Policy Committee Meeting
Duluth Public Schools, ISD 709
Agenda
Thursday, June 11, 2026
District Services Center
709 Portia Johnson Dr.
Duluth, MN 55811
4:30 PM

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533 WELLNESS

I. PURPOSE

~~The purpose of this policy is to assure a school environment that promotes and protects all students' health, well-being, and ability to learn by supporting healthy eating and physical activity.~~

The purpose of this policy is to set forth methods that promote student wellness, prevent and reduce childhood obesity, and assure that school meals and other food and beverages sold and otherwise made available on the school campus during the school day are consistent with applicable minimum local, state, and federal standards.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

A. The school board recognizes that nutrition promotion and education, physical activity, and other school-based activities that promote student wellness are essential components of the educational process and that good health fosters student attendance and learning.

B. The school environment should promote all students' health, well-being, and ability to learn by encouraging healthy eating and physical activity.

C. The school district encourages the involvement of parents, students, representatives of the school food authority, teachers, school health professionals, the school board, school administrators, and the general public in the development, implementation, and periodic review and update of the school district's wellness policy.

D. ~~Because all~~ ~~c~~Children need access to healthy foods and opportunities to be physically active in order to grow, ~~the school district will provide an optimal~~ learn~~ing environment whereby:~~ and thrive.

E. All students in grades K-12 will have opportunities, support, and encouragement to be physically active on a regular basis.

F. Qualified food service personnel will provide students with access to a variety of affordable, nutritious, and appealing foods that meet the health and nutrition needs of students; try to accommodate the religious, ethnic, and cultural diversity ~~and diverse needs~~ of the student body in meal planning; and will provide clean, safe, and pleasant settings and adequate time for students to eat.

III. WELLNESS GOALS

A. Nutrition Promotion and Education

1. The school district will encourage and support healthy eating by students and engage in nutrition promotion that is:

   a. ~~o~~Offered as part of a comprehensive program designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary to promote and protect their health;

   b. ~~p~~Part of health education classes, as well as classroom instruction in subjects such as math, science, language arts, social sciences, and elective subjects, where appropriate; and

   c. ~~e~~Enjoyable, developmentally appropriate, culturally relevant, and includes participatory activities, such as contests, promotions, taste testings, and field trips. ~~educational experiences~~

2. The school district will encourage all students to make age appropriate, healthy selections of foods and beverages, including those sold individually outside the reimbursable school meal programs, such as through a la carte/snack lines, vending machines, fundraising events, concession stands, and student stores.

3. Farm to School Program

a. Farm to School programs enhance the nutritional and educational experience of school children by providing:

1) Nutritious, locally grown food as a part of the school food program to expose students to a variety of fresh food while supporting local farmers, when available and fiscally responsible to do so. That exposure might be a part of the meal itself or a sample the program is highlighting; and

2) Opportunities for educational experiences in classrooms, school gardens and/or at community gardens and local farms to learn about the origins of their food and how their food is grown. ~~These experiences serve as an interdisciplinary teaching tool to influence student food choices and lifelong healthy eating habits.~~

~~b. Farm to School programs provide students with the opportunity to eat healthy, locally grown foods and be exposed to a variety of fresh produce that reflects the ethnic and cultural diversity of the student population. The school district will support the development of Farm to School programs to help students eat more nutritious foods and promote healthier lifelong eating patterns; support the local economy and local farmers; and teach students about the origins of their foods and how their food is grown.~~

~~c. Farm to School Programs will adhere to the recommended USDA Sanitation and Safety guidelines of Traceability of Fresh Produce from local farmers and school gardens. This process includes but is not limited to a review of Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) and Good Handling Practices (GHPs). Farm to School items served in the Cafeteria, the Child Nutrition Department will maintain traceability records from the source of the product through the serving of the product. This documentation will include information on suppliers including local farms, purchasing records, and the specific source of the product.~~

B. Physical Activity

1. Students need opportunities for physical activity and to fully embrace regular physical activity as a personal behavior. Toward that end, health and physical education will reinforce the knowledge and self-management skills needed to maintain a healthy lifestyle and reduce sedentary activities, such as watching televisions or electronics screens;

2. Opportunities for physical activity will be incorporated into other subject lessons, where appropriate; and

3. Classroom teachers will provide short physical activity breaks between lessons or classes, as appropriate.

~~4. Schools will limit withholding physical activity and recess as a behavioral consequence.~~

~~5. Schools will proactively teach and encourage positive recess behavior and indoor active recess throughout the school year.~~

~~6. Extended periods (i.e., periods of two or more hours of inactivity) are discouraged. When activities, such as school-wide testing, making necessary for students to remain indoors for long periods of time, students will be given periodic breaks (before, during, and after) during which they are encouraged to stand and be moderately active.~~

~~7~~4. The school district will encourage Safe Routes to School ~~walking and biking to and from school~~ based on age appropriate standards for students living within certain distances of the school.

5. Schools are encouraged to promote and support active transportation to schools including participating in Safe Routes to School programming and activities. Schools are to provide active transportation safety education as required by state law.

C. Communications with Parents

1. The school district recognizes that parents and guardians have a primary role in promoting their children's health and well-being.

2. The school district will support parents' efforts to provide a healthy diet and daily physical activity for their children.

3. The school district encourages parents to pack healthy lunches and snacks and refrain from including beverages and foods without nutritional value.

~~3~~4. The school district will provide information about physical education and other school-based physical activity opportunities and will support parents' efforts to provide their children with opportunities to be physically active outside of school.

5. The school district will include information about the free and reduced educational benefits in it's back to school packets, and on it's website.

IV. STANDARDS AND NUTRITION GUIDELINES

A. School Meals

1. The school district will provide healthy and safe school meal programs that comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations.

2. Food service personnel will provide students with access to a variety of affordable, nutritious, and appealing foods that meet the health and nutrition needs of students.

3. Food service personnel will try to accommodate the religious, ethnic, and cultural ~~and diverse~~ diversity ~~needs~~ of the student body in meal planning.

~~4. Food service personnel will provide clean, safe, and pleasant settings and adequate time for students to eat.~~

~~5~~4. Food service personnel will take every measure to ensure that student access to foods and beverages meets or exceeds all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations and that reimbursable school meals meet USDA nutrition standards.

~~6. Food service personnel shall adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local food safety and security guidelines.~~

~~7~~5. The school district will make every effort to eliminate any social stigma attached to, and prevent the overt identification of, students who are eligible

for free and reduced-price school meals. In addition, all students will be fed breakfast and lunch regardless of their lunch balances. Students are never stigmatized about negative lunch balances.

~~8~~6. The school district will provide students access to hand washing or hand sanitizing before they eat meals or snacks as well as free drinking water available during meals.

~~9~~7. The school district will make every effort to provide students with sufficient time to eat after sitting down for school meals and will schedule meal periods at appropriate times during the school day.

~~10~~8. The school district will discourage tutoring, club, or organizational meetings or activities during mealtimes unless students may eat during such activities.

B. School Food Service Program/Personnel

1. The school district shall designate an appropriate person to be responsible for the school district's food service program, whose duties shall include the creation of nutrition guidelines and procedures for the selection of foods and beverages made available on campus to ensure food and beverage choices are consistent with current USDA guidelines.

2. As part of the school district's responsibility to operate a food service program, the school district will provide continuing professional development for all food service personnel in schools.

C. Competitive Foods and Beverages

1. All foods and beverages sold on school grounds to students, outside of reimbursable meals, are considered "competitive foods." Competitive foods include items sold a la carte in the cafeteria, from vending machines, school stores, and for in-school fundraisers.

2. All competitive foods sold during the school day (defined as midnight before school starts and 30 minutes after the end of the official school day) will meet the USDA Smart Snacks in School (Smart Snacks) nutrition standards and any applicable state nutrition standards~~, at a minimum~~. Smart Snacks aim to improve student health and well-being, increase consumption of healthful foods during the school day, and create an environment that reinforces the development of healthy eating habits.

3. The Smart Snacks regulation does not have an impact on the culinary education programs curriculum, nor do they have any impact on food sold to adults at any time or to students outside of the school day. However, nutrition standards do apply to all foods sold to students on the school campus during the school day, including food prepared and sold by the culinary education programs.

4. Caffeinated beverages will comply with the Smart Snack regulations by age group and will only be available in the high schools.

~~3~~5. Before and Aftercare (child care) programs must also comply with the school district's nutrition standards unless they are reimbursable under USDA school meals program, in which case they must comply with all applicable USDA standards.

6. Here is a link to the Smart Snack calculator to determine which foods fit into the criteria and are allowed during the school day.

https://foodplanner.healthiergeneration.org/calculator/

D. Other Foods and Beverages Made Available to Students

1. Student wellness will be a consideration for all foods offered, but not sold, to students on the school campus. ~~Caution will be exercised when offering foods that may cause allergic reactions or adversely impact students with health conditions~~, including those foods provided through:

   a. Celebrations and parties. Classroom parties where snacks are brought in by families must come from an accredited source (a store or restaurant) and can not be homemade in a family's kitchen. For this special event, the product does not have to be Smart Snack qualified. ~~A celebration or party is a special and enjoyable occasion (birthdays, holidays, etc.).~~ The school district will provide a list of healthy party ideas to families and staff, including non-food celebration ideas.

   ~~b. Classroom snacks brought by parents to be distributed to the class. A snack is food eaten between usual meals to supplement the nutritional needs of student intended to make a positive contribution to the child's health and diet. The school district will provide parents to families and staff a list of suggested foods and beverages that meet Smart Snacks nutrition standards.~~

2. Rewards and incentives. Schools will not use foods or beverages as rewards for academic performance or good behavior (unless this practice is allowed by a student's individual education plan or behavior intervention plan) and will not withhold food or beverages as punishment. This means that pizza parties and special rewards (frozen novelties) are not to be used for rewarding academic performance.

   a. Non food rewards can be substituted in this scenario and ideas can be found by following this link.

3. Fundraising during the school day must adhere to the Smart Snack rules. Fundraising after the school day and outside of the school does not. The school district will make available to parents and teachers a list of suggested healthy fundraising ideas. ~~Foods and beverages sold as fundraisers during the school day must comply with standards listed in C1 and C2. No restrictions are placed on the sale of food/beverage items sold outside of the school day.~~

E. Food and Beverage Marketing in Schools

1. School-based marketing will be consistent with nutrition education and health promotion.

2. Schools will restrict food and beverages marketing to the promotion of only those foods and beverages that meet the Smart Snacks nutrition standards.

V. WELLNESS LEADERSHIP AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

A. Wellness Coordinator

1. The superintendent will designate a school district official to oversee the school district's wellness-related activities (Wellness Coordinator). The Wellness Coordinator will ensure that each school implements the policy.

2. The principal of each school, or a designated school official, will ensure compliance within the school and will report to the Wellness Coordinator regarding compliance matters upon request.

B. Public Involvement

1. The Wellness Coordinator will permit parents, students, representatives of the school food authority, teachers of physical education, school health professionals, the school board, school administrators, and the general public to participate in the development, implementation, and periodic review and update of the wellness policy.

2. The Wellness Coordinator will hold meetings, from time to time, for the purpose of discussing the development, implementation, and periodic review and update of the wellness policy. All meeting dates and times will be posted on the school district's website and will be open to the public.

C. Employee Wellness

1. The school district will make efforts to promote employee wellness.

a. Safety committees are formed at each school and meet regularly.

b. Employees are widely involved in the emergency/disaster planning committees.

c. There is an annual wellness fair curtailed to employees with various booths and information available.

d. The employee assistance program is maintained and available to all employees and their families.

VI. POLICY IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

A. Implementation and Publication

1. After approval by the school board, the wellness policy will be implemented throughout the school district.

2. The school district will post its wellness policy on its website, to the extent it maintains a website.

B. Annual Reporting

The Wellness Coordinator will annually inform the public about the content and implementation of the wellness policy and make the policy and any updates to the policy available to the public.

C. Triennial Assessment

1. At least once every three years, the school district will evaluate compliance with the wellness policy to assess the implementation of the policy and create a report that includes the following information:

a. the extent to which schools under the jurisdiction of the school district are in compliance with the wellness policy;

b. the extent to which the school district's wellness policy compares to model local wellness policies; and

c. a description of the progress made in attaining the goals of the school district's wellness policy.

2. The Wellness Coordinator or designee will be responsible for conducting the triennial assessment.

3. The triennial assessment report shall be posted on the school district's website or otherwise made available to the public.

D. Recordkeeping

The school district will retain records to document compliance with the requirements of the wellness policy. The records to be retained include, but are not limited to:

1. The school district's written wellness policy.

2. Documentation demonstrating compliance with community involvement requirements, including requirements to make the local school wellness policy and triennial assessments available to the public.

3. Documentation of the triennial assessment of the local school wellness policy for each school under the school district's jurisdiction efforts to review and update the wellness policy (including an indication of who is involved in the update and methods the school district uses to make stakeholders aware of their ability to participate on the Wellness Committee).

