6109 DULUTH PUBLIC SCHOOLS ONLINE LEARNING POLICY

I. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to recognize and govern online learning options of students enrolled in the school district for purposes of compulsory attendance.

II. General Statement of Policy

A. The school district shall not prohibit an enrolled student from applying to enroll in online learning.

- The school district shall permit a student to enroll full-time in online learning courses or their equivalent during a single school year by an online learning provider or the school district.
- The school district shall permit an online learning student to complete coursework at a grade level that is different from the student's current grade level.
- The school district will retain the right to set the minimum number of students for an online course to be offered and will not exceed the state legislated maximum of forty students per online course.

B. The school district shall grant academic credit for completing the requirements of an online learning course or program.

- The school district shall award appropriate academic credit and GPA points to students who have completed requirements of an online learning course or program.
 Secondary credits granted to an online learning student shall be counted toward the graduation and credit requirements of the school district.
- The school district shall award credit for a graduation standard or grade progression requirement to any student who completes an online learning course or program that meets or exceeds such a requirement.
- The school district shall not award credit for the online learning course or program if the student does not successfully complete the course or program.

C. The school district shall allow an online learning student to have the same access to the computer hardware and education software available in the school district as all other students in the school district.

- The school district will insure that all computers supplied by the school district for online learning will have appropriate active Internet filtering and blocking technology. The school district will periodically check all computers to insure that this filtering and blocking software is active.
- The school district will comply with all provisions of all Children's Online Privacy
 Protection Act, and will not collect any private student data without the consent of
 the student's parent or guardian.

D. The school district shall continue to provide non-academic services to online learning students.

• The school district shall assist an online learning student whose family qualifies for the education tax credit to acquire software for online learning purposes.

E. Online learning students may participate in extracurricular activities of the school district on the same basis as other enrolled students.

F. A student with a disability may enroll in an online learning course or program if the student's IEP team determines that online learning is appropriate education for the student.

G. The school district shall provide a teacher with a Minnesota license in the appropriate grade level and subject area to assemble and deliver instruction to students in the online learning program.

III. Definitions

A. Online learning is an interactive course or program that delivers instruction to a student by computer, is combined with other traditional delivery methods that include frequent student assessment and may include actual teacher contact time, and meets or exceeds state academic standards.

B. "Online learning student" is a student enrolled in the school district for purposes of compulsory attendance and enrolled in an online learning course or program delivered by an authorized provider.

C. "Online learning provider" is another school district, or an organization of two or more school districts operating under a joint powers agreement, or a charter school located in Minnesota that provides online learning to students.

IV. Certification

A. The school district shall ensure that all online courses and programs are rigorous, aligned with state academic standards, and contribute to grade progression in a single subject. The school district will maintain records that allow the online learning program to defend the validity of its courses to enrolling school districts and to the Minnesota Department of Education.

B. The school district shall affirm to the commissioner that online learning courses have equivalent standards of instruction, curriculum, and assessment requirements as other courses offered to enrolled students.

C. The school district shall demonstrate expectations for actual teacher contact time or other student-to-teacher communication.

D. The school district shall fulfill all reporting requirements and review criteria required under subdivision 7 on the Online Learning Option Act.

Adopted: 07-20-2004 ISD 709

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