

Work Session
Wednesday, August 2, 2023 5:30 PM

Northland High School Room C113
316 Main St E
Remer, MN 56672

Agenda

1. Greetings, Pledge of Allegiance, Mission Statement
Mission Statement: *Educate and inspire all learners to reach their full potential*
2. Discussion Items
 - 2.1. Support Room Changes
 - 2.2. 2024 - 2025 Administration Model
 - 2.3. School Resource Officer
 - 2.4. Strategic Planning
 - 2.5. Discussion about policy changes and revisions as a result of the 2023 Legislative Session:
 - 2.5.1. Policy # 501 - School Weapons
 - 2.5.2. Policy #507 - Corporal Punishment and Prone Restraint
 - 2.5.3. Policy #532 - Use of Peace Officers and Crisis Teams to Remove Students with IEP's from School Grounds
 - 2.5.4. Policy #601 - School District Curriculum and Instruction Goals
3. Next Meeting:
Regular Meeting, August 16, 2023, 5:30pm

Northland Community Schools Strategic Plan | 2019-2024

BELIEF STATEMENTS

We believe:

- that education excellence requires effective leadership, high expectations, teamwork, and the responsible utilization of resources;
- that learning begins at birth;
- in having high expectations for everyone in the school district;
- that learning occurs best in a safe, nurturing, and respectful environment;
- that parent engagement is the key to the success of the school;
- in providing enrichment opportunities for everyone;
- in fostering collaborative community efforts; and
- that integrity, trust, and transparency are foundational to the educational process.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Northland Community Schools is to:

Educate and inspire all learners to reach their full potential.

VISION STATEMENT

Through unified family, community, and school relationships, Northland Community Schools will, by providing a rigorous, relevant, and engaging curriculum, ensure that all students have the opportunity to acquire the necessary skills to achieve their potential, become productive community members, and value life-long learning.



FOCUS AREA	GOALS	OBJECTIVES
STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND STUDENT SUPPORT	<p>1. We will achieve the goals of World's Best Workforce (WBWF) for all students in the school district.</p> <p>2. We will increase academic achievement of all students through effective instruction, a challenging and engaging curriculum, and aligned assessments.</p>	<p>1.1 Annually evaluate the success of meeting the five goals of the WBWF:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All students are kindergarten ready; ▪ All students reading at grade level by third grade; ▪ Closing the achievement gap for identified student groups; ▪ All students graduating career and college ready; and ▪ All students graduating on time. <p>2.1 By the end of the 2020 school year, increase partnerships with local business and educational organizations focused on relevant career pathways.</p> <p>2.2 By 2021, meet or exceed state averages and comparable districts averages on state accountability and college ready assessments.</p>
FINANCE	<p>3. We will maintain our strong financial foundation which will support the achievement of the school district goals.</p>	<p>3.1 Annually, per school board policy, the school district will maintain a strong district fund balance.</p> <p>3.2 By July 2019, the school district will establish a 1-, 3-, and 5-year budget projection plan.</p> <p>3.3 By 2020, the school district will achieve a balanced budget.</p>
WORKFORCE	<p>4. We will recruit, develop, and retain talented staff for all positions in the school district.</p>	<p>4.1 By August 2019, repair and reboot our mentor and induction program.</p> <p>4.2 By September 2019, implement a comprehensive, coordinated, districtwide professional development program aligned to the goals of the Strategic Plan.</p> <p>4.3 By January 2020, develop a staff climate survey and gather data regarding staff needs.</p> <p>4.4 By August 2020, establish relationships with the local Chambers of Commerce to share employment opportunities.</p> <p>4.5 By August 2020, implement programs and incentives designed to retain all employees.</p>
SCHOOL CLIMATE AND CULTURE	<p>5. We will create and maintain a positive school climate in which staff and students feel respected, safe, and supported in their work and studies.</p>	<p>5.1 By September 2019, establish a professional development plan which results in all staff fostering and reinforcing a positive climate and culture.</p> <p>5.2 By January 2020, identify and implement the best way to benchmark and measure school climate.</p> <p>5.3 By the start of the 2020/2021 school year, research and implement a program designed to promote school pride and engage all stakeholders in improving the climate of the school.</p>
ACADEMIC PROGRAM	<p>6. We will embed teaching and learning practices throughout the pre-K to grade 12 curriculum that provide students with the skills, knowledge, and attributes to successfully transition between all levels within the school district and beyond.</p>	<p>6.1 By May 1, 2019, and each year thereafter, a staff development plan will be created for the following school year that supports curriculum, teaching, and learning practices.</p> <p>6.2 By September 2019, the school district will follow, with fidelity, a curriculum review cycle.</p> <p>6.3 By February 2020, a sustainable schedule that provides student opportunities and choices will be created.</p>
COMMUNICATION	<p>7. We will ensure communication between all stakeholders is built on integrity, trust, and transparency.</p>	<p>7.1 By September 2019, establish clear and regular communication of the “big picture” (i.e., belief, mission, and vision statements) with all stakeholders.</p> <p>7.2 By September 2019, the school district will develop a plan designed to improve two-way communications between administration, staff, and students.</p> <p>7.3 By September 2020, the school district will develop a communications plan designed to target all demographic groups throughout the communities.</p>