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 121A.215 (Local School District Wellness Policy; Website)
42 U.S.C. § 1751 *et seq.* (Healthy and Hunger-Free Kids Act)
42 U.S.C. § 1758b (Local School Wellness Policy)
42 U.S.C. § 1771 *et seq.* (Child Nutrition Act ~~of 1966~~)
7 U.S.C. § 5341 (Establishment of Dietary Guidelines)
7 C.F.R. § 210.10 (School Lunch Program Regulations)
7 C.F.R. § 220.8 (School Breakfast Program Regulations)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 534 (School Meals Policy)

~~Local~~ Resources: Minnesota Department of Education, ~~www.education.state.mn.us~~ https://education.mn.gov/mde/index.htm
Minnesota Department of Health, www.health.state.mn.us
St. Louis County Public Health
Action for Healthy Kids Minnesota, www.actionforhealthykids.org
United States Department of Agriculture, www.fns.usda.gov

Replacing: Policy 6300
Second Reading: 6/20/2017
Adopted: **7/18/2017 ISD 709**
First Reading:

721 PROCUREMENT POLICY

[NOTE: School districts are required by the federal Uniform Grant Guidance (UGG) regulations, 2 Code of Federal Regulations, part 200, to have the policies that establish uniform administrative requirements, cost principles, and audit requirements for federal awards to non-federal entities including school districts. In June 2018, the United States Office of Management and Budget increased the threshold dollar amounts for both simplified acquisition costs ($250,000) and micro-purchases ($10,000). In addition, school districts must comply with Minnesota laws on procurement.]

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure compliance with the requirements of the federal Uniform Grant Guidance regulations by establishing uniform administrative requirements, cost principles, and audit requirements for federal grant awards received by the school district. This policy also seeks to ensure compliance with Minnesota procurement laws governing school districts.

II. DEFINITIONS

A. "Compensation for personal services" includes all remuneration, paid currently or accrued, for services of employees rendered during the period of performance under the federal award, including, but not necessarily limited to, wages and salaries. Compensation for personal services may also include fringe benefits which are addressed in 2 Code of Federal Regulations, section 200.431 (Compensation - Fringe Benefits).

B. "Competitive procurement process" means a process for procurement by sealed bids or by proposals under Minnesota Statutes, section 471.345.

C. "Contract" means a legal instrument by which the school district purchases property or services needed to carry out the project or program under a federal award. The term, as used in 2 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 200, does not include a legal instrument, even if the school district considers it a contract, when the substance of the transaction meets the definition of a federal award or subaward.

D. "Direct costs" are those costs that can be identified specifically with a particular final cost objective, such as a federal award, or other internally or externally funded activity, or that can be directly assigned to such activities relatively easily with a high degree of accuracy.

E. "Equipment" means tangible personal property (including information technology systems) having a useful life of more than one year and a per-unit acquisition cost which exceeds the lesser of the capitalization level established by the school district for financial statement purposes, or $10,000.

F. "Federal award" has the meaning, depending on the context, in either paragraph 1. or 2. below:

1.

a. The federal financial assistance that the school district receives directly from a federal awarding agency or indirectly from a pass-through entity, as described in 2 Code of Federal Regulations, section 200.101; or

b. The cost-reimbursement contract under the federal Acquisition Regulations that the school district receives directly from a federal awarding agency or indirectly from a pass-through entity, as described in 2 Code of Federal Regulations, section 200.101.

2. The instrument setting forth the terms and conditions. The instrument is the grant agreement, cooperative agreement, other agreement for assistance covered in paragraph (2) of the definition of *Federal financial assistance* in 2 Code of Federal Regulations 200.1, or the cost-reimbursement contract awarded under the federal Acquisition Regulations.

3. "Federal award" does not include other contracts that a federal agency uses to buy goods or services from a contractor or a contract to operate federal-government-owned, contractor-operated facilities.

G. "Grants" includes

1. "State-administered grants" are those grants that pass through a state agency such as the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE).

2. "Direct grants" are those grants that do not pass through another agency such as MDE and are awarded directly by the federal awarding agency to the grantee organization. These grants are usually discretionary grants that are awarded by the U.S. Department of Education (DOE) or by another federal awarding agency.

[NOTE: All requirements outlined in this policy apply to both direct grants and state-administered grants.]

H. "Non-federal entity" means a state, local government, Indian tribe, institution of higher education, or nonprofit organization that carries out a federal award as a recipient or subrecipient.

I. "Post-retirement health plans" refer to costs of health insurance or health services not included in a pension plan covered by 2 Code of Federal Regulations, section 200.431(g) for retirees and their spouses, dependents, and survivors.

J. "Severance pay" is a payment in addition to regular salaries and wages by the school district to workers whose employment is being terminated.

K. "Travel costs" are the expenses for transportation, lodging, subsistence, and related items incurred by employees who are in travel status on official business of the school district.

III. PROCUREMENT METHOD OPTIONS

A. Procurement by micro-purchase

The acquisition of supplies or services when the aggregate dollar amount of the procurement transaction does not exceed the micro-purchase threshold of $25,000 ~~(generally $10,000, except as otherwise discussed in 48 Code of Federal Regulations, subpart 2.1 or as periodically adjusted for inflation).~~

[NOTE: Minnesota school districts may choose to increase their federal micro-purchase threshold to $25,000, which would align with the Minnesota limit. School districts choosing to adopt this increase must annually certify the higher threshold. The annual certification must include a justification, clear identification of the threshold, and supporting documentation of any of the following: (1) a qualification as a low-risk auditee, in accordance with the criteria established in 2 Code of Federal Regulations, section 200.520 for the most recent audit; (2) an annual internal institutional risk assessment to identify, mitigate, and manage financial risks; or (3) a higher threshold consistent with state law.]

B. Procurement by small purchase procedures

This procurement method may be used when the value of the procurement transaction does not exceed the federal simplified acquisition threshold and is within the state threshold of $175,000. If a small purchase procedure is used, price or rate quotations must be obtained from an adequate number of qualified sources. Unless specified by the Federal agency, the school district may exercise judgment in determining what number is adequate.

[NOTE: Despite the federal government's increase in the dollar cap for small purchases to $250,000, Minnesota Statutes, section 471.345 limits the cap for small purchase procedures to $175,000.]

C. Procurement by sealed bids (formal advertising)

This procurement method involves a publicly solicited and a firm, fixed-price contract (lump sum or unit price) awarded to the responsible bidder whose bid, conforming to all the material terms and conditions of the invitation for bids, is the lowest in price.

D. Procurement by competitive proposals

This procurement method is normally conducted with more than one source submitting an offer, and either a fixed-price or cost-reimbursement type contract is awarded. Competitive proposals are generally used when conditions are not appropriate for the use of sealed bids.

E. Procurement by noncompetitive proposals

This procurement method involves solicitation of a proposal from only one source.

[NOTE: Article IV. on Conflict of Interest has been moved to Article XI. to create a seamless set of Articles regarding procurement.]

IV. GENERAL PROCUREMENT STANDARDS

A. The school district must use its own documented procurement procedures that reflect applicable state laws, provided that the procurements conform to the applicable federal law and the standards identified in the Uniform Grant Guidance.

B. The school district must maintain oversight to ensure that contractors perform in accordance with the terms, conditions, and specifications of their contracts or purchase orders.

C. The school district's procedures must avoid acquisition of unnecessary or duplicative items. Consideration should be given to consolidating or breaking out procurements to obtain a more economical purchase. Where appropriate, an analysis will be made of lease versus purchase alternatives and any other appropriate analysis to determine

the most economical approach. Breaking up a procurement into smaller components to avoid the thresholds established in this policy is prohibited.

D. The school district must award contracts only to responsible contractors possessing the ability to perform successfully under the terms and conditions of a proposed procurement. Consideration will be given to such matters as contractor integrity, compliance with public policy, record of past performance, and financial and technical resources.

E. The school district must maintain records sufficient to detail the history of procurement. These records will include, but are not necessarily limited to, the following: rationale for the method of procurement; selection of the contract type; contractor selection or rejection; and the basis for the contract price.

F. The school district alone must be responsible, in accordance with good administrative practice and sound business judgment, for the settlement of all contractual and administrative issues arising out of procurements. These issues include, but are not limited to, source evaluation, protests, disputes, and claims. These standards do not relieve the school district of any contractual responsibilities under its contracts.

G. The school district must take all necessary affirmative steps to assure that minority businesses, women's business enterprises, veteran-owned businesses, and labor surplus area firms are considered.

H. Thresholds for Employee Purchases

The superintendent and/or Executive Director of Business Services, in conjunction with the school board, is responsible for overseeing the procurement process, including establishment of procedures, internal controls, quality assurance, methods of greatest economy, and compliance with all applicable laws. To be valid, all contracts must be approved by the board, except as otherwise provided in this policy.

Individual school district employees may incur expenditures in the following amounts without prior board approval so long as such expenditures are consistent with the school board-approved budget, provided that in all cases the school board retains authority to disapprove any expenditure for any reason at its sole discretion:

1. Any school district employee may make a purchase for use in connection with school district operations when the expenditure is less than $1,000 and is consistent with this policy's requirements.

2. In addition to the foregoing, the following school district employees may execute a purchase or procurement that requires the expenditure of up to the following amounts:

   a. Superintendent: Up to $100,000

   b. Executive Director of Business Services: Up to $100,000

   [NOTE: The school board has the authority to determine whether to adopt Subparagraph H.2. In addition, the board may determine the employees to be included and the expenditure amounts to be authorized.]

V. PROCUREMENT METHODS WHEN USING STATE FUNDS

The school district must use one of the following methods of procurement when using state funds:

A. Procurements for $25,000 or less

If the amount of the contract is estimated to be $25,000 or less, the contract may be made either upon quotation or in the open market, in the school district's discretion. If the contract is made upon quotation it shall be based, so far as practicable, on at least two (2) quotations which shall be kept on file for a period of at least one (1) year after their receipt.

Alternatively, the school district may award a contract for construction, alteration, repair, or maintenance work to the vendor or contractor offering the best value under a request for proposals as described in Minnesota Statutes, section 16C.28, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (2), and paragraph (c).

Procurements for $25,000 or less also may be conducted by micro-purchase.

B. Procurements Exceeding $25,000 but not $175,000

1. Sealed Bids or Direct Negotiation

If the amount of the contract is estimated to exceed $25,000 but not to exceed $175,000, the contract may be made either upon sealed bids or by direct negotiation, by obtaining two (2) or more quotations for the purchase or sale when possible, and without advertising for bids or otherwise complying with the requirements of competitive bidding. All quotations obtained shall be kept on file for a period of at least one (1) year after receipt thereof.

2. Best Value Alternative

As an alternative to the procurement method described in Subparagraph B.1 above, the school district may award a contract for construction, alteration, repair, or maintenance work to the vendor or contractor offering the best value under a request for proposals as described in Minnesota Statutes, section 16C.28, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (2), and paragraph (c).

C. Procurements Exceeding $175,000

If the amount of the contract is estimated to exceed $175,000, sealed bids shall be solicited by public notice in the manner and subject to the requirements of the law governing school district contracts.

Procurement by Sealed Bids

Procurement by sealed bids means a process in which bids are publicly solicited and a firm fixed price contract by lump sum or unit price is awarded to the responsible bidder whose bid, conforming with all material terms and conditions of the invitation for bids, is the lowest in price. If sealed bids are used, the following requirements apply:

1. bids must be solicited from an adequate number of qualified sources, providing bidders sufficient response time prior to the date set for opening bids;

2. the invitation for bids, which includes any specifications and pertinent attachments, must define the items or services in order for the bidder to properly respond;

3. all bids will be opened at the time and place prescribed in the invitation for bids, and the bids must be opened publicly;

4. a firm fixed price contract award will be made in writing to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder. Where specified in bidding documents, factors such as discounts, transportation cost, and life cycle costs must be considered in determining which bid is lowest. Payment discounts will only be used to determine the low bid when prior experience indicates that the discounts are usually taken advantage of;

5. any or all bids may be rejected if there is a sound documented reason; and

6. in order for a sealed bid to be feasible, the following conditions must be present:

   a. a complete, adequate, and realistic specification or purchase description is available;

   b. two (2) or more responsible bidders are willing and able to compete effectively for the business; and

   c. the procurement lends itself to a firm fixed price contract and the selection of the successful bidder can be made principally on the price.

D. Procurement by Proposals

"Procurement by proposals" means a process in which either a fixed price or cost-reimbursement type contract is awarded. Proposals are generally used when conditions are not appropriate for the use of sealed bids. They are awarded in accordance with the following requirements:

1. requests for proposals must be publicized and identify all evaluation factors and their relative importance. Proposals must be solicited from an adequate number of qualified offerors. Any response to publicized requests for proposals must be considered to the maximum extent practical;

2. the school district must have a written method for conducting technical evaluations of the proposals received and for making selections; and

3. contracts must be awarded to the responsible offeror whose proposal is most advantageous to the school district, with price and other factors considered.

VI. PROCUREMENT METHODS WHEN USING FEDERAL FUNDS

A. Procurement by Competitive Proposals

This is a procurement method used when conditions are not appropriate for using sealed bids. This procurement method may result in either a fixed-price or cost-reimbursement contract. If this method is used, the following requirements apply:

1. Requests for proposals require public notice, and all evaluation factors and their relative importance must be identified. Proposals must be solicited from multiple qualified entities. To the maximum extent practicable, any proposals submitted in response to the public notice must be considered;

2. Proposals must be solicited from an adequate number of qualified sources;

3. The school district must have a written method for conducting technical evaluations of the proposals received and for selecting recipients;

4. Contracts must be awarded to the responsible firm whose proposal is most advantageous to the program, with price and other factors considered; and

5. The school district may use competitive proposal procedures for qualifications-based procurement of architectural/engineering (A/E) professional services whereby competitors' qualifications are evaluated and the most qualified competitor is selected, subject to negotiation of fair and reasonable compensation. The method where price is not used as a selection factor can only be used in procurement of A/E professional services; it cannot be used to purchase other types of services, though A/E firms are a potential source to perform the proposed effort.

