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615 TESTING ACCOMMODATIONS, MODIFICATIONS, AND EXEMPTIONS FOR IEPs, SECTION 504 PLANS, AND LEP STUDENTS

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of the policy is to provide adequate opportunity for students identified as having individualized education program (IEP), Rehabilitation Act of 1973, § 504 (504) accommodation, or limited English proficiency (LEP) needs to meet the graduation requirements of grade-wide standardized assessments, state mandated, or federally mandated assessments.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

- A. The school district will utilize the existing annual review of IEPs or 504 accommodation plans to review, on a case-by-case basis, the extent of student participation in the required assessments used in the school district.
- B. If the IEP team or Section 504 accommodation plan team determines that a student with disabilities is exempt from the standardized assessment, a Minnesota alternate may be used. The exemption must be reported to the school district test administrator and data must be submitted to the Division of Special Education at the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE).
- C. Students with LEP needs must be identified and accommodations made.

III. DEFINITION OF TERMS

See the current “Procedures Manual for the Minnesota Assessments” ~~which can be found on MDE’s Minnesota Assessments, General Resources, website at: http://www.mnstateassessments.org/resources/Manuals/2011-12_Procedures_Manual.pdf~~, which is produced by the Minnesota Department of Education and available through minnesotapearsonaccessnext.com.

IV. GRANTING AND DOCUMENTING ACCOMMODATIONS, MODIFICATIONS, OR EXEMPTIONS FOR BASIC SKILLS AND GRAD TESTING

See Chapter 5 of the current “Procedures Manual for the Minnesota Assessments” which can be found on MDE’s Minnesota Assessments, General Resources, website at: http://www.mnstateassessments.org/resources/Manuals/2011-12_Procedures_Manual.pdf.

V. RECORDS

All test accommodations, modifications, or exemptions shall be reported to the School District Test Administrator. The School District Test Administrator shall be responsible for keeping a list of all such test accommodations, modifications, and exemptions for school district audit purposes. Testing results will be documented and reported.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 120B.11 (School District Process)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.30 (Statewide Testing and Reporting System)
Minn. Stat. § 125A.08(a)(1) (Individualized Education Programs)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0010-3501.0180 (Graduation Standards – Mathematics and Reading)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0200-3501.0290 (Graduation Standards – Written Composition)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0505-3501.0655 (Academic Standards for Language Arts)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0700-3501.0745 (Academic Standards for Mathematics)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0800-3501.0815 (Academic Standards for the Arts)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0900-3501.0955 (Academic Standards in Science)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.1000-3501.1190 (Graduation-Required Assessment for Diploma)

Cross References: Mahtomedi School Board Policy 104 (School District Mission Statement)
Mahtomedi School Board Policy 601 (School District Curriculum and Instruction Goals)
Mahtomedi School Board Policy 613 (Graduation Requirements)
Mahtomedi School Board Policy 614 (School District Testing Plan and Procedure)
Mahtomedi School Board Policy 616 (School District System Accountability)

Revised: 11-12-15 (MSBA Policy Review)

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