Adopted: 9/15/97

Revised: 05/20/04

03/17/05

04/20/06, 04/17/07, 2021-

Independent School District #118 Policy 501

501 SCHOOL WEAPONS POLICY

[Note: School districts are required by statute to have a policy addressing these issues. ATTENTION: This policy incorporates certain provisions of the Minnesota Citizens' Personal Protection Act of 2003. That law was recently struck down by the Minnesota Court of Appeals. However, in the 2005 session, the Minnesota legislature reenacted this law effective retroactively and without interruption from April 28, 2003. The reenacted law is now in effect]

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to assure a safe school environment for students, staff and the public.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

No student or nonstudent, including adults and visitors, shall possess, use or distribute a weapon when in a school location except as provided in this policy. The school district will act to enforce this policy and to discipline or take appropriate action against any student, teacher, administrator, school employee, volunteer, or member of the public who violates this policy.

III. DEFINITIONS

A. "Weapon"

1. A "weapon" means any object, device or instrument designed as a weapon or through its use is capable of threatening or producing bodily harm or which may be used to inflict self-injury including, but not limited to, any firearm, whether loaded or unloaded; airguns; pellet guns; BB guns; all knives; blades; clubs; metal knuckles; numchucks; throwing stars; explosives; fireworks; mace and other propellants; stunguns; ammunition; poisons; chains; arrows; and objects that have been modified to serve as a weapon.
2. No person shall possess, use or distribute any object, device or instrument having the appearance of a weapon and such objects, devices or instruments shall be treated as weapons including, but not limited to, weapons listed above which are broken or non-functional, look-alike guns; toy guns; and any object that is a facsimile of a real weapon.

3. No person shall use articles designed for other purposes (i.e., lasers or laser pointers, belts, combs, pencils, files, scissors, etc.), to inflict bodily harm and/or intimidate and such use will be treated as the possession and use of a weapon.
- B. “School Location” includes any school building or grounds, whether leased, rented, owned or controlled by the school, locations of school activities or trips, bus stops, school buses or school vehicles, school-contracted vehicles, the area of entrance or departure from school premises or events, all locations where school-related functions are conducted, and anywhere students are under the jurisdiction of the school district.
- C. “Possession” means having a weapon on one’s person or in an area subject to one’s control in a school location.
- D. “Dangerous Weapon” means any firearm, whether loaded or unloaded, or any device designed as a weapon and capable of producing death or great bodily harm, any combustible or flammable liquid or other device or instrumentality that, in the manner it is used or intended to be used, is calculated or likely to produce death or great bodily harm, or any fire that is used to produce death or great bodily harm. As used in this definition, “flammable liquid” means any liquid having a flash point below 100 degrees Fahrenheit and having a vapor pressure not exceeding 40 pounds per square inch (absolute) at 100 degrees Fahrenheit but does not include intoxicating liquor. As used in this subdivision, “combustible liquid” is a liquid having a flash point at or above 100 degrees Fahrenheit.

IV. EXCEPTIONS

- A. A student who finds a weapon on the way to school or in a school location, or a student who discovers that he or she accidentally has a weapon in his or her possession, and takes the weapon immediately to the principal’s office shall not be considered to possess a weapon. If it would be impractical or dangerous to take the weapon to the principal’s office, a student shall not be considered to possess a weapon if he or she immediately turns the weapon over to an administrator, teacher or head coach or immediately notifies an administrator, teacher or head coach of the weapon’s location.
- B. It shall not be a violation of this policy if a nonstudent (or student where specified) falls within one of the following categories:
 1. active licensed peace officers;
 2. military personnel, or students or nonstudents participating in military training, who are on duty performing official duties;
 3. persons authorized to carry a pistol under Minn. Stat., Section 624.714, while in a motor vehicle or outside of a motor vehicle for the purpose of

directly placing a firearm in, or retrieving it from, the trunk or rear area of the vehicle;

4. persons who keep or store in a motor vehicle pistols in accordance with Minn. Stat., Sections 624.714 or 624.715, or other firearms in accordance with Section 97B.045;
 - a. Section 624.714 specifies procedures and standards for obtaining pistol permits and penalties for the failure to do so. Section 624.715 defines an exception to the pistol permit requirements for “antique firearms which are carried or possessed as curiosities or for their historical significance or value.”
 - b. Section 97B.045 generally provides that a firearm may not be transported in a motor vehicle unless it is (1) unloaded and in a gun case without any portion of the firearm exposed; (2) unloaded and in the closed trunk; or (3) a handgun carried in compliance with Sections 624.714 and 624.715.
5. firearm safety or marksmanship courses or activities for students or nonstudents conducted on school property;
6. possession of dangerous weapons, BB guns, or replica firearms by a ceremonial color guard;
7. a gun or knife show held on school property;
8. possession of dangerous weapons, BB guns, or replica firearms with written permission of the principal or other person having general control and supervision of the school or the director of a ~~child care~~childcare center; or
9. persons who are on unimproved property owned or leased by a ~~child care~~childcare center, school or school district unless the person knows that a student is currently present on the land for a school-related activity.

C. Policy Application to Instructional Equipment/Tools

While the school district takes a firm “**No Tolerance**” position on the possession, use or distribution of weapons by students, and a similar position with regard to nonstudents, such a position is not meant to interfere with instruction or the use of appropriate equipment and tools by students or nonstudents. Such equipment and tools, when properly possessed, used and stored, shall not be considered in violation of the rule against the possession, use or distribution of weapons. However, when authorized instructional and work equipment and tools are used in a potentially dangerous or threatening manner, such possession and use will be treated as the possession and use of a weapon.