B. Procurement by Noncompetitive Proposals

Procurement by noncompetitive proposals may be used only when one (1) or more of the following circumstances apply:

1. The aggregate amount of the procurement transaction does not exceed the micro-purchase threshold;

2. The item is available only from a single source;

3. The public exigency or emergency for the requirement will not permit a delay resulting from competitive solicitation;

4. The DOE or MDE expressly authorizes noncompetitive proposals in response to a written request from the school district; or

5. After solicitation of a number of sources, competition is determined inadequate.

C. Competition

1. All procurement transactions under the Federal award must be conducted in a manner that provides full and open competition and is consistent with the standards of 2 Code of Federal Regulations, sections 200.319 and .320.

2. The school district must have written procedures for procurement transactions. These procedures must ensure that all solicitations:

   a. are made in accordance with 2 Code of Federal Regulations, section 200.319(b);

   b. incorporate a clear and accurate description of the technical requirements for the material, product, or service to be procured. Such description must not, in competitive procurements, contain features which unduly restrict competition. The description may include a statement of the qualitative nature of the material, product, or service to be procured and, when necessary, must set forth those minimum essential characteristics and standards to which it must conform if it is to satisfy its intended use. Detailed product specifications should be avoided if at all possible. When making a clear and accurate description of the technical requirements is impractical or uneconomical, a "brand name or equivalent" description may be used as a means to define the performance or other salient requirements of procurement. The specific features of the named brand which must be met by offers must be clearly stated; and

c. identify all requirements which the offerors must fulfill and all other factors to be used in evaluating bids or proposals.

D. The school district must ensure that all prequalified lists of persons, firms, or products used in procurement transactions are current and include enough qualified sources to ensure maximum open competition. When establishing or amending prequalified lists, the school district must consider objective factors that evaluate price and cost to maximize competition. The school must not preclude potential bidders from qualifying during the solicitation period.

E. The school district is prohibited from contracting with or making subawards under "covered transactions" to parties that are suspended or debarred or whose principals are suspended or debarred. "Covered transactions" include procurement contracts for goods and services awarded under a grant or cooperative agreement that are expected to equal or exceed $25,000.

F. All nonprocurement transactions entered into by a recipient (i.e., subawards to subrecipients), irrespective of award amount, are considered covered transactions, unless they are exempt as provided in 2 Code of Federal Regulations, section 180.215.

[NOTE: Thresholds are now set in Article IV.H above.]

G. Managing Property and Equipment and Safeguarding Assets

1. Property Standards

The school district must, at a minimum, provide the equivalent insurance coverage for real property and equipment acquired or improved with federal funds as provided to other property owned by the school district. Federally owned property need not be insured unless required by the terms and conditions of the federal award.

The school district must adhere to the requirements concerning real property, equipment, supplies, and intangible property set forth in 2 Code of Federal Regulations, sections 200.311, 200.314, and 200.315.

2. Managing Equipment

Procedures for managing equipment (including replacement equipment), whether acquired in whole or in part under a federal award, until disposition takes place will, at a minimum, meet the following requirements:

a. Property records must be maintained that include a description of the property; a serial number or other identification number; the source of the funding for the property (including the federal award identification number (FAIN)); who holds title; the acquisition date; the cost of the property; the percentage of the federal participation in the project costs for the federal award under which the property was acquired; the location, use, and condition of the property; and any ultimate disposition data, including the date of disposition and sale price of the property.

b. A physical inventory of the property must be taken and the results reconciled with the property records at least once every two (2) years.

c. A control system must be developed to ensure adequate safeguards to prevent loss, damage, or theft of the property. Any loss, damage, or theft must be investigated.

d. Adequate maintenance procedures must be developed to keep property in good condition.

e. If the school district is authorized or required to sell the property, proper sales procedures must be established to ensure the highest possible return.

H. Cybersecurity

The school district must take reasonable cybersecurity and other measures to safeguard

1. Personally identifiable information;

2. Information that the federal agency or pass-through entity designates as sensitive; and

3. other information that the school district considers sensitive and is consistent with applicable federal, state, local, and tribal laws regarding privacy and responsibility over confidentiality.

[NOTE: See 2 Code of Federal Regulations, section 200.303, which establishes internal controls that the school district must implement.]

VII. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

A. Financial Management

The school district's financial management systems, including records documenting compliance with federal statues, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the federal award, must be sufficient to permit the preparation of reports required by general and program-specific terms and conditions; and tracking expenditures to establish that funds have been used in accordance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the federal award.

B. Payment

The school district must be paid in advance, provided it maintains or demonstrates the willingness to maintain both written procedures that minimize the time elapsing between the transfer of funds and disbursement between the school district and the financial management systems that meet the standards for fund control and accountability.

Advance payments to the school district must be limited to the minimum amounts needed and be timed with actual, immediate cash requirements of the school district in carrying out the purpose of the approved program or project. The timing and amount of advance payments must be as close as is administratively feasible to the actual disbursements by the school district for direct program or project costs and the proportionate share of any allowable indirect costs. The school district must make timely payment to contractors in accordance with the contract provisions.

C. Internal Controls

The school district must establish and maintain effective internal control over the federal award that provides reasonable assurance that the school district is managing the federal award in compliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the federal award. These internal controls should align with guidance in "Standards for Internal Control in the Federal Government" issued by the Comptroller

General of the United States, or the "Internal Control Integrated Framework," issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO).

The school district must comply with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the federal award.

The school district must evaluate and monitor the school district's compliance with statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the federal award.

The school district must take prompt action when instances of noncompliance are identified, including noncompliance identified in audit findings.

The school district must take reasonable measures to safeguard protected personally identifiable information and other information considered sensitive consistent with applicable federal and state laws regarding privacy and obligations of confidentiality.

VIII. ALLOWABLE USE OF FUNDS AND COST PRINCIPLES

A. Allowable Use of Funds

The school district administration and school board will enforce appropriate procedures and penalties for program, compliance, and accounting staff responsible for the allocation of federal grant costs based on their allowability and their conformity with federal cost principles to determine the allowability of costs.

B. Definitions

1. "Advance payment" means a payment that a federal agency or pass-through entity makes by any appropriate payment mechanism and payment method before the school district disburses the funds for program purposes.

2. "Allowable cost" means a cost that complies with all legal requirements that apply to a particular federal education program, including statutes, regulations, guidance, applications, and approved grant awards.

3. "Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR)" means a compilation of regulations that apply to federal education programs. These regulations contain important rules governing the administration of federal education programs and include rules affecting the allowable use of federal funds (including rules regarding allowable costs, the period of availability of federal awards, documentation requirements, and grants management requirements).

4. "Omni Circular"(also known as 2 Code of Federal Regulations, part 200, the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, or the Uniform Grant Guidance means federal cost principles that provide standards for determining whether costs may be charged to federal grants.

C. Allowable Costs

The following items are costs that may be allowable under the 2 Code of Federal Regulations, part 200, subpart E under specific conditions (review the specific part of 2 Code of Federal Regulations 200, subpart E for allowability requirements for the specific cost):

1. Advertising and public relations;

2. Advisory councils;

3. Audit costs and related services;

4. Bonding costs;

5. Compensation - personal services;

6. Compensation – fringe benefits;

7. Conferences;

8. Contingency provisions;

9. Depreciation;

10. Employee health and welfare costs;

11. Equipment and other capital expenditures;

12. Gains and losses on disposition of depreciable assets;

13. Insurance and indemnification;

14. Intellectual property;

15. Maintenance and repair costs;

16. Materials and supplies costs, including costs of computing devices;

17. Memberships, subscriptions, and professional activity costs;

18. Organization costs;

19. Participant costs;

20. Plant and security costs;

21. Pre-award costs;

22. Professional service costs;

23. Proposal costs;

24. Publication and printing costs;

25. Rearrangement and reconversion costs;

26. Recruiting costs;

27. Relocation costs of employees;

28. Rental costs of buildings and equipment;

29. Scholarships, student aid costs, and tuition remission;

30. Specialized service facilities;

31. Taxes;

32. Telecommunication and video surveillance costs;

33. Termination and standard closeout costs;

34. Training and education costs;

35. Transportation costs; and

36. Travel costs.

D. Costs Forbidden by Federal Law

2 Code of Federal Regulations, part 200 and EDGAR identify certain costs that may never be paid with federal funds. The list below provides examples of such costs. If a cost is on this list, it may not be supported with federal funds unless an exception exists (review the specific part of 2 Code of Federal Regulations 200, subpart E for possible exceptions to unallowable costs). The fact that a cost is not on this list does not mean it is necessarily permissible. Other important restrictions apply to federal funds, such as those items detailed in the 2 Code of Federal Regulations, part 200, subpart E; thus, the following list is not exhaustive:

1. Alcoholic beverages;

2. Bad debts;

3. Contingency provisions (with limited exceptions);

4. Contributions and donations

5. Entertainment (with limited exception);

6. Fines, penalties, damages, and other settlements;

7. Fundraising and investment management costs (with limited exceptions);

8. General costs of government (with limited exceptions pertaining to Indian tribal governments and Councils of Government (COGs));

9. Goods or services for personal use;

10. Interest (except interest specifically stated in 2 Code of Federal Regulations, section 200.449 as allowable);

11. Lobbying;

12. Losses on other Federal awards or contracts;

13. Selling and marketing;

14. Student activity costs;

15. Religious use;

16. The acquisition of real property (unless specifically permitted by programmatic statute or regulations, which is very rare in federal education programs);

17. Construction (unless specifically permitted by programmatic statute or regulations, which is very rare in federal education programs); and

18. Tuition charged or fees collected from students applied toward meeting matching, cost sharing, or maintenance of effort requirements of a program.

E. Program Allowability

1. Any cost paid with federal education funds must be permissible under the federal program that would support the cost.

2. Many federal education programs detail specific required and/or allowable uses of funds for that program. Issues such as eligibility, program beneficiaries, caps or restrictions on certain types of program expenses, other program expenses, and other program specific requirements must be considered when performing the programmatic analysis.

3. The two largest federal K-12 programs, Title I, Part A, and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), do not contain a use of funds section delineating the allowable uses of funds under those programs. In those cases, costs must be consistent with the purposes of the program in order to be allowable.

F. Federal Cost Principles

The Omni Circular defines the parameters for the permissible uses of federal funds. While many requirements are contained in the Omni Circular, it includes core principles that serve as an important guide for effective grant management. These core principles require all costs to be:

1. Necessary for the proper and efficient performance or administration of the program.

2. Reasonable. An outside observer should clearly understand why a decision to spend money on a specific cost made sense in light of the cost, needs, and requirements of the program.

3. Allocable to the federal program that paid for the cost. A program must benefit in proportion to the amount charged to the federal program – for example, if a teacher is paid 50% with Title I funds, the teacher must work with the Title I program/students at least 50% of the time. Recipients also need to be able to track items or services purchased with federal funds so they can prove they were used for federal program purposes.

4. Authorized under state and local rules. All actions carried out with federal funds must be authorized and not prohibited by state and local laws and policies.

5. Adequately documented. A recipient must maintain proper documentation so as to provide evidence to monitors, auditors, or other oversight entities of how the funds were spent over the lifecycle of the grant.

G. Program Specific Fiscal Rules

The Omni Circular also contains specific rules on selected items of costs. Costs must comply with these rules in order to be paid with federal funds.

1. All federal education programs have certain program specific fiscal rules that apply. Determining which rules apply depends on the program; however, rules such as supplement, not supplant, maintenance of effort, comparability, caps on certain uses of funds, etc., have an important impact when analyzing whether a particular cost is permissible.

2. Many state-administered programs require school districts to use federal program funds to supplement the amount of state, local, and, in some cases, other federal funds they spend on education costs and not to supplant (or replace) those funds. Generally, the "supplement, not supplant" provision means that federal funds must be used to supplement the level of funds from non-federal sources by providing additional services, staff, programs, or materials. In other words, federal funds normally cannot be used to pay for things that would otherwise be paid for with state or local funds (and, in some cases, with other federal funds).

3. Auditors generally presume supplanting has occurred in three (3) situations:

   a. The school district uses federal funds to provide services that the school district is required to make available under other federal, state, or local laws.

   b. The school district uses federal funds to provide services that the school district provided with state or local funds in the prior year.

   c. The school district uses Title I, Part A, or Migrant Education Program funds to provide the same services to Title I or Migrant students that the school district provides with state or local funds to nonparticipating students.

4. These presumptions apply differently in different federal programs and also in schoolwide program schools. Staff should be familiar with the supplement not supplant provisions applicable to their program.

H. Approved Plans, Budgets, and Special Conditions

1. As required by the Omni Circular, all costs must be consistent with approved program plans and budgets.

2. Costs must also be consistent with all terms and conditions of federal awards, including any special conditions imposed on the school district's grants.

I. Training

1. The school district will provide training on the allowable use of federal funds to all staff involved in federal programs.

2. The school district will promote coordination between all staff involved in federal programs through activities, such as routine staff meetings and training sessions.

J. Employee Sanctions

Any school district employee who violates this policy will be subject to discipline, as appropriate, up to and including the termination of employment.

K. Reduction in Aid

If the school district makes a purchase without a procurement policy adopted by the school board or makes a purchase not in conformity with the school district's procurement policy, the Commissioner may reduce that school district's state aid in an amount equal to the purchase.

