets.

**II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

The policy of CCS is to establish its revenue and expenditure budgets in accordance with the applicable provisions of law. Budget planning is an integral part of program planning so that the annual budget will effectively express and implement school board goals and the priorities of CCS.

**III. REQUIREMENTS**

A. The Superintendent shall decide and is responsible for all decision making on policy matters related to operating the school, including budgeting, curriculum programming, personnel, and operating procedures.

B. The Superintendent must establish a finance committee that meets regularly and includes at least one member of the school's board. The committee must review and provide recommendations to the board on matters related to financial health and best practices, which may include but are not limited to financial strategy, enrollment tracking, budgeting and planning, internal controls and compliance, revenue generation, financial conflicts of interest, audits and financial reporting, regular finance statements and transactions, and authorizer finance related requirements in the charter contract.

The ~~Director(s)~~ Superintendent or such other school official as designated by the ~~Director(s)~~ Superintendent or the school board shall each year prepare preliminary revenue and expenditure budgets for review by the school board or its designated committee or committees. ~~The preliminary budgets shall be accompanied by such written commentary as may be necessary for them to be clearly understood by the members of the school board and the public. The school board shall review the projected revenues and expenditures for CCS for the next fiscal year and make such adjustments in the expenditure budget as necessary to carry out the education program within the revenues projected. When projected expenditures exceed projected revenues, the school board may consider use of an available fund balance, if one exists.~~

C. ~~CCS must maintain separate accounts to identify revenues and expenditures for each building. Expenditures shall be reported in compliance with Minnesota Statutes section 123B.76.~~

D. Prior to July 1 of each year, the school board shall **must** approve and adopt its initial revenue and expenditure budgets for the next school year. The ~~adopted expenditure budget document~~ **so adopted must** shall be considered the school board's **an** expenditure ~~authorizing or appropriations document~~ authorization for that school year. No funds may **shall** be expended for any purpose in any school year prior to the adoption of the budget document which authorizes that expenditure for that year, or prior to the adoption of an amendment to that budget document by the school board to authorize that expenditure for that year.

- E. The charter school must publish an annual report approved by the board of directors. The annual report must at least include information on school enrollment, student attrition, governance and management, staffing, finances, management agreements with a charter management organization or educational management organization, academic performance, innovative practices and implementation, and future plans.

The charter school may combine this report with the reporting required under Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.11 governing comprehensive achievement and civic readiness. The charter school must post the annual report on the school's official website. The charter school also must distribute the annual report by publication, mail, or electronic means to its authorizer, school employees, and parents and legal guardians of students enrolled in the charter school. The reports are public data under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 13.

~~Each year, CCS shall publish its adopted revenue and expenditure budgets for the current year, the actual revenues, expenditures, and fund balances for the prior year, and the projected fund balances for the current year in the form prescribed by the Minnesota Commissioner of Education within one week of the acceptance of the final audit by the school board, or November 30, whichever is earlier. A statement shall be included in the publication that the complete budget in detail may be inspected by any resident of the school district upon request to the Director(s). A summary of this information and the address of CCS' official website where the information can be found must be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the school district. At the same time as this publication, CCS shall publish the other information required by Minnesota Statutes section 123B.10.~~

- ~~E. At the public hearing on the adoption of the school district's proposed property tax levy, the school board shall review its current budget and the proposed property taxes payable in the following calendar year.~~
- ~~F. CCS must also post the materials specified in Paragraph III.D. above on CCS' official website, including a link to CCS' report card on the Minnesota Department of Education's website, and publish a summary of information and the address of CCS' website where the information can be found in a qualified newspaper of general circulation in the district~~

#### **IV. IMPLEMENTATION**

- A. The school board places the responsibility for administering the adopted budget with the Director(s). The Director(s) may delegate duties related thereto to other school officials, but the Director(s) maintains the ultimate responsibility for this function.
- B. The program-oriented budgeting system will be supported by a program-oriented accounting structure organized and operated on a fund basis as provided for in Minnesota statutes through the Uniform Financial Accounting and Reporting Standards for Minnesota School Districts (UFARS).
- C. The Director(s) or the Director(s) designee is authorized to make payments of claims or salaries authorized by the adopted or amended budget prior to school board approval.
- D. Supplies and capital equipment can be ordered prior to budget adoption only by authority of the school board. If additional personnel are provided in the proposed budget, actual hiring may not occur until the budget is adopted unless otherwise approved by the school board. Other funds to be expended in a subsequent school year may not be encumbered prior to budget adoption unless specifically approved by the school board.
- E. The charter school's annual budget must be sufficient for continuing to implement the plan required Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.11
- F. CCS shall make such reports to the Minnesota Commissioner of Education as required relating to initial allocations of revenue, reallocations of revenue, and expenditures of funds.

**Legal References:** Minn. Stat. § 123B.10 (Publication of Financial Information)

~~Minn. Stat. § 123B.76 (Expenditures; Reporting)~~

~~Minn. Stat. § 123B.77 (Accounting, Budgeting, and Reporting Requirements)~~

Minn. Stat. Ch. 13 (Government Data Practices)

Minn. Stat. § 120B.11 (School District Process for Reviewing Curriculum, Instruction, and Student Achievement Goals; Striving for Comprehensive Achievement and Civic Readiness)

Minn. Stat. § § 124E.03 (Applicable Law)

Minn. Stat. § 124E.07 (Board of Directors)

**Cross References:**

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 701.1 (Modification of School District Budget) MSBA/MASA Model Policy 702 (Accounting)