D. Firearms in School Parking Lots and Parking Facilities

A school district may not prohibit the lawful carry or possession of firearms in a school parking lot or parking facility. For purposes of this policy, the “lawful” carry or possession of a firearm in a school parking lot or parking facility is specifically limited to nonstudent permit-holders authorized under Minn. Stat., Section 624.714, to carry a pistol in the interior of a vehicle or outside the motor vehicle for the purpose of directly placing a firearm in, or retrieving it from, the trunk or rear area of the vehicle. Any possession or carry of a firearm beyond the immediate vicinity of a permit-holder’s vehicle shall constitute a violation of this policy.

V. **CONSEQUENCES FOR STUDENT WEAPON POSSESSION/USE/
DISTRIBUTION**

A. The school district takes a position of “**No Tolerance**” in regard to the possession, use or distribution of weapons by students. Consequently, the minimum consequence for students willfully possessing, using or distributing weapons shall include:

1. immediate out-of-school suspension;
2. confiscation of the weapon;
3. immediate notification of police;
4. parent or guardian notification; and
5. recommendation to the superintendent of dismissal for a period of time not to exceed one year.

B. Pursuant to Minnesota law, a student who brings a firearm, as defined by federal law, to school will be expelled for at least one year. The school board may modify this requirement on a case-by-case basis.

C. Administrative Discretion

While the school district takes a “**No Tolerance**” position on the possession, use or distribution of weapons by students, the superintendent may use discretion in determining whether, under the circumstances, a course of action other than the minimum consequences specified above is warranted. If so, other appropriate action may be taken, including consideration of a recommendation for lesser discipline.

D. Elementary students who are in possession of items such as pocket knives, look alike guns, toy guns or any facsimile of a real weapon for the first time will have the item confiscated and the principal shall conference with the student and parent and document the incident.

However, if the student used the item in any way to threaten or even hint of violence toward another person the procedure set forth in Section V.A. shall be followed. A second occurrence of a violation of this policy by an elementary student will also have section V. A. apply (D. not included in MSBA model policy)

VI. CONSEQUENCES FOR WEAPON POSSESSION/USE/DISTRIBUTION BY NONSTUDENTS

A. Employees

1. An employee who violates the terms of this policy is subject to disciplinary action, including nonrenewal, suspension, or discharge as deemed appropriate by the school board.
2. Sanctions against employees, including nonrenewal, suspension, or discharge shall be pursuant to and in accordance with applicable statutory authority, collective bargaining agreements, and school district policies.
3. When an employee violates the weapons policy, law enforcement may be notified, as appropriate.

[Note: An employer may establish policies that restrict the carry or possession of firearms by its employees while acting in the course and scope of employment. Employment-related sanctions may be invoked for a violation. Thus, for example, reasonable limitations may be imposed on the method of storing firearms by permit-holding employees while at work or performing employment-related duties. Reasonable limitations may include requiring firearms to have trigger locks and to be stored in a locked container or locked compartment of the vehicle.]

B. Other Nonstudents

1. Any member of the public who violates this policy shall be informed of the policy and asked to leave the school location. Depending on the circumstances, the person may be barred from future entry to school locations. In addition, if the person is a student in another school district, that school district may be contacted concerning the policy violation.
2. If appropriate, law enforcement will be notified of the policy violation by the member of the public and may be asked to provide an escort to remove the member of the public from the school location.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. §§ 121A.40-121A.56 (Pupil Fair Dismissal Act)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.44 (Expulsion for Possession of Firearm)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.05 (Referral to Police)
Minn. Stat. § 609.66 (Dangerous Weapons)
Minn. Stat. § 609.605 (Trespass)

Minn. Stat. § 609.02, Subd. 6 (Definition of Dangerous Weapon)
Minn. Stat. § 97B.045 (Transportation of Firearms)
Minn. Stat. § 624.714 (Carrying of Weapons without Permit; Penalties)
Minn. Stat. § 624.715 (Exemptions; Antiques and Ornaments)
18 U.S.C. § 921 (Definition of Firearm)
In re C.R.M. 611 N.W.2d 802 (Minn. 2000)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 403 (Discipline, Suspension, and Dismissal of School District Employees)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 506 (Student Discipline)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 525 (Violence Prevention)

Adopted: _____

MSBA/MASA Model Independent School District #118 - Policy 507

Orig. 1995

Revised: _____

Rev. 2023

507 CORPORAL PUNISHMENT AND PRONE RESTRAINT

[Note: The provisions of this policy substantially reflect statutory requirements.]

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to describe limitations on use of corporal punishment and prone restraint upon a students.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

No employee or agent of the school district shall inflict corporal punishment or use prone restraint upon a student. ~~or charter school shall cause corporal punishment to be inflicted upon a student to reform unacceptable conduct or as a penalty for unacceptable conduct. As used in this policy, the term "corporal punishment" means conduct involving hitting or spanking a person with or without an object, or unreasonable physical force that causes bodily harm or substantial emotional harm.~~

III. DEFINITIONS

1. "Corporal punishment" means conduct involving:
 - a. hitting or spanking a person with or without an object; or
 - b. unreasonable physical force that causes bodily harm or substantial emotional harm.
2. "Prone restraint" means placing a child in a face-down position.