L. Property, Financial Investments, and Contracting

The school district is subject to and must comply with Minnesota Statutes, sections 15.054 and 118A.01 to 118A.06 governing government property and financial investments and sections 471.38, 471.391, 471.392, and 471.425 governing municipal contracting.

M. Mandatory Disclosures

The school district must promptly disclose whenever, in connection with the federal award (including any activities or subawards thereunder), it has credible evidence of the commission of a violation of federal criminal law involving fraud, conflict of interest, bribery, or gratuity violations found in 18 United States Code or a violation of the civil False Claims Act (31 United States Code, sections 3729–3733).

The disclosure must be made in writing to the DOE, MDE, and the MDE Office of Inspector General (if applicable). School districts are also required to report matters related to school district integrity and performance in accordance with Appendix XII of 2 Code of Federal Regulations, part 200. Failure to make required disclosures can result in any of the remedies described in 2 Code of Federal Regulations, section 200.339.

IX. COMPENSATION – PERSONAL SERVICES EXPENSES AND REPORTING

A. Compensation – Personal Services

Costs of compensation are allowable to the extent that they satisfy the specific requirements of the Uniform Grant Guidance and that the total compensation for individual employees:

1. Is reasonable for the services rendered and conforms to the established written school district policy consistently applied to both federal and non-federal activities; and

2. Follows an appointment made in accordance with the school district’s written policies and meets the requirements of federal statute, where applicable.

Unless an arrangement is specifically authorized by a federal awarding agency, the school district must follow its written non-federal, entity wide policies and practices concerning the permissible extent of professional services that can be provided outside the school district for non-organizational compensation.

B. Compensation – Fringe Benefits

1. During leave

The costs of fringe benefits in the form of regular compensation paid to employees during periods of authorized absences from the job, such as for annual leave, family-related leave, sick leave, holidays, court leave, military leave, administrative leave, and other similar benefits, are allowable if all of the following criteria are met:

a. They are provided under established written leave policies;

b. The costs are equitably allocated to all related activities, including federal awards; and

c. The accounting basis (cash or accrual) selected for costing each type of leave is consistently followed by the school district.

2. The costs of fringe benefits in the form of employer contributions or expenses for social security; employee life, health, unemployment, and worker's compensation insurance (except as indicated in 2 Code of Federal Regulations, section 200.447(d)); pension plan costs; and other similar benefits are allowable, provided such benefits are granted under established written policies. Such benefits must be allocated to federal awards and all other activities in a manner consistent with the pattern of benefits attributable to the individuals or group(s) of employees whose salaries and wages are chargeable to such federal awards and other activities and charged as direct or indirect costs in accordance with the school district's accounting practices.

3. Actual claims paid to or on behalf of employees or former employees for workers' compensation, unemployment compensation, severance pay, and similar employee benefits (e.g., post-retirement health benefits) are allowable in the year of payment provided that the school district follows a consistent costing policy.

4. Pension plan costs may be computed using a pay-as-you-go method or an acceptable actuarial cost method in accordance with the school district's written policies.

5. Post-retirement costs may be computed using a pay-as-you-go method or an acceptable actuarial cost method in accordance with established school district written policies.

6. Costs of severance pay are allowable only to the extent that, in each case, severance pay is required by law; employer-employee agreement; established policy that constitutes, in effect, an implied agreement on the school district's part; or circumstances of the particular employment.

C. Insurance and Indemnification

Types and extent and cost of coverage are in accordance with the school district's policy and sound business practice.

D. Recruiting Costs

Short-term, travel visa costs (as opposed to longer-term, immigration visas) may be directly charged to a federal award, so long as they are:

1. Critical and necessary for the conduct of the project;

2. Allowable under the cost principles set forth in the Uniform Grant Guidance;

3. Consistent with the school district's cost accounting practices and school district policy; and

4. Meeting the definition of "direct cost" in the applicable cost principles of the Uniform Grant Guidance.

E. Travel Costs

Under 2 Code of Federal Regulations, section 200.475, travel costs include the transportation, lodging, subsistence, and related items incurred by employees who are in travel status on official business of the school district.

Travel costs may be charged on an actual cost basis, on a per diem or mileage basis, or on a combination of the two, provided the method used is applied to an entire trip and not to selected days of the trip. The method used must be consistent with those normally allowed in like circumstances in the school district's other activities and in accordance with the school district's established written policies.

Costs incurred by employees and officers for travel, including costs of lodging, other subsistence, and incidental expenses, must be considered reasonable and otherwise allowable only to the extent such costs do not exceed charges normally allowed by the school district in its regular operations as a result of the school district's written policy.

In addition, when costs are charged directly to the federal award, documentation must justify that:

1. Participation of the individual is necessary to the federal award; and

2. The costs are reasonable and consistent with the school district's established written policy.

Temporary dependent care costs above and beyond regular dependent care are allowable provided that these costs are:

1. A direct result of the individual's travel for the federal award;

2. Consistent with the school district's established written policy for all school district travel; and

3. Only temporary during the travel period.

[NOTE: Noncompliance. If a school district fails to comply with federal statutes, regulations, or the terms and conditions of a federal award, the DOE or MDE may impose additional conditions, as described in 2 Code of Federal Regulations, section 200.208 (Specific Conditions).

If the DOE or MDE determines that noncompliance cannot be remedied by imposing specific conditions, the DOE or MDE may take one or more of the following actions, as appropriate under the circumstances: (1) Temporarily withhold payments until the school district takes corrective action;; (2) Disallow (that is, deny both use of funds and any applicable matching credit for) costs for all or part of the activity associated with the noncompliance; (3) Wholly or partly suspend or terminate the federal award; (4) Initiate suspension or debarment proceedings as authorized under 2 Code of Federal Regulations, part 180 and DOE regulations (or, in the case of MDE, recommend such a proceeding be initiated by the DOE); (5) Withhold further federal awards (new awards or continuation funding) for the project or program; and/or (6) Take other remedies that may be legally available.]

X. SUBRECIPIENT MONITORING

[NOTE: MDE auditors have stated that subrecipient monitoring must be covered in policy.]

A. The school district will:

1. Verify that the subrecipient is not excluded or disqualified in accordance with 2 Code of Federal Regulations, section 180.300. Verification methods are provided in section 180.300, which include confirming in *SAM.gov* that a potential subrecipient is not suspended, debarred, or otherwise excluded from receiving federal funds.

2. Ensure that every subaward is clearly identified to the subrecipient as a subaward and includes the information provided below. A pass-through entity must provide the best available information when some of the information below is unavailable. A pass-through entity must provide the unavailable information when it is obtained.

    a. Required information includes:

        (1) Federal award identification

            i. Subrecipient's name (must match the name associated with its unique entity identifier);

            ii. Subrecipient's unique entity identifier;

            iii. Federal Award Identification Number (FAIN);

            iv. Federal Award Date;

            v. Subaward Period of Performance Start and End Date;

            vi. Subaward Budget Period Start and End Date;

            vii. Amount of Federal Funds Obligated in the subaward;

            viii. Total Amount of Federal Funds Obligated to the subrecipient by the pass-through entity, including the current financial obligation;

            ix. Total Amount of the Federal Award committed to the subrecipient by the pass-through entity;

            x. Federal award project description, as required by the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA);

            xi. Name of the Federal agency, pass-through entity, and contact information for awarding official of the pass-through entity;

            xii. Assistance Listings title and number; the pass-through entity must identify the dollar amount made available under each Federal award and the Assistance Listings Number at the time of disbursement;

            xiii. Identification of whether the federal award is for research and development; and

            xiv. Indirect cost rate for the federal award (including if the de minimis rate is used in accordance with 2 Code of Federal Regulations, section 200.414).

(2) All requirements of the subaward, including requirements imposed by Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the Federal award;

(3) Any additional requirements that the pass-through entity imposes on the subrecipient for the pass-through entity to meet its responsibilities under the Federal award. This includes information and certifications (see 2 Code of Federal Regulations, section 200.415) required for submitting financial and performance reports that the pass-through entity must provide to the federal agency;

(4) Indirect cost rate:

(5) A requirement that the subrecipient permit the pass-through entity and auditors to access the subrecipient's records and financial statements for the pass-through entity to fulfill its monitoring requirements; and

(6) Appropriate terms and conditions concerning the closeout of the subaward.

3. Evaluate each subrecipient's fraud risk and risk of noncompliance with a subaward to determine the appropriate subrecipient monitoring described in 2 Code of Federal Regulations, section 200.332, paragraph (f). When evaluating a subrecipient's risk, a pass-through entity should consider the following:

   a. The subrecipient's prior experience with the same or similar subawards;

   b. The results of previous audits. This includes considering whether or not the subrecipient receives a Single Audit in accordance with 2 Code of Federal Regulations, part 200, subpart F and the extent to which the same or similar subawards have been audited as a major program;

   c. Whether the subrecipient has new personnel or new or substantially changed systems; and

   d. The extent and results of any federal agency monitoring (for example, if the subrecipient also receives federal awards directly from the federal agency).

4. If appropriate, consider implementing specific conditions in a subaward as described in 2 Code of Federal Regulations, section 200.208 and notify the Federal agency of the specific conditions.

5. Monitor the activities of a subrecipient as necessary to ensure that the subrecipient complies with Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the subaward. The pass-through entity is responsible for monitoring the overall performance of a subrecipient to ensure that the goals and objectives of the subaward are achieved. In monitoring a subrecipient, a pass-through entity must:

   a. Review financial and performance reports.

   b. Ensure that the subrecipient takes corrective action on all significant developments that negatively affect the subaward. Significant developments include Single Audit findings related to the subaward,

other audit findings, site visits, and written notifications from a subrecipient of adverse conditions which will impact their ability to meet the milestones or the objectives of a subaward. When significant developments negatively impact the subaward, a subrecipient must provide the pass-through entity with information on their plan for corrective action and any assistance needed to resolve the situation.

c. Issue a management decision for audit findings pertaining only to the Federal award provided to the subrecipient from the pass-through entity as required by 2 Code of Federal Regulations, section 200.521.

d. Resolve audit findings specifically related to the subaward. However, the pass-through entity is not responsible for resolving cross-cutting audit findings that apply to the subaward and other Federal awards or subawards. If a subrecipient has a current Single Audit report and has not been excluded from receiving Federal funding (meaning, has not been debarred or suspended), the pass-through entity may rely on the subrecipient's cognizant agency for audit or oversight agency for audit to perform audit follow-up and make management decisions related to cross-cutting audit findings in accordance with 2 Code of Federal Regulations, section 200.513(a)(4)(viii). Such reliance does not eliminate the responsibility of the pass-through entity to issue subawards that conform to agency and award-specific requirements, to manage risk through ongoing subaward monitoring, and to monitor the status of the findings that are specifically related to the subaward.

6. Depending upon the pass-through entity's assessment of the risk posed by the subrecipient (as described in 2 Code of Federal Regulations, section 200.332, paragraph (c)), the following monitoring tools may be useful for the pass-through entity to ensure proper accountability and compliance with program requirements and achievement of performance goals:

   a. Providing subrecipients with training and technical assistance on program-related matters;

   b. Performing site visits to review the subrecipient's program operations; and

   c. Arranging for agreed-upon-procedures engagements as described in 2 Code of Federal Regulations, section 200.425.

7. Verify that a subrecipient is audited as required by 2 Code of Federal Regulations, part 200, subpart F.

8. Consider whether the results of a subrecipient's audit, site visits, or other monitoring necessitate adjustments to the pass-through entity's records.

9. Consider taking enforcement action against noncompliant subrecipients as described in 2 Code of Federal Regulations, section 200.339 and in program regulations.

XI. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

A. Standards of Conduct

The school district will maintain written standards of conduct covering conflicts of interest and governing the actions of its employees engaged in the selection, award and administration of contracts.

B. No employee, officer, agent, or board member may participate in the selection, award, or administration of a contract supported by a federal award if he or she has a real or apparent conflict of interest. Such a conflict of interest would arise when the employee, officer, agent, or board member, any member of his or her immediate family, his or her partner, or an organization which employs or is about to employ any of the parties indicated herein, has a financial or other interest in or a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for a contract. The employees, officers, agents, and board members of the school district may neither solicit nor accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from contractors or parties to subcontracts. However, the school district may set standards for situations in which the financial interest is not substantial or the gift is an unsolicited item of nominal value. The standards of conduct must provide for disciplinary actions to be applied for violations of such standards by employees, officers, agents, or board members of the school district. Disciplinary actions may be undertaken pursuant to the school district's Discipline, Suspension, and Dismissal of School Employees policy.

The school district's Conflict of Interest policies and procedures provide additional measures regarding conflicts of interest.

[Note: The Minnesota Department of Education confirmed that the "written standards of conduct" required under 2 Code of Federal Regulations, section 200.318(c)(1) may appear in this policy, another policy and/or in an employee handbook. School boards may decide whether to adopt this section or address written standards of conduct elsewhere.]

C. Organizational Conflicts of Interest

If the school district has a parent, affiliate, or subsidiary organization that is not a state, local government, or Indian tribe, the school district must maintain written standards concerning organizational conflicts of interest. Organizational conflicts of interest means that because of relationships with a parent company, affiliate, or subsidiary organization, the school district is unable or appears to be unable to be impartial in conducting a procurement action involving the related organization.

D. Disclosing Conflicts of Interest

The school district will disclose in writing any potential conflict of interest to MDE in accordance with established federal agency policies.