IV. PROHIBITIONS

1. An employee or agent of a district shall not inflict corporal punishment or cause corporal punishment to be inflicted upon a pupil to reform unacceptable conduct or as a penalty for unacceptable conduct.
2. An employee or agent of a district, including a school resource officer, security personnel, or police officer contracted with a district, shall not use prone restraint.
3. An employee or agent of a district, including a school resource officer, security personnel, or police officer contracted with a district, shall not inflict any form of physical holding that restricts or impairs a pupil's ability to breathe; restricts or impairs a pupil's ability to communicate distress; places pressure or weight on a pupil's head, throat, neck, chest, lungs, sternum, diaphragm, back, or abdomen; or results in straddling a pupil's torso.
4. Conduct that violates this Article is not a crime under Minnesota Statutes, section 645.241, but may be a crime under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 609 if the conduct violates a provision of Minnesota Statutes, chapter 609. Conduct that violates IV.1 above is not per se corporal punishment under thei statute. Nothing in this Minnesota Statutes, section 121A.58 –or 125A.0941 precludes the use of reasonable

force under Minnesota Statutes, section 121A.582.

V. EXCEPTIONS

A teacher or school principal may use reasonable force under the conditions set forth in Policy 506 (Student Discipline).

VI. VIOLATION

Employees who violate the provisions of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action as appropriate. Any such disciplinary action shall be made pursuant to and in accordance with applicable statutory authority, collective bargaining agreements and school district policies. Violation of this policy may also result in civil or criminal liability for the employee.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 121A.58 (Corporal Punishment)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.582 (Student Discipline; Reasonable Force)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.25 (Legal Actions Against Districts and Teachers)
Minn. Stat. § 609.06 Subd. 1 (6)(7) (Authorized Use of Force)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 403 (Discipline, Suspension, and Dismissal of School District Employees)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 414 (Mandated Reporting of Child Neglect or Physical or Sexual Abuse)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 415 (Mandated Reporting of Maltreatment of Vulnerable Adults)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 506 (Student Discipline)

Adopted: _____

MSBA/MASA Model Independent School District #118 - Policy 532

Orig. 2003

Revised: _____

Rev. 2023

532 USE OF PEACE OFFICERS AND CRISIS TEAMS TO REMOVE STUDENTS WITH IEPs FROM SCHOOL GROUNDS

[Note: School districts are required by statute to have a policy addressing these issues.]

~~*[Note: Minnesota Laws 2009, Chapter 96, made a number of changes to the laws and rules governing the use of "conditional procedures" with respect to special education students. Specifically, Chapter 96 repealed, EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1, 2011, Minnesota Statutes sections 121A.66, 121A.67, Subd. 1, as well as Minnesota Rules 3525.0210, Subparts 5, 6, 9, 13, 17, 29, 30, 46, 47, and 3525.2900, Subp. 5. These laws and rules were replaced, effective August 1, 2011, with a restrictive procedures law which generally addresses the restraint of special education students. Also note that the restrictive procedures law contains a significant staff training component, found at Minnesota Statutes section 125A.0942, Subds. 1, 2, and 5. Staff who intend to use restrictive procedures must be trained in the areas specified in Subd. 5 to use these procedures.]*~~

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to describe the appropriate use of peace officers and crisis teams to remove, if necessary, a student with an individualized education program (IEP) from school grounds.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The school district is committed to promoting learning environments that are safe for all members of the school community. It further believes that students are the first priority and that they should be reasonably protected from physical or emotional harm at all school locations and during all school activities.

In general, all students, including those with IEPs, are subject to the terms of the school district's discipline policy. Building level administrators have the leadership responsibility to maintain a safe, secure, and orderly educational environment within which learning can occur. Corrective action to discipline a student and/or modify a student's behavior will be taken by staff when a student's behavior violates the school district's discipline policy.

If a student with an IEP engages in conduct which, in the judgment of school personnel, endangers or may endanger the health, safety, or property of the student, other students, staff members, or school property, that student may be removed from school grounds in accordance with this policy.

III. DEFINITIONS

For purposes of this policy, the following terms have the meaning given them in this section:

- A. "Crisis team" means a group of persons, which may include teachers and non-teaching school personnel, selected by the building administrator in each school building who have received crisis intervention training and are responsible for becoming actively involved with resolving crises. The building administrator or designee shall serve as the leader of the crisis team.
- B. "Emergency" means a situation where immediate intervention is needed to protect a child or other individual from physical injury.

- C. "Peace officer" means an employee or an elected or appointed official of a political subdivision or law enforcement agency who is licensed by the Board of Peace Officer Standards and Training, charged with the prevention and detection of crime and the enforcement of general criminal laws of the state and who has the full power of arrest. The term "peace officer" includes a person who serves as a sheriff, a deputy sheriff, a police officer, or a state patrol trooper.
- D. "Police liaison officer" is a peace officer who, pursuant to an agreement between the school district and a political subdivision or law enforcement agency, is assigned to a school building for all or a portion of the school day to provide law enforcement assistance and support to the building administration and to promote school safety, security, and positive relationships with students.
- E. The phrase "remove the student from school grounds" is the act of securing the person of a student with an IEP and escorting that student from the school building or school activity at which the student with an IEP is located.
- F. "Student with an IEP" or "the student" means a student who is eligible to receive special education and related services pursuant to the terms of an IEP or an individual interagency intervention plan (IIIP).
- G. All other terms and phrases used in this policy shall be defined in accordance with applicable state and federal law or ordinary and customary usage.

IV. REMOVAL OF STUDENTS WITH IEPs FROM SCHOOL GROUNDS

A. Removal By Crisis Team

If the behavior of a student with an IEP escalates to the point where the student's behavior endangers or may endanger the health, safety, or property of the student, other students, staff members, or school property, the school building's crisis team may be summoned. The crisis team may attempt to de-escalate the student's behavior by means including, but not limited to, those described in the student's IEP and/or behavior intervention plan. When such measures fail, or when the crisis team determines that the student's behavior continues to endanger or may endanger the health, safety, or property of the student, other students, staff members, or school property, the crisis team may remove the student from school grounds.

If the student's behavior cannot be safely managed, school personnel may immediately request assistance from the police liaison officer or a peace officer.

B. Removal By Police Liaison Officer or Peace Officer

If a student with an IEP engages in conduct which endangers or may endanger the health, safety, or property of the student, other students, staff members, or school property, the school building's crisis team, building administrator, or the building administrator's designee, may request that the police liaison officer or a peace officer remove the student from school grounds.

If a student with an IEP is restrained or removed from a classroom, school building, or school grounds by a peace officer at the request of a school administrator or school staff person during the school day twice in a 30-day period, the student's IEP team must meet to determine if the student's IEP is adequate or if additional evaluation is needed.

Whether or not a student with an IEP engages in conduct which endangers or may endanger the health, safety, or property of the student, other students, staff members, or school property, school district personnel may report a crime committed by a student with an IEP to appropriate authorities. If the school district reports a crime committed by a student with an IEP, school personnel shall transmit copies of the special education and disciplinary records of the student for consideration by appropriate authorities to whom it reports the crime, to the extent that the transmission is permitted by the Family

Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, and school district's policy, Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records.

[Note: If the school district uses a different reference name for its student records policy, insert that name in place of the reference to Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records, which is the title of MSBA/MASA Model Policy 515.]

The fact that a student with an IEP is covered by special education law does not prevent state law enforcement and judicial authorities from exercising their responsibilities with regard to the application of federal and state law to crimes committed by a student with an IEP.

C. Reasonable Force Permitted

1. In removing a student with an IEP from school grounds, a building administrator, other crisis team members, or the police liaison officer or other agents of the school district, whether or not members of a crisis team, may use reasonable force when it is necessary under the circumstances to correct or restrain a student or prevent bodily harm or death to another
2. In removing a student with an IEP from school grounds, police liaison officers and school district personnel are further prohibited from engaging in the following conduct:
 - a. Corporal punishment prohibited by Minnesota Statutes, section 121A.58;
 - b. Requiring a child to assume and maintain a specified physical position, activity, or posture that induces physical pain;
 - c. Totally or partially restricting a child's senses as punishment;
 - d. Denying or restricting a child's access to equipment and devices such as walkers, wheelchairs, hearing aids, and communication boards that facilitate the child's functioning except when temporarily removing the equipment or device is needed to prevent injury to the child or others or serious damage to the equipment or device, in which case the equipment or device shall be returned to the child as soon as possible;
 - e. Interacting with a child in a manner that constitutes sexual abuse, neglect, or physical abuse under Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 260E;
 - f. Physical holding (as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 125A.0941) that restricts or impairs a child's ability to breathe, restricts or impairs a child's ability to communicate distress, places pressure or weight on a child's head, throat, neck, chest, lungs, sternum, diaphragm, back, or abdomen, or results in straddling a child's torso;
 - g. Withholding regularly scheduled meals or water; and/or
 - h. Denying a child access to toilet facilities.
3. Any reasonable force used under Minnesota Statutes, sections 121A.582; 609.06, subdivision 1; and 609.379 which intends to hold a child immobile or limit a child's movement where body contact is the only source of physical restraint or confines a child alone in a room from which egress is barred shall be reported to the Minnesota Department of Education as a restrictive procedure, including physical holding or seclusion used by an unauthorized or untrained staff person.

D. Parental Notification

The building administrator or designee shall make reasonable efforts to notify the student's parent or guardian of the student's removal from school grounds as soon as possible following the removal.

E. Continued Removals; Review of IEP

Continued and repeated use of the removal process described herein must be reviewed in the development of the individual student's IEP or IIIP.

F. Effect of Policy in an Emergency; Use of Restrictive Procedures

A student with an IEP may be removed in accordance with this policy regardless of whether the student's conduct would create an emergency.

If the school district seeks to remove a student with an IEP from school grounds under this policy due to behaviors that constitute an emergency and the student's IEP, IIIP, or behavior intervention plan authorizes the use of one or more restrictive procedures, the crisis team may employ those restrictive procedures, in addition to any reasonable force that may be necessary, to facilitate the student's removal from school grounds, as long as the crisis team members who are implementing the restrictive procedures have received the training required by Minnesota Statutes, section 125A.0942, [subdivision Subd. 5](#), and otherwise comply with the requirements of [section § 125A.0942](#).