Legal References:
Minn. Stat. § 15.054 (Sale or Purchase of State Property; Penalty)
Minn. Stat. § 16C.28 (Contracts; Awards)
Minn. Stat. § 118A.01-.06 (Deposit and Investment of Local Public Funds)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.52 (Contracts)
Minn. Stat. § 471.345 (Uniform Municipal Contracting Law)
Minn. Stat. § 471.38 (Claims)
Minn. Stat. § 471.391 (Declaration Form)
Minn. Stat. § 471.392 (Penalty)
Minn. Stat. § 471.425 (Prompt Payment of Local Government Bills)
18 U.S.C. (Crimes and Criminal Procedures)
31 U.S.C. §§ 3729–3733 (False Claims)
2 C.F.R. § 180.215 (Which Nonprocurement Transactions are Not Covered Transactions)
2 C.F.R. § 180.300 (What Must I Do before I Enter Into a Covered Transaction with Another Person at the Next Lower Tier?)
2 C.F.R. 200 Subpart E (Cost Principles)
2 C.F.R. 200 Subpart F (Audit Requirements)
2 C.F.R. § 200.1 (Definitions)

2 C.F.R. § 200.101 (Applicability)
2 C.F.R. § 200.112 (Conflict of Interest)
2 C.F.R. § 200.113 (Mandatory Disclosures)
2 C.F.R. § 200.205(d) (Federal Awarding Agency Review of Merit of Proposals)
2 C.F.R. § 200.208 (Specific Conditions)
2 C.F.R. § 200.214 (Suspension and Debarment)
2 C.F.R. § 200.300(b) (Statutory and National Policy Requirements)
2 C.F.R. § 200.302 (Financial Management)
2 C.F.R. § 200.303 (Internal Controls)
2 C.F.R. § 200.305(b)(1) (Federal Payment)
2 C.F.R. § 200.310 (Insurance Coverage)
2 C.F.R. § 200.311 (Real Property)
2 C.F.R. § 200.312 (Federally-owned and Exempt Property)
2 C.F.R. § 200.313(d) (Equipment)
2 C.F.R. § 200.314 (Supplies)
2 C.F.R. § 200.315 (Intangible Property)
2 C.F.R. § 200.318 (General Procurement Standards)
2 C.F.R. § 200.319 (Competition)
2 C.F.R. § 200.320 (Methods of Procurement to be Followed)
2 C.F.R. § 200.321 (Contracting with Small and Minority Businesses, Women's Business Enterprises, and Labor Surplus Area Firms)
2 C.F.R. § 200.328 (Financial Reporting)
2 C.F.R. § 200.332 (Requirements for Pass-Through Entities)
2 C.F.R. § 200.339 (Remedies for Noncompliance)
2 C.F.R. § 200.403(c) (Factors Affecting Allowability of Costs)
2 C.F.R. § 200.413 (Direct Costs)
2 C.F.R. § 200.414 (Indirect Costs)
2 C.F.R. § 200.415 (Required Certifications)
2 C.F.R. § 200.425 (Audit Services)
2 C.F.R. § 200.430 (Compensation – Personal Services)
2 C.F.R. § 200.431 (Compensation – Fringe Benefits)
2 C.F.R. § 200.447 (Insurance and Indemnification)
2 C.F.R. § 200.463 (Recruiting Costs)
2 C.F.R. § 200.464 (Relocation Costs of Employees)
2 C.F.R. § 200.474 (Transportation Costs)
2 C.F.R. § 200.475 (Travel Costs)
2 C.F.R. § 200.513 (Responsibilities)
2 C.F.R. § 200.521 (Management Decisions)
45 C.F.R. § 75.2 (Definitions)
45 C.F.R. § 75.317 (Insurance Coverage)
45 C.F.R. § 75.320 (Equipment)
48 C.F.R. Subpart 2.1 (Definitions)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 208 (Development, Adoption, and Implementation of Policies)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 210 (Conflict of Interest-School Board Members)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 412 (Expense Reimbursement)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 701 (Establishment and Adoption of School District Budget)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 701.1 (Modification of School District Budget)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 702 (Accounting)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 703 (Annual Audit)

Resources: Minnesota Department of Education (MDE): *Procurement Handbook* [January 8, 2025] (accessed 01/07/26)
MDE: *Competitive Proposal Method* [April 2020] (accessed 01/07/26)
Office of Management and Budget: *OMB Guidance for Federal Financial Assistance (Uniform Guidance)* (accessed 02/20/26)

U.S. DOE: *Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) and Other Applicable Grant Regulations* (accessed 01/09/26)
U.S. DOE: *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (accessed 01/09/26)

*Adopted:*_____

*Revised:*_____

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 903
Orig. 1995
Rev. 2026

903 VISITORS TO SCHOOL DISTRICT BUILDINGS AND SITES

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to inform the school community and the general public of the position of the school board on visitors to school buildings and other school property.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

A. The school board encourages interest on the part of parents and community members in school programs and student activities. The school board welcomes visits to school buildings and school property by parents/guardians and community members provided the visits are consistent with the health, education and safety of students and employees and are conducted within the procedures and requirements established by the school district.

B. The school board reaffirms its position on the importance of maintaining a school environment that is safe for students and employees and free of activity that may be disruptive to the student learning process or employee working environment.

III. POST-SECONDARY ENROLLMENT OPTIONS STUDENTS

A. A student enrolled in a post-secondary enrollment options course may remain at the school site during regular school hours in accordance with established procedures.

B. A student enrolled in a post-secondary enrollment options course may be provided with reasonable access, during regular school hours, to a computer and other technology resources that the student needs to complete coursework for a post-secondary enrollment course in accordance with established procedures.

IV. RESPONSIBILITY

A. The school district administration shall present recommended visitor and post-secondary enrollment options student procedures and requirements to the school board for review and approval. The procedures should reflect input from employees, students and advisory groups, and shall be communicated to the school community and the general public. Upon approval by the school board, such procedures and requirements shall be an addendum to this policy.

B. The superintendent shall be responsible for providing coordination that may be needed throughout the process and providing for periodic school board review and approval of the procedures.

V. VISITOR LIMITATIONS

A. Third party access to school sites will not be allowed without prior authority. The site administrator shall not permit third party access to the school site that would cause disruption to the learning environment.

B. School personnel must contact the District Office immediately if approached by immigration law enforcement agents. District administrators must also attempt to contact the parents or guardians of any student involved.

C. Staff will process requests by unauthorized visitors. The request will include:

1. Request identification including badges, ids, contact information and place of work. Document and photocopy information received;

2. Request official documentation of the purpose of visit. This may include a judicial warrant or court order. Documents will be photocopied;

3. Request and retain notes of the names of the students and the reasons for the requests;

4. Contact students' parents or guardians, and do not provide information or conjecture about the students such as their schedule or behavior;

5. If a visitor has questions, provide a copy of this policy;

D. An individual, post-secondary enrollment options student, or group may be denied permission to visit a school or school property or such permission may be revoked if the visitor(s) does not comply with the school district procedures and regulations or if the visit is not in the best interest of students, employees or the school district.

E. Visitors, including post-secondary enrollment options students, are authorized to park vehicles on school property at times and in locations specified in the approved visitor procedures and requirements ~~which are an addendum to this policy or as otherwise specifically~~ authorized by school officials. When unauthorized vehicles of visitors are parked on school property, school officials may:

1. move the vehicle or require the driver or other person in charge of the vehicle to move it off school district property; or

2. if unattended, provide for the removal of the vehicle, at the expense of the owner or operator, to the nearest convenient garage or other place of safety off of school property.

3. if unattended, attach an immobilization device to the vehicle, at the expense of the owner or operator.

F. An individual, post-secondary enrollment options student, or group who enters school property without complying with the procedures and requirements may be guilty of criminal trespass and thus subject to criminal penalty. Such persons may be detained by the school principal or a person designated by the school principal in a reasonable manner for a reasonable period of time pending the arrival of a police officer.

VI. VOLUNTEERS

A. The School Board, recognizing that educational excellence can only be achieved by using all the resources available in our community, supports the use of volunteers in the classroom and in other locations within school buildings as a method by which teachers and students may receive additional assistance. The purpose of the volunteer program is:

1. To provide positive adult relationships to students.
2. To provide individualized attention for students.
3. To provide enrichment for students.
4. To provide an added dimension of self-esteem and self-confidence for students.

5. To assist in providing supervision for special student activities.
6. To provide an opportunity for parents/guardians to become more familiar with school activities and/or operations.

B. The School District will provide an inservice for volunteers as an assurance that the presence of volunteers will not result in a higher student ratio and that confidentiality of students will be maintained.

C. The use of volunteers is at the discretion of each building's administration.

D. The district staff member within a school that has accepted the use of volunteers will assume the responsibility for the effectiveness of the volunteer(s).

E. Volunteers must follow visitor procedures in section V.

F. Ways in which a volunteer may be used in a school include, but are not limited to: instructional assistance, assisting with materials and equipment, non-instructional assistance, creativeness in areas of personal interest or talent, and participation in a school's structured program offerings.

G. Volunteers should be supervised by professional staff who remain present at all times when volunteers work with students. Unsupervised volunteers must have a current background check on file with the district office.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 123B.02 (General Powers of Independent School Districts)
Minn. Stat. § 124D.09 (Postsecondary Enrollment Options Act)
Minn. Stat. § 128C.08 (Assaulting a Sports Official Prohibited)
Minn. Stat. § 609.605, Subd. 4 (Trespass)

Cross References: None

Replacing: Policy 1080, 6025
First Reading:
Adopted:

307 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST AND FIDUCIARY DUTY

I. PURPOSE

The proper operation of democratic government requires that public officials and employees be independent, impartial, and responsible to the people; that government decisions and policy be made in the proper channels of the governmental structure; that public office not be used for personal gain; and that the public have confidence in the integrity of its government. In recognition of these goals the Board of Directors adopts policies related to conflicts of interest and fiduciary duty for all officials and employees whether elected or appointed, paid or unpaid.

The purpose of this policy is to establish ethical standards of conduct for all such officials and employees by setting forth those acts or actions that are incompatible with the best interest of the Duluth Public Schools and by directing disclosure by such officials and employees of private financial or other interests in matters affecting the Duluth Public Schools.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

A. This policy establishes minimum standards of conduct for public officials, employees, contractors, council and advisory council members, site-based council members, and other district personnel. Failure to meet these standards shall subject the actor to disciplinary action.

B. The employee manual will contain information on this policy. New employees will receive information on this policy during the onboarding process.

C. The Duluth Public Schools contract template will require all contractors to review and abide by this policy. The policy will be available on the District's website.

D. Responsibilities of Public Office

Public officials and employees are agents of public purpose and hold office for the benefit of the public. Their conduct in both their official and private affairs should be above reproach. They must avoid misconduct and are bound to:

1. uphold the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of this State;

2. carry out impartially the laws of the nation, state, and school district; and

3. discharge faithfully the duties of their office regardless of personal considerations, recognizing that the public interest must be their primary concern.

E. Dedicated Service and Fiduciary Duty

1. Appointed officials and employees should adhere to the rules of work and performance established as the standard for their positions by the appropriate authority.

2. Public officials and employees and other district personnel may not exceed their authority or break the law or ask others to do so, and they should work

in full cooperation with other public officials and employees unless prohibited from so doing by law or by officially recognized confidentiality of their work.

3. Public officials and employees and other district personnel shall not disclose any confidential or private, nonpublic, educational or employee data during their term of appointment, election or employment and shall likewise refrain from disclosing any private educational or employee data after their term of election or appointment, or employment has ended unless permitted by law.

4. Public officials, employees and other district personnel shall not disclose or use any confidential, private, nonpublic, privileged or proprietary information gained by reason of their employment, election or appointment by or to the District other than in the course of their duties. Such a prohibition shall continue after the term of their election, appointment or employment ends.

5. Public officials and employees shall manage the assets both real and personal of the district with highest integrity, and exercise any discretionary powers they may have for the benefit of the District with the care a reasonably prudent person would do.

F. Fair and Equal Treatment

1. No public official or employee shall grant any special consideration, treatment, or advantage to any citizen beyond that which is available to every other citizen.

2. Schools, programs and departments may enter into partnerships with corporate or business citizens to promote civic engagement, sponsorship of district activities or support of academic programs. Such partnerships shall not imply preference or endorsement of or for the services or products of those corporate or business partners. Any such partnerships are subject to the terms of this policy.

G. Conflicts of Interest

1. No public official or employee shall engage in any business or transaction or shall have a financial or personal interest, direct or indirect, which is incompatible with the proper discharge of his or her official duties in the public interest or would tend to impair his or her independence of judgment or action in the performance of his or her official duties.

2. "Personal interest" may be defined as an interest arising from:

a) blood or marriage relationships;

b) domestic partnerships;

c) status of dependent of the person;

d) membership in the same household;

e) close business or political associates.

3. Conflicts of interest include but are not limited to:

a) Use of confidential information, obtained as a result of public position, for personal gain.

b) Any use of official position for personal gain or to benefit a personal interest.

c) Holding (possession) investments which interfere, or tend to interfere, with the proper discharge of public duty.

d) Representation by public officials or employees of private interests before the Duluth Board of Education or departments and participation in the profits from such representation.

e) Participation in transactions as a public representative with a business entity in which the public official or employee has a direct or indirect financial or other personal interest.

f) Personal interest in legislation to the extent that private interest takes precedence over public interest and public duty.

g) Entry by the district into contracts or other conduct of business for profit with a business in which a public official or employee has substantial or controlling interest, when the public official or employee can influence such contract or business because of his or her public position.

H. Use of Position for Influence

1. Recommendations

a) School personnel shall not make recommendations for a provider of professional services. School personnel may be asked by parents to recommend providers; this is particularly true of health care staff, who may be asked to recommend a physician, a dentist, or an optometrist. School personnel shall not make such recommendations.

b) Employees may prepare and distribute lists of professional organizations or providers of professional services available in the region for the purposes of informing parents, but shall make no evaluation of the services or organizations, and shall not indicate a preference for any of them.

c) Persons making requests for referrals to providers should be directed to the proper professional association for advice.

2. Politics

The District recognizes and encourages the rights of its employees, as citizens, to engage in political activity, with the following restrictions:

a) No employee of the school district shall solicit support of any political candidate, partisan or non-partisan, during regular work hours or on school property.

b) No employee of the school district shall solicit support of any referendum issue not directly related to public education, during regular work hours, or on school property.

c) No employee may use the name of the district, or any school, department or program to support any political candidate, ballot proposition or referendum.

d) No resources of the district may be used to support any political candidate, partisan or non-partisan, or any ballot proposition or referendum not directly related to public education.

III. APPLICABILITY

A. This policy applies to all Duluth Public Schools

1. officials,

2. employees,

3. contractors on district premises,

4. council and advisory council members, and

5. site-based council members.

B. This policy applies to all persons, whether

1. elected, appointed, employed, or supplying goods or services to the district under contract,

2. paid or unpaid,

3. engaged in any activity on behalf of the Duluth School District including activities at every school, department or program of the District.

C. When a public official or employee has doubt as to the applicability of a provision of this policy to a particular situation, he or she should submit the question to the Human Resources Office for review and determination of applicability. Questions may be made anonymously, in which case the Human Resources Department shall make such answers available to the appropriate persons subject to this policy. The Human Resources Department may make any question and response or guidance public.

IV. REPORTING SUSPECTED VIOLATIONS

A. All employees, contractors, public officials or council members have a duty and obligation to report what they believe to be a violation of this policy as soon as possible.

B. The report must be made to their supervisor or manager of the department or building concerned.

C. In those instances in which the immediate supervisor is involved in the alleged violation, the report should be made to the person at the next highest supervisory level.

D. In those instances in which the complainant feels uncomfortable reporting the suspected violation to any of the aforementioned persons, that person may make a direct report to Human Resources.

E. Supervisors, Department Managers, Principals and Site Administrators will forward suspected violations of this policy to Human Resources ***as soon as possible***. Any employee may also make a report to Human Resources.

F. Suspected violations submitted in good faith and in an appropriate manner, whether or not further investigation substantiates the claim, will be free from retaliation in any form. The identity of complainants will be protected, within legal limits, and any public official, employee or other district personnel who retaliate against them will be disciplined.

V. INVESTIGATION AND RESOLUTION OF SUSPECTED VIOLATIONS

A. The Human Resources Department will promptly investigate alleged violations.

B. Those accused of suspected violations will be given an opportunity to respond.

C. When it is determined that a conflict of interest has occurred, ISD 709 will report it to MDE.

D. The Human Resources Department will prepare a report of the investigation.

E. If the investigation concerns the actions of an employee the report may be submitted to the employee's manager or supervisor. Release of this information will follow state statutes.

F. If the investigation concerns the actions of a non-employee or contractor, the report will be submitted to the appropriate supervisor of the person's activities.

G. Any discipline of an employee shall follow District policies, contracts and procedures, up to and including termination of employment.

H. Any discipline of a contractor may include termination of the contract.

I. Any discipline of an appointee to an advisory board or site council may include termination of the appointment.

J. Human Resources will involve the Superintendent as needed or required.

VI. REFRAINING FROM ABUSE

Any complainant or witness who abuses the enforcement procedure by knowingly submitting false reports, claims, testimony or evidence will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination.

VII. RESPONSIBILITY

A. The Superintendent shall take the necessary steps to assure that all individuals are in compliance.

B. The Superintendent is authorized to promulgate regulations to implement this policy.

Legal References: Minnesota Rules 3512.5200 (Code of Ethics for School Administrators)
Minnesota Rules 8700.2100~~7500~~ (Code of Ethics for Minnesota Teachers)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 209 (Code of Ethics)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 210 (Conflict of Interest - School Board Members)

~~***Related Policies and Bylaws: 209, 4025 and 8045***~~

New Policy
Replacing: None
First Reading: 01-22-2019
Adopted: 03-19-19
Reviewed:

510 SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to impart to students, employees, and the community the school district's policy related to the student activity program.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

School activities provide additional opportunities for students to pursue special interests that contribute to their physical, mental, and emotional well-being. They are of secondary importance in relationship to the formal instructional program; however, they complement the instructional program and are integral in providing students with additional opportunities for growth and development. Every effort should be made to encourage participation of all students.

III. RESPONSIBILITY

A. The school board expects all students who participate in school-sponsored activities to represent the school and community in a responsible manner. All rules pertaining to student conduct and student discipline extend to school activities.

B. The school board expects all spectators at school sponsored activities, including parents, employees, and other members of the public, to behave in an appropriate manner at those activities. Students and employees may be subject to discipline and parents and other spectators may be subject to sanctions for engaging in misbehavior or inappropriate, illegal, or unsportsmanlike behavior at these activities or events.

C. The superintendent or designee shall be responsible for disseminating information needed to inform students, parents, staff, and the community of the opportunities available within the school activity program and the rules of participation.

D. Those students who participate in Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL) activities must also abide by the league rules. Those employees who conduct MSHSL activities shall be responsible for familiarizing students and parents with all applicable rules, penalties, and opportunities.

E. The superintendent or designee shall be responsible for conducting an annual evaluation of school activity programs and presenting the results and any recommendations to the school board.

F. The school board will ensure that any funds raised for extracurricular activities will be spent only on extracurricular activities.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 123B.49 (Extracurricular Activities; Insurance)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 503 (Student Attendance)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 506 (Student Discipline)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 713 (Student Activity Accounting)
~~MSBA Service Manual, Chapter 5, Various Educational Programs~~

Replacing: Policy 6140
First Reading: 8/21/2018
Adopted: 9/18/2018 ISD 709

515 PROTECTION AND PRIVACY OF PUPIL RECORDS

I. PURPOSE

The school district recognizes its responsibility in regard to the collection, maintenance, and dissemination of pupil records and the protection of the privacy rights of students as provided in federal law and state statutes.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The following procedures and policies regarding the protection and privacy of parents and students are adopted by the school district, pursuant to the requirements of 20 United States Code, section 1232g, *et seq.*, (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)), 34 Code of Federal Regulations, part 99 and consistent with the requirements of the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minnesota Statutes, chapter 13, and Minnesota Rules, parts 1205.0100-1205.2000.

III. DEFINITIONS

A. Authorized Representative

"Authorized representative" means any entity or individual designated by the school district, state, or an agency headed by an official of the Comptroller of the United States, the Attorney General of the United States, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education, or state and local educational authorities to conduct, with respect to federal or state supported education programs, any audit or evaluation or any compliance or enforcement activity in connection with federal legal requirements that relate to these programs.

B. Biometric Record

"Biometric record," as referred to in "Personally Identifiable," means a record of one or more measurable biological or behavioral characteristics that can be used for automated recognition of an individual (e.g., fingerprints, retina and iris patterns, voiceprints, DNA sequence, facial characteristics, and handwriting).

C. Dates of Attendance

"Dates of attendance," as referred to in "Directory Information," means the period of time during which a student attends or attended a school or schools in the school district, including attendance in person or by paper correspondence, videoconference, satellite, Internet, or other electronic information and telecommunications technologies for students who are not in the classroom, and including the period during which a student is working under a work-study program. The term does not include specific daily records of a student's attendance at a school or schools in the school district.

D. Directory Information

1. Under federal law, "directory information" means information contained in an education record of a student that would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed. It includes the student's name; address; telephone listing; electronic mail address; photograph; date and place of birth; major field of study; dates of attendance; grade level; enrollment status (i.e., full-time or part-time); participation in officially recognized activities and sports; weight and height of members of athletic teams; degrees, honors and awards received; and the most recent educational agency or institution

attended. It also includes the name, address, and telephone number of the student's parent(s). Directory information does not include:

a. a student's social security number;

b. a student's identification number (ID), user ID, or other unique personal identifier used by a student for purposes of accessing or communicating in electronic systems if the identifier may be used to access education records without use of one or more factors that authenticate the student's identity such as a personal identification number (PIN), password, or other factor known or possessed only by the authorized user;

c. a student ID or other unique personal identifier that is displayed on a student ID badge if the identifier can be used to gain access to educational records when used in conjunction with one or more factors that authenticate the student's identity, such as a PIN, password, or other factor known or possessed only by the student;

d. personally identifiable data which references religion, race, color, social position, or nationality; or

e. data collected from nonpublic school students, other than those who receive shared time educational services, unless written consent is given by the student's parent or guardian.

[NOTE: Under the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), the federal definition of "directory information" identifies the types of information that may be specifically referenced as directory information. The federal definition applies to information requests by military recruiting officers, as set out in Article XI below.]

2. Minnesota law prohibits schools from designating student contact information as "directory information" despite the FERPA definition. Duluth Public Schools excludes the following information:

A. Student contact information

Under Minnesota law, a school district may not designate a student's home address, telephone number, email address, or other personal contact information as "directory information."

B. Parent contact information

The 2025 Minnesota legislature enacted the following: A parent's personal contact information must be treated as private data on individuals regardless of whether that contact information was previously designated as or treated as directory information under Minnesota Statutes, section 13.32, subdivision 2.

In addition, the 2025 Minnesota legislature enacted the following: Data concerning parents is private data on individuals but may be treated as directory information if the same procedures that are used by a school district to designate student data as directory information are followed, except that a parent's home address, telephone number,

email address, or other personal contact information may not be treated as directory information.

E. Education Records

1. What constitutes "education records."

Education records means those records that are: (1) directly related to a student; and (2) maintained by the school district or by a party acting for the school district.

2. What does not constitute education records.

The term "education records" does not include:

a. Records of instructional personnel that are:

(1) kept in the sole possession of the maker of the record;

(2) used only as a personal memory aid;

(3) not accessible or revealed to any other individual except a temporary substitute teacher; and

(4) destroyed at the end of the school year.

b. Records of a law enforcement unit of the school district, provided education records maintained by the school district are not disclosed to the unit, and the law enforcement records are:

(1) maintained separately from education records;

(2) maintained solely for law enforcement purposes; and

(3) disclosed only to law enforcement officials of the same jurisdiction.

c. Records relating to an individual, including a student, who is employed by the school district which:

(1) are made and maintained in the normal course of business;

(2) relate exclusively to the individual in that individual's capacity as an employee; and

(3) are not available for use for any other purpose.

However, records relating to an individual in attendance at the school district who is employed as a result of his or her status as a student are education records.

d. Records relating to an eligible student, or a student attending an institution of ~~post secondary~~ postsecondary education, that are:

(1) made or maintained by a physician, psychiatrist, psychologist, or other recognized professional or paraprofessional acting in his or her professional or paraprofessional capacity or assisting

in that capacity;

(2) made, maintained, or used only in connection with the provision of treatment to the student; and

(3) disclosed only to individuals providing the treatment; provided that the records can be personally reviewed by a physician or other appropriate professional of the student's choice. For the purpose of this definition, "treatment" does not include remedial educational activities or activities that are a part of the program of instruction within the school district.

e. Records created or received by the school district after an individual is no longer a student at the school district and that are not directly related to the individual's attendance as a student.

f. Grades on peer-related papers before the papers are collected and recorded by a teacher.

F. Education Support Services Data

"Education support services data" means data on individuals collected, created, maintained, used, or disseminated relating to programs administered by a government entity or entity under contract with a government entity designed to eliminate disparities and advance equities in educational achievement for youth by coordinating services available to participants, regardless of the youth's involvement with other government services. Education support services data does not include welfare data under Minnesota Statutes, section 13.46.

Unless otherwise provided by law, all education support services data are private data on individuals and must not be disclosed except according to Minnesota Statutes, section 13.05 or a court order.

G. Eligible Student

"Eligible student" means a student who has attained eighteen (18) years of age or is attending an institution of ~~post-secondary~~ postsecondary education.

H. Juvenile Justice System

"Juvenile justice system" includes criminal justice agencies and the judiciary when involved in juvenile justice activities.

I. Legitimate Educational Interest

"Legitimate educational interest" includes an interest directly related to classroom instruction, teaching, student achievement and progress, discipline of a student, student health and welfare, and the ability to respond to a request for education data. It includes a person's need to know in order to:

1. Perform an administrative task required in the school or employee's contract or position description approved by the school board;

2. Perform a supervisory or instructional task directly related to the student's education;

3. Perform a service or benefit for the student or the student's family such as

health care, counseling, student job placement, or student financial aid; or

4. Perform a task directly related to responding to a request for data.

J. Parent

"Parent" means a parent of a student and includes a natural parent, a guardian, or an individual acting as a parent of the student in the absence of a parent or guardian. The school district may presume the parent has the authority to exercise the rights provided herein, unless it has been provided with evidence that there is a state law or court order governing such matters as marriage dissolution, separation or child custody, or a legally binding instrument which provides to the contrary.