G. Reporting to the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE)

Annually, stakeholders may recommend, as necessary, to the Commissioner of MDE (Commissioner) specific and measurable implementation and outcome goals for reducing the use of restrictive procedures. The Commissioner must submit to the Legislature a report on districts' progress in reducing the use of restrictive procedures that recommends how to further reduce these procedures and eliminate the use of seclusion. By January 15, April 15, July 15, and October 15 of each year, districts must report, in a form and manner determined by the Commissioner, about individual students who have been secluded. By July 15 each year, districts must report summary data. The summary data must include information on the use of restrictive procedures for the prior school year, July 1 through June 30, including the use of reasonable force by school personnel that is consistent with the definition of physical holding or seclusion of a child with a disability.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. Ch. 13 (Minnesota Government Data Practices Act)
Minn. Stat. §§ 121A.40-121A.56 (Minnesota Pupil Fair Dismissal Act)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.582 (Student Discipline; Reasonable Force)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.61 (Discipline and Removal of Students from Class)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.67 (Removal by Police Officer)
Minn. Stat. §§ 125A.094-125A.0942 (Restrictive Procedures for Children with Disabilities)
Minn. Stat. § 609.06 (Authorized Use of Force)
Minn. Stat. § 609.379 (Permitted Actions)
20 U.S.C. § 1232g *et seq.* (Family Educational Rights and Privacy (FERPA))
20 U.S.C. § 1415(k)(6) (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act)
34 C.F.R. § 300.535 (Referral to and Action by Law Enforcement and Judicial Authorities)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 506 (Student Discipline)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 507 (Corporal Punishment)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 515 (Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 525 (Violence Prevention)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 806 (Crisis Management Policy)

Adopted: _____

~~MSBA/MASA Model~~ Independent School District # 118 - Policy 601
Orig. 1995

Revised: _____

Rev. 20232

601 SCHOOL DISTRICT CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION GOALS

[Note: Minnesota Statutes section 120B.11 requires school districts to adopt a comprehensive long-term strategic plan that addresses the review of curriculum, instruction, student achievement, and assessment. MSBA/MASA Model Policies 601, 603, and 616 address these statutory requirements. In addition, MSBA/MASA Model Policies 613-615 and 617-620 provide procedures to further implement the requirements of Minnesota Statutes section 120B.11.]

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish broad curriculum parameters for the school district that encompass the Minnesota Academic Standards and federal law and are aligned with creating the world's best workforce.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The policy of the school district is to establish the "world's best workforce" in which all learning in the school district should be directed and for which all school district learners should be held accountable.

III. DEFINITIONS

- A. "Academic standard" means a summary description of student learning in a required content area or elective content area.
- B. ["Antiracist" means actively working to identify and eliminate racism in all forms in order to change policies, behaviors, and beliefs that perpetuate racist ideas and actions.](#)
- C. ["Benchmark" means specific knowledge or skill that a student must master to complete part of an academic standard by the end of the grade level or grade band.](#)
- D. ["Culturally sustaining" means integrating content and practices that infuse the culture and language of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color communities who have been and continue to be harmed and erased through the education system.](#)
- E. "Curriculum" means district or school adopted programs and written plans for providing students with learning experiences that lead to expected knowledge, skills, and career and college readiness.
- F. ["Ethnic studies" as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.25, has the same meaning for purposes of this section. Ethnic studies curriculum may be integrated in existing curricular opportunities or provided through additional curricular offerings.](#)
- G. ["Experiential learning" means learning for students that includes career exploration through a specific class or course or through work-based experiences such as job shadowing, mentoring, entrepreneurship, service learning, volunteering, internships, other cooperative work experience, youth apprenticeship, or employment.](#)
- H. ["Institutional racism" means structures, policies, and practices within and across](#)

[institutions that produce outcomes that disadvantage those who are Black, Indigenous, and People of Color.](#)

- I. “Instruction” means methods of providing learning experiences that enable students to meet state and district academic standards and graduation requirements [including applied and experiential learning](#).

- J. “Performance measures” are measures to determine school district and school site progress in striving to create the world’s best workforce and must include at least the following:
 - 1. the size of the academic achievement gap; ~~and~~ rigorous course taking, including college-level advanced placement, international baccalaureate, postsecondary enrollment options, including concurrent enrollment, other rigorous courses of study or industry certification courses or programs, and enrichment experiences by student subgroup;
 - 2. student performance on the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments;
 - 3. high school graduation rates; and
 - 4. career and college readiness under Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.30, subdivision 1.

- K. “World’s best workforce” means striving to: meet school readiness goals; ~~have all third-grade students achieve grade-level literacy~~; close the academic achievement gap among all racial and ethnic groups of students and between students living in poverty and students not living in poverty; have all students attain career and college readiness before graduating from high school; and have all students graduate from high school.

[\[Note: Definitions B, D, F, and H are added to Minnesota Statutes 120B.11—the World’s Best Workforce law—effective August 1, 2023. The definitions apply to revisions to the World’s Best Workforce law regarding strategic plans; these revisions are effective “for all strategic plans reviewed and updated after June 30, 2024.](#)

[Because school districts may choose to implement the new definitions and the strategic plan revisions before June 30, 2024, MSBA includes the new definitions and revisions in Articles III and IV. A school district could choose to wait to adopt the new definitions and revisions with the understanding that they will be effective for all strategic plans reviewed and updated after June 30, 2024.\]](#)

IV. LONG-TERM STRATEGIC PLAN

- A. The school board, at a public meeting, ~~shall~~**must** adopt a comprehensive, long-term strategic plan to support and improve teaching and learning that is aligned with creating the world’s best workforce and includes the following:
 - 1. clearly defined school district and school site goals and benchmarks for instruction and student achievement for all student categories identified in [Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.345, subdivision 3, paragraph \(b\)\(2\), state and federal law](#);

[Note: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 601, Section IV.B. and MSBA/MASA Model Policy 616 address this requirement.]

2. a process to assess and evaluate each student’s progress toward meeting state and local academic standards, assess and identify students for participation in gifted and talented programs and services and accelerate their instruction, adopt early-admission procedures consistent with Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.15 for early admission to kindergarten or first grade of gifted and talented learners which are sensitive to under-represented groups, and identifying the strengths and weaknesses of instruction in pursuit of student and school success and curriculum affecting students’ progress and growth toward career and college readiness and leading to the world’s best workforce;

[Note: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 618 addresses this requirement.]

3. a system to periodically review and evaluate the effectiveness of all instruction and curriculum, taking into account strategies and best practices, student outcomes, principal evaluations under Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.147, subdivision 3, students’ access to effective teachers who are members of populations under-represented among the licensed teachers in the district or school and who reflect the diversity of enrolled students under Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.35, subdivision 3(b)(2), and teacher evaluations under Minnesota Statutes, section 122A.40, subdivision Subd. 8, or 122A.41, subdivision 5;

[Note: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 616 addresses this requirement.]

4. strategies for improving instruction, curriculum, and student achievement, including the English and, where practicable, the native language development and the academic achievement of English learners;

[Note: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 616 addresses this requirement.]

5. a process to examine the equitable distribution of teachers and strategies to ensure children in low-income and minority children families, children in families of People of Color, and children in American Indian families are not taught at higher rates than other children by inexperienced, ineffective, or out-of-field teachers;

6. education effectiveness practices that

- a. integrate high-quality instruction, rigorous curriculum, technology, and curriculum that is rigorous, accurate, antiracist, and culturally sustaining;

- b. ensure learning and work environments validate, affirm, embrace, and integrate cultural and community strengths for all students, families, and employees;

- c. provide a collaborative professional culture that develops and supports seeks to retain qualified, racially and ethnically diverse staff effective at working with diverse students while developing and supporting teacher quality, performance, and effectiveness; and

7. an annual budget for continuing to implement the school district plan; and-

~~8. identifying a list of suggested and required materials, resources, sample curricula, and pedagogical skills for use in kindergarten through grade 12 that accurately reflect the diversity of the state of Minnesota.~~

~~B. The school district is not required to include information regarding literacy in a plan or report required under this section, except with regard to the academic achievement of English learners.~~

~~. School district site and school site goals shall include the following:~~

~~1. All students will be required to demonstrate essential skills to effectively participate in lifelong learning.* These skills include the following:~~

~~***[*Note: The criteria for acceptable performance in basic skills areas may need to be modified for students with unique learning needs. These modifications will be reflected in the Individualized Education Program (IEP) or Rehabilitation Act Section 504 Accommodation plan.]***~~

~~a. reading, writing, speaking, listening, and viewing in the English language;~~

~~b. mathematical and scientific concepts;~~

~~c. locating, organizing, communicating, and evaluating information and developing methods of inquiry (i.e., problem solving);~~

~~d. creative and critical thinking, decision making, and study skills;~~

~~e. work readiness skills;~~

~~f. global and cultural understanding.~~

~~2. Each student will have the opportunity and will be expected to develop and apply essential knowledge that enables that student to:~~

~~a. live as a responsible, productive citizen and consumer within local, state, national, and global political, social, and economic systems;~~

~~b. bring many perspectives, including historical, to contemporary issues;~~

~~c. develop an appreciation and respect for democratic institutions;~~

~~d. communicate and relate effectively in languages and with cultures other than the student's own;~~

~~e. practice stewardship of the land, natural resources, and environment;~~

~~f. use a variety of tools and technology to gather and use information, enhance learning, solve problems, and increase human productivity.~~

~~3. Students will have the opportunity to develop creativity and self-expression through visual and verbal images, music, literature, world languages, movement, and the performing arts.~~

4. ~~School practices and instruction will be directed toward developing within each student a positive self-image and a sense of personal responsibility for:

 - a. ~~establishing and achieving personal and career goals;~~
 - b. ~~adapting to change;~~
 - c. ~~leading a healthy and fulfilling life, both physically and mentally;~~
 - d. ~~living a life that will contribute to the well-being of society;~~
 - e. ~~becoming a self-directed learner;~~
 - f. ~~exercising ethical behavior.~~~~

5. ~~Students will be given the opportunity to acquire human relations skills necessary to:

 - a. ~~appreciate, understand, and accept human diversity and interdependence;~~
 - b. ~~address human problems through team effort;~~
 - c. ~~resolve conflicts with and among others;~~
 - d. ~~function constructively within a family unit;~~
 - e. ~~promote a multicultural, gender-fair, disability-sensitive society.~~~~

[Note: School district and site goals example courtesy of the Winona School District.]