K. Personally Identifiable

"Personally identifiable" means that the data or information includes, but is not limited to: (a) a student's name; (b) the name of the student's parent or other family member; (c) the address of the student or student's family; (d) a personal identifier such as the student's social security number or student number or biometric record; (e) other indirect identifiers, such as the student's date of birth, place of birth, and mother's maiden name; (f) other information that, alone or in combination, is linked or linkable to a specific student that would allow a reasonable person in the school community, who does not have personal knowledge of the relevant circumstances, to identify the student with reasonable certainty; or (g) information requested by a person who the school district reasonably believes knows the identity of the student to whom the education record relates.

L. Record

"Record" means any information or data recorded in any way including, but not limited to, handwriting, print, computer media, video or audio tape, film, microfilm, and microfiche.

M. Responsible Authority

"Responsible authority" means Executive Director of Business Services and ~~Finance~~ Operations Simone Zunich.

N. Student

"Student" includes any individual who is or has been in attendance, enrolled, or registered at the school district and regarding whom the school district maintains education records. "Student" also includes applicants for enrollment or registration at the school district and individuals who receive shared time educational services from the school district.

O. School Official

"School official" includes: (a) a person duly elected to the school board; (b) a person employed by the school board in an administrative, supervisory, instructional, or other professional position; (c) a person employed by the school board as a temporary substitute in a professional position for the period of his or her performance as a substitute; and (d) a person employed by, or under contract to, the school board to perform a special task such as a secretary, a clerk, a public information officer or data practices compliance official, an attorney, or an auditor for the period of his or her performance as an employee or contractor.

P. Summary Data

"Summary data" means statistical records and reports derived from data on individuals but in which individuals are not identified and from which neither their identities nor any other characteristic that could uniquely identify the individual is ascertainable.

Q. Other Terms and Phrases

All other terms and phrases shall be defined in accordance with applicable state and federal law or ordinary customary usage.

IV. GENERAL CLASSIFICATION

State law provides that all data collected, created, received, or maintained by a school district are public unless classified by state or federal law as not public or private or confidential. State law classifies all data on individuals maintained by a school district which relates to a student as private data on individuals. This data may not be disclosed to parties other than the parent or eligible student without consent, except pursuant to a valid court order, certain state statutes authorizing access, and the provisions of FERPA and the regulations promulgated thereunder.

V. STATEMENT OF RIGHTS

A. Rights of Parents and Eligible Students

Parents and eligible students have the following rights under this policy:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records;

2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records to ensure that they are not inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy or other rights;

3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that such consent is not required for disclosure pursuant to this policy, state or federal law, or the regulations promulgated thereunder;

4. The right to refuse release of names, addresses, and home telephone numbers of students in grades 11 and 12 to military recruiting officers and ~~post-secondary~~ postsecondary educational institutions;

5. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the school district to comply with the federal law and the regulations promulgated thereunder;

6. The right to be informed about rights under the federal law; and

7. The right to obtain a copy of this policy at the location set forth in ~~Section~~ Article XXI. of this policy.

B. Eligible Students

All rights and protections given to parents under this policy transfer to the student when ~~he or she~~ they reach~~es~~ eighteen (18) years of age or enroll~~s~~ in an institution of

~~post-secondary~~ postsecondary education. The student then becomes an "eligible student." However, the parents of an eligible student who is also a "dependent student" are entitled to gain access to the education records of such student without first obtaining the consent of the student. In addition, parents of an eligible student may be given access to education records in connection with a health or safety emergency if the disclosure meets the conditions of any provision set forth in 34 Code of Federal Regulations section 99.31(a).

C. Students with a Disability

The school district shall follow 34 Code of Federal Regulations, sections 300.610-300.617 with regard to the privacy, notice, access, recordkeeping, and accuracy of information related to students with a disability.

VI. DISCLOSURE OF EDUCATION RECORDS

A. Consent Required for Disclosure

1. The school district shall obtain a signed and dated written informed consent of the parent of a student or the eligible student before disclosing personally identifiable information from the education records of the student, except as provided herein.

2. The written consent required by this subdivision must be signed and dated by the parent of the student or the eligible student giving the consent and shall include:

   a. a specification of the records to be disclosed;

   b. the purpose or purposes of the disclosure;

   c. the party or class of parties to whom the disclosure may be made;

   d. the consequences of giving informed consent; and

   e. if appropriate, a termination date for the consent.

3. When a disclosure is made under this subdivision:

   a. if the parent or eligible student so requests, the school district shall provide him or her with a copy of the records disclosed; and

   b. if the parent of a student who is not an eligible student so requests, the school district shall provide the student with a copy of the records disclosed.

4. A signed and dated written consent may include a record and signature in electronic form that:

   a. identifies and authenticates a particular person as the source of the electronic consent; and

   b. indicates such person's approval of the information contained in the electronic consent.

5. If the responsible authority seeks an individual's informed consent to the release of private data to an insurer or the authorized representative of an

insurer, informed consent shall not be deemed to have been given unless the statement is:

a. in plain language;

b. dated;

c. specific in designating the particular persons or agencies the data subject is authorizing to disclose information about the data subject;

d. specific as to the nature of the information the subject is authorizing to be disclosed;

e. specific as to the persons or agencies to whom the subject is authorizing information to be disclosed;

f. specific as to the purpose or purposes for which the information may be used by any of the parties named in ~~Clause~~ Subparagraph e. above, both at the time of the disclosure and at any time in the future; and

g. specific as to its expiration date which should be within a reasonable time, not to exceed one (1) year except in the case of authorizations given in connection with applications for: (i) life insurance or noncancellable or guaranteed renewable health insurance and identified as such, two (2) years after the date of the policy, or (ii) medical assistance under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 256B or Minnesota Care under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 256L, which shall be ongoing during all terms of eligibility, for individualized education program health-related services provided by a school district that are subject to third party reimbursement.

6. Eligible Student Consent

Whenever a student has attained eighteen (18) years of age or is attending an institution of ~~post-secondary~~ postsecondary education, the rights accorded to and the consent required of the parent of the student shall thereafter only be accorded to and required of the eligible student, except as provided in ~~Section~~ Article V. of this policy.

B. Prior Consent for Disclosure Not Required

The school district may disclose personally identifiable information from the education records of a student without the written consent of the parent of the student or the eligible student unless otherwise provided herein, if the disclosure is:

1. To other school officials, including teachers, within the school district whom the school district determines have a legitimate educational interest in such records;

2. To a contractor, consultant, volunteer, or other party to whom the school district has outsourced institutional services or functions provided that the outside party:

a. performs an institutional service or function for which the school district would otherwise use employees;

b. is under the direct control of the school district with respect to the use

and maintenance of education records; and

c. will not disclose the information to any other party without the prior consent of the parent or eligible student and uses the information only for the purposes for which the disclosure was made;

3. To officials of other schools, school districts, or ~~post-secondary~~ postsecondary educational institutions in which the student seeks or intends to enroll, or is already enrolled, as long as the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer. The records shall include information about disciplinary action taken as a result of any incident in which the student possessed or used a dangerous weapon, and with proper annual notice (see ~~Section~~ Article XIX.), suspension and expulsion information pursuant to section 7917 of the federal Every Student Succeeds Act, 20 United States Code, section 7917, and, if applicable, data regarding a student's history of violent behavior. The records also shall include a copy of any probable cause notice or any disposition or court order under Minnesota Statutes, section 260B.171, unless the data are required to be destroyed under Minnesota Statutes, section 120A.22, subdivision 7(c) or section 121A.75. On request, the school district will provide the parent or eligible student with a copy of the education records that have been transferred and provide an opportunity for a hearing to challenge the content of those records in accordance with ~~Section~~ Article XV. of this policy;

4. To authorized representatives of the Comptroller General of the United States, the Attorney General of the United States, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education, or the Commissioner of the State Department of Education or his or her representative, subject to the conditions relative to such disclosure provided under federal law;

5. In connection with financial aid for which a student has applied or has received, if the information is necessary for such purposes as to:

   a. determine eligibility for the aid;

   b. determine the amount of the aid;

   c. determine conditions for the aid; or

   d. enforce the terms and conditions of the aid.

   "Financial aid" for purposes of this provision means a payment of funds provided to an individual or a payment in kind of tangible or intangible property to the individual that is conditioned on the individual's attendance at an educational agency or institution;

6. To state and local officials or authorities to whom such information is specifically allowed to be reported or disclosed pursuant to state statute adopted:

   a. before November 19, 1974, if the allowed reporting or disclosure concerns the juvenile justice system and such system's ability to effectively serve the student whose records are released; or

   b. after November 19, 1974, if the reporting or disclosure allowed by state statute concerns the juvenile justice system and the system's ability to effectively serve, prior to adjudication, the student whose

records are released, provided the officials and authorities to whom the records are disclosed certify in writing to the school district that the data will not be disclosed to any other party, except as provided by state law, without the prior written consent of the parent of the student. At a minimum, the school district shall disclose the following information to the juvenile justice system under this paragraph: a student's full name, home address, telephone number, and date of birth; a student's school schedule, attendance record, and photographs, if any; and parents' names, home addresses, and telephone numbers;

7. To organizations conducting studies for or on behalf of educational agencies or institutions for the purpose of developing, validating, or administering predictive tests, administering student aid programs, or improving instruction; provided that the studies are conducted in a manner which does not permit the personal identification of parents or students by individuals other than representatives of the organization who have a legitimate interest in the information, the information is destroyed when no longer needed for the purposes for which the study was conducted, and the school district enters into a written agreement with the organization that: (a) specifies the purpose, scope, and duration of the study or studies and the information to be disclosed; (b) requires the organization to use personally identifiable information from education records only to meet the purpose or purposes of the study as stated in the written agreement; (c) requires the organization to conduct the study in a manner that does not permit personal identification of parents and students by anyone other than representatives of the organization with legitimate interests; and (d) requires the organization to destroy all personally identifiable information when information is no longer needed for the purposes for which the study was conducted and specifies the time period in which the information must be destroyed.

   For purposes of this provision, the term, "organizations," includes, but is not limited to, federal, state, and local agencies and independent organizations. In the event the Department of Education determines that a third party outside of the school district to whom information is disclosed violates this provision, the school district may not allow that third party access to personally identifiable information from education records for at least five (5) years;

8. To accrediting organizations in order to carry out their accrediting functions;

9. To parents of a student eighteen (18) years of age or older if the student is a dependent of the parents for income tax purposes;

10. To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena, provided, however, that the school district makes a reasonable effort to notify the parent or eligible student of the order or subpoena in advance of compliance therewith so that the parent or eligible student may seek protective action, unless the disclosure is in compliance with a federal grand jury subpoena, or any other subpoena issued for law enforcement purposes, and the court or other issuing agency has ordered that the existence or the contents of the subpoena or the information furnished in response to the subpoena not be disclosed, or the disclosure is in compliance with an ex parte court order obtained by the United States Attorney General (or designee not lower than an Assistant Attorney General) concerning investigations or prosecutions of an offense listed in 18 United States Code, section 2332b(g)(5)(B), an act of domestic or international terrorism as defined in 18 United States Code, section 2331, or a parent is a party to a court proceeding involving child abuse and neglect or

dependency matters, and the order is issued in the context of the proceeding. If the school district initiates legal action against a parent or student, it may disclose to the court, without a court order or subpoena, the education records of the student that are relevant for the school district to proceed with the legal action as a plaintiff. Also, if a parent or eligible student initiates a legal action against the school district, the school district may disclose to the court, without a court order or subpoena, the student's education records that are relevant for the school district to defend itself;

11. To appropriate parties, including parents of an eligible student, in connection with an emergency if knowledge of the information is necessary to protect the health, including the mental health, or safety of the student or other individuals. The decision is to be based upon information available at the time the threat occurs that indicates that there is an articulable and significant threat to the health or safety of a student or other individuals. In making a determination whether to disclose information under this section, the school district may take into account the totality of the circumstances pertaining to a threat and may disclose information from education records to any person whose knowledge of the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other students. A record of this disclosure must be maintained pursuant to ~~Section~~ Paragraph XIII.E. of this policy. In addition, an educational agency or institution may include in the education records of a student appropriate information concerning disciplinary action taken against the student for conduct that posed a significant risk to the safety or well-being of that student, other students, or other members of the school community. This information may be disclosed to teachers and school officials within the school district and/or teachers and school officials in other schools who have legitimate educational interests in the behavior of the student;

12. To the juvenile justice system if information about the behavior of a student who poses a risk of harm is reasonably necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals;

13. Information the school district has designated as "directory information" pursuant to ~~Section~~ Article VII. of this policy;

14. To military recruiting officers and ~~post-secondary~~ postsecondary educational institutions pursuant to ~~Section~~ Article XI. of this policy;

15. To the parent of a student who is not an eligible student or to the student himself or herself;

16. To appropriate ~~health authorities to~~ parties, including parents or an eligible student, in connection with an emergency if knowledge of the ~~extent~~ information is necessary to ~~administer immunization programs~~ protect the health or safety of the student or other indviduals (34 Code of Federal Regulations, part 99.36) and for bona fide epidemiologic investigations which the ~~c~~Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of ~~h~~Health determines are necessary to prevent disease or disability to individuals in the public educational agency or institution in which the investigation is being conducted;

17. To volunteers who are determined to have a legitimate educational interest in the data and who are conducting activities and events sponsored by or endorsed by the educational agency or institution for students or former students;

18. To the juvenile justice system, on written request that certifies that the

information will not be disclosed to any other person except as authorized by law without the written consent of the parent of the student:

a. the following information about a student must be disclosed: a student's full name, home address, telephone number, date of birth; a student's school schedule, daily attendance record, and photographs, if any; and any parents' names, home addresses, and telephone numbers;

b. the existence of the following information about a student, not the actual data or other information contained in the student's education record, may be disclosed provided that a request for access must be submitted on the statutory form and it must contain an explanation of why access to the information is necessary to serve the student: (1) use of a controlled substance, alcohol, or tobacco; (2) assaultive or threatening conduct that could result in dismissal from school under the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act; (3) possession or use of weapons or look-alike weapons; (4) theft; or (5) vandalism or other damage to property. Prior to releasing this information, the principal or chief administrative officer of a school who receives such a request must, to the extent permitted by federal law, notify the student's parent or guardian by certified mail of the request to disclose information. If the student's parent or guardian notifies the school official of an objection to the disclosure within ten (10) days of receiving certified notice, the school official must not disclose the information and instead must inform the requesting member of the juvenile justice system of the objection. If no objection from the parent or guardian is received within fourteen (14) days, the school official must respond to the request for information.