- C. Every child is reading at or above grade level every year, beginning in kindergarten, and multilingual learners and students receiving special education services are receiving support in achieving their individualized reading goals pursuant to Policy XXX (Reading and the Read Act)

~~Every child is reading at or above grade level no later than the end of grade 3, including English learners, and teachers provide comprehensive, scientifically based reading instruction, including a program or collection of instructional practices that is based on valid, replicable evidence showing that, when the programs or practices are used, students can be expected to achieve, at a minimum, satisfactory reading progress. The program or collection of practices must include, at a minimum, effective, balanced instruction in all five areas of reading (phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary development, and reading comprehension), as well as instructional strategies for continuously assessing, evaluating, and communicating the student's reading progress and needs.~~

1. ~~The school district must identify, before the end of kindergarten, grade 1, and grade 2, all students who are not reading at grade level. Students identified as not reading at grade level by the end of kindergarten, grade 1, and grade 2 must be screened for characteristics of dyslexia, unless a different reason for the reading difficulty has been identified.~~

2. ~~Students in grade 3 or higher who demonstrate a reading difficulty to a classroom teacher must be screened for characteristics of dyslexia, unless a different reason for the reading difficulty has been identified.~~

[Note: According to Minnesota statutes, dyslexia screening is to be conducted in a locally determined manner.]

3. Reading assessments in English and in the predominant languages of district students, where practicable, must identify and evaluate students' areas of academic need related to literacy. The school district also must monitor the progress and provide reading instruction appropriate to the specific needs of English learners. The school district must use locally adopted, developmentally appropriate, and culturally responsive assessment and annually report summary assessment results to the Commissioner of Education by July 1.
4. The school district must annually report to the Commissioner of Education by July 1 a summary of the district's efforts to screen and identify students who demonstrate characteristics of dyslexia using screening tools such as those recommended by the Minnesota Department of Education's dyslexia specialist. With respect to students screened or identified under paragraph (1), the report must include:
 - a. a summary of the district's efforts to screen for dyslexia;
 - b. the number of students screened for that reporting year; and
 - c. the number of students demonstrating characteristics of dyslexia for that year.
5. A student identified as having a reading difficulty must be provided with alternate instruction under Minnesota Statutes section 125A.56, subdivision 1.
6. At least annually, the school district must give the parent of each student who is not reading at or above grade level timely information about:
 - a. the student's reading proficiency as measured by a locally adopted assessment;
 - b. reading-related services currently being provided to the student and the student's progress; and
 - c. strategies for parents to use at home in helping their students succeed in becoming grade-level proficient in reading English and their native languages.

This provision may not be used to deny a student's right to a special education evaluation.

7. For each student who is not reading at or above grade level, the school district shall provide reading intervention to accelerate student growth and reach the goal of reading at or above grade level by the end of the current grade and school year. If a student does not read at or above grade level by the end of grade 3, the school district must continue to provide reading intervention until the student reads at grade level. Intervention methods shall encourage family engagement and, where possible, collaboration with appropriate school and community programs. Intervention methods may include, but are not limited to, requiring attendance in summer school, intensified reading instruction that may require that the student be removed from the regular classroom for part of the school day, extended day programs, or programs that strengthen students' cultural connections.

[Note: School districts are strongly encouraged, but not required, to provide personal learning plans, as provided in Paragraph 8.]

8. ~~The school district will provide a personal learning plan for a student who is unable to demonstrate grade-level proficiency, as measured by the statewide reading assessment in grade 3. The school district will determine the format of the personal learning plan in collaboration with the student's educators and other appropriate professionals. The school district will develop the personal learning plan in consultation with the student's parent or guardian. The personal learning plan will address knowledge gaps and skill deficiencies through strategies such as specific exercises and practices during and outside of the school day, periodic assessments, and reasonable timelines. The personal learning plan may include grade retention if it is in the student's best interest. The student's school will maintain and regularly update and modify the personal learning plan until the student reads at grade level. This paragraph does not apply to a student under an Individualized Education Program.~~

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 120B.018 (Definitions)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.02 (Educational Expectations and Graduation Requirements for Minnesota Students)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.11 (School District Process for Reviewing Curriculum, Instruction, and Student Achievement; Striving for the World's Best Workforce)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.12 (~~Reading Proficiently no Later than the End of Grade 3~~[Read Act Goal and Interventions](#))
Minn. Stat. § 120B.30, Subd. 1 (Statewide Testing and Reporting System)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.35, Subd. 3 (Student Academic Achievement and Growth)
Minn. Stat. § 122A.40, Subd. 8 (Employment; Contracts; Termination)
Minn. Stat. § 122A.41, Subd. 5 (Teacher Tenure Act; Cities of the First Class; Definitions)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.147, Subd. 3 (Principals)
Minn. Stat. § 125A.56, Subd. 1 (Alternate Instruction Required before Assessment Referral)
20 U.S.C. § 5801, *et seq.* (National Education Goals)
20 U.S.C. § 6301, *et seq.* (Every Student Succeeds Act)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 104 (School District Mission Statement)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 613 (Graduation Requirements)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 614 (School District Testing Plan and Procedure)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 615 (Testing Accommodations, Modifications, and Exemptions for IEPs, Section 504 Plans, and LEP Students)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 616 (School District System Accountability)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 618 (Assessment of Student Achievement)