The written requests of the juvenile justice system member(s), as well as a record of any release, must be maintained in the student's file;

19. To the principal where the student attends and to any counselor directly supervising or reporting on the behavior or progress of the student if it is information from a disposition order received by a superintendent under Minnesota Statutes, section 260B.171, subdivision 3. The principal must notify the counselor immediately and must place the disposition order in the student's permanent education record. The principal also must notify immediately any teacher or administrator who directly supervises or reports on the behavior or progress of the student whom the principal believes needs the information to work with the student in an appropriate manner, to avoid being needlessly vulnerable, or to protect other persons from needless vulnerability. The principal may also notify other school district employees, substitutes, and volunteers who are in direct contact with the student if the principal determines that these individuals need the information to work with the student in an appropriate manner, to avoid being needlessly vulnerable, or to protect other persons from needless vulnerability. Such notices from the principal must identify the student, outline the offense, and describe any conditions of probation about which the school must provide information if this information is provided in the disposition order. Disposition order information received is private educational data received for the limited purpose of serving the educational needs of the student and protecting students and staff. The information may not be further disseminated by the counselor, teacher, administrator, staff member, substitute, or volunteer except as necessary to serve the student, to protect students and staff, or as otherwise required by law, and only to the student or the student's parent or guardian;

20. To the principal where the student attends if it is information from a peace officer's record of children received by a superintendent under Minnesota Statutes, section 260B.171, subdivision 5. The principal must place the information in the student's education record. The principal also must notify immediately any teacher, counselor, or administrator directly supervising the student whom the principal believes needs the information to work with the student in an appropriate manner, to avoid being needlessly vulnerable, or to protect other persons from needless vulnerability. The principal may also notify other district employees, substitutes, and volunteers who are in direct contact with the student if the principal determines that these individuals need the information to work with the student in an appropriate manner, to avoid being needlessly vulnerable, or to protect other persons from needless vulnerability. Such notices from the principal must identify the student and describe the alleged offense if this information is provided in the peace officer's notice. Peace officer's record information received is private educational data received for the limited purpose of serving the educational needs of the student and protecting students and staff. The information must not be further disseminated by the counselor, teacher administrator, staff member, substitute, or volunteer except to communicate with the student or the student's parent or guardian as necessary to serve the student, to protect students and staff, or as otherwise required by law.

    The principal must delete the peace officer's record from the student's education record, destroy the data, and make reasonable efforts to notify any teacher, counselor, staff member, administrator, substitute, or volunteer who received information from the peace officer's record if the county attorney determines not to proceed with a petition or directs the student into a diversion or mediation program or if a juvenile court makes a decision on a petition and the county attorney or juvenile court notifies the superintendent of such action;

21. To the Secretary of Agriculture, or authorized representative from the Food and Nutrition Service or contractors acting on behalf of the Food and Nutrition Service, for the purposes of conducting program monitoring, evaluations, and performance measurements of state and local educational and other agencies and institutions receiving funding or providing benefits of one or more programs authorized under the National School Lunch Act or the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 for which the results will be reported in an aggregate form that does not identify any individual, on the conditions that: (a) any data collected shall be protected in a manner that will not permit the personal identification of students and their parents by other than the authorized representatives of the Secretary; and (b) any personally identifiable data shall be destroyed when the data are no longer needed for program monitoring, evaluations, and performance measurements; or

22. To an agency caseworker or other representative of a State or local child welfare agency, or tribal organization (as defined in 25 United States Code, section 5304), who has the right to access a student's case plan, as defined and determined by the State or tribal organization, when such agency or organization is legally responsible, in accordance with State or tribal law, for the care and protection of the student, provided that the education records, or the personally identifiable information contained in such records, of the student will not be disclosed by such agency or organization, except to an individual or entity engaged in addressing the student's education needs and authorized by such agency or organization to receive such disclosure and such disclosure is consistent with the State or tribal laws applicable to protecting

the confidentiality of a student's education records.

23. When requested, and in accordance with requirements for parental consent in 34 Code of Federal Regulations, section 300.622(b)(2), and part 99, educational agencies or institutions may share personal student contact information and directory information for students served in special education with postsecondary transition planning and services under Minnesota Statutes, section 125A.08, paragraph (b), clause (1), whether public or private, with the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development, as required for coordination of services to students with disabilities under Minnesota Statutes, sections 125A.08, paragraph (b), clause (1); 125A.023; and 125A.027.

C. Nonpublic School Students

The school district may disclose personally identifiable information from the education records of a nonpublic school student, other than a student who receives shared time educational services, without the written consent of the parent of the student or the eligible student unless otherwise provided herein, if the disclosure is:

1. Pursuant to a valid court order;

2. Pursuant to a statute specifically authorizing access to the private data; ~~or~~

3. To appropriate health authorities to the extent necessary to administer immunization programs and for bona fide epidemiological investigations which the ~~c~~Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of ~~h~~Health determines are necessary to prevent disease or disability to individuals in the public educational agency or institution in which the investigation is being conducted~~.~~; or

4. To appropriate parties, including parents or an eligible student, in connection with an emergency if knowledge of the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals.

VII. RELEASE OF DIRECTORY INFORMATION

A. Educational Data

1. Educational data designated as directory information is public data on individuals to the extent required under federal law. Directory information must be designated pursuant to the provisions of:

   a. Minnesota Statutes, section 13.32, subdivision 5; and

   b. 20 United States Code, section 1232g, and 34 Code of Federal Regulations, section 99.37, which were in effect on January 3, 2012.

2. The school district may not designate a student's home address, telephone number, email address, or other personal contact information as directory information under Minnesota Statutes, section 13.32.

3. A parent's personal contact information must be treated as private data on individuals regardless of whether that contact information was previously designated as or treated as directory information under Minnesota Statutes,

section 13.32, subdivision 2.

4. When requested, the school district must share personal contact information and directory information, whether public or private, with the Minnesota Department of Education, as required for federal reporting purposes.

B. Former Students

Unless a former student validly opted out of the release of directory information while the student was in attendance and has not rescinded the opt out request at any time, the school district may disclose directory information from the education records generated by it regarding the former student without meeting the requirements of Paragraph C. of this ~~section~~ Article. In addition, under an explicit exclusion from the definition of an "education record," the school district may release records that only contain information about an individual obtained after he or she is no longer a student at the school district and that are not directly related to the individual's attendance as a student (e.g., a student's activities as an alumnus of the school district).

C. Present Students and Parents

The school district may disclose directory information from the education records of a student and information regarding parents without prior written consent of the parent of the student or eligible student, except as provided herein.

1. When conducting the directory information designation and notice process required by federal law, the school district shall give parents and students notice of the right to refuse to let the district designate specified data about the student as directory information.

2. The school district shall give annual notice by any means that are reasonably likely to inform the parents and eligible students of:

   a. the types of personally identifiable information regarding students and/or parents that the school district has designated as directory information;

   b. the parent's or eligible student's right to refuse to let the school district designate any or all of those types of information about the student and/or the parent as directory information; and

   c. the period of time in which a parent or eligible student has to notify the school district in writing that he or she does not want any or all of those types of information about the student and/or the parent designated as directory information.

3. Allow a reasonable period of time after such notice has been given for a parent or eligible student to inform the school district in writing that any or all of the information so designated should not be disclosed without the parent's or eligible student's prior written consent, except as provided in ~~Section~~ Article VI of this policy.

4. A parent or eligible student may not opt out of the directory information disclosures to:

   a. prevent the school district from disclosing or requiring the student to disclose the student's name, ID, or school district e-mail address in a

class in which the student is enrolled; or

b. prevent the school district from requiring a student to wear, to display publicly, or to disclose a student ID card or badge that exhibits information that may be designated as directory information and that has been properly designated by the school district as directory information.

5. The school district shall not disclose or confirm directory information without meeting the written consent requirements contained in ~~Section~~ Paragraph VI.A. of this policy if a student's social security number or other non-directory information is used alone or in combination with other data elements to identify or help identify the student or the student's records.

D. Procedure for Obtaining Nondisclosure of Directory Information

The parent's or eligible student's written notice shall be directed to the responsible authority and shall include the following:

1. Name of the student and/or parent, as appropriate;

2. Home address;

3. School presently attended by student;

4. Parent's legal relationship to student, if applicable; and

5. Specific categories of directory information to be made not public without the parent's or eligible student's prior written consent, which shall only be applicable for that school year.

E. Duration

The designation of any information as directory information about a student or parents will remain in effect for the remainder of the school year unless the parent or eligible student provides the written notifications provided herein.

VIII. DISCLOSURE OF PRIVATE RECORDS

A. Private Records

For the purposes herein, education records are records which are classified as private data on individuals by state law and which are accessible only to the student who is the subject of the data and the student's parent if the student is not an eligible student. The school district may not disclose private records or their contents except as summary data, or except as provided in ~~Section~~ Article VI. of this policy, without the prior written consent of the parent or the eligible student. The school district will use reasonable methods to identify and authenticate the identity of parents, students, school officials, and any other party to whom personally identifiable information from education records is disclosed.

B. Private Records Not Accessible to Parent

In certain cases, state law intends, and clearly provides, that certain information contained in the education records of the school district pertaining to a student be accessible to the student alone, and to the parent only under special circumstances, if at all.

1. The responsible authority may deny access to private data by a parent when a minor student who is the subject of that data requests that the responsible authority deny such access. The minor student's request must be submitted in writing setting forth the reasons for denying access to the parent and must be signed by the minor. Upon receipt of such request the responsible authority shall determine if honoring the request to deny the parent access would be in the best interest of the minor data subject. In making this determination the responsible authority shall consider the following factors:

    a. whether the minor is of sufficient age and maturity to be able to explain the reasons for and understand the consequences of the request to deny access;

    b. whether the personal situation of the minor is such that denying parental access may protect the minor data subject from physical or emotional harm;

    c. whether there are grounds for believing that the minor data subject's reasons for precluding parental access are reasonably accurate;

    d. whether the data in question is of such a nature that disclosure of it to the parent may lead to physical or emotional harm to the minor data subject; and

    e. whether the data concerns medical, dental or other health services provided pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, sections 144.341-144.347, in which case the data may be released only if the failure to inform the parent would seriously jeopardize the health of the minor.

C. Private Records Not Accessible to Student

Students shall not be entitled to access to private data concerning financial records and statements of the student's parent or any information contained therein.

D. Military-Connected Youth Identifier

When a school district updates its enrollment forms in the ordinary course of business, the school district must include a box on the enrollment form to allow students to self-identify as a military-connected youth. For purposes of this ~~section~~ Paragraph, a "military-connected youth" means having an immediate family member, including a parent or sibling, who is currently in the armed forces either as a reservist or on active duty or has recently retired from the armed forces. Data collected under this provision is private data on individuals, but summary data may be published by the Department of Education.

IX. DISCLOSURE OF CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS

A. Confidential Records

Confidential records are those records and data contained therein which are made not public by state or federal law, and which are inaccessible to the student and the student's parents or to an eligible student.

B. Reports Under the Maltreatment of Minors Reporting Act

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, ~~C~~chapter 260E , written copies of reports pertaining

to a neglected and/or physically and/or sexually abused child shall be accessible only to the appropriate welfare and law enforcement agencies. In respect to other parties, such data shall be confidential and will not be made available to the parent or the subject individual by the school district. The subject individual, however, may obtain a copy of the report from either the local welfare agency, county sheriff, or the local police department subject to the provisions of Minnesota Statutes, ~~C~~chapter 260E.

Regardless of whether a written report is made under Minnesota Statutes, ~~C~~chapter 260E, as soon as practicable after a school receives information regarding an incident that may constitute maltreatment of a child in a school facility, the school shall inform the parent, legal guardian, or custodian of the child that an incident occurred that may constitute maltreatment of the child, when the incident occurred, and the nature of the conduct that may constitute maltreatment.

C. Investigative Data

Data collected by the school district as part of an active investigation undertaken for the purpose of the commencement or defense of pending civil legal action, or are retained in anticipation of a pending civil legal action are classified as protected nonpublic data in the case of data not on individuals, and confidential data in the case of data on individuals.

1. The school district may make any data classified as protected non-public or confidential pursuant to this subdivision accessible to any person, agency, or the public if the school district determines that such access will aid the law enforcement process, promote public health or safety, or dispel widespread rumor or unrest.

2. A complainant has access to a statement he or she provided to the school district.

3. Parents or eligible students may have access to investigative data of which the student is the subject, but only to the extent the data is not inextricably intertwined with data about other school district students, school district employees, and/or attorney data as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 13.393.

4. Once a civil investigation becomes inactive, civil investigative data becomes public unless the release of the data would jeopardize another pending civil legal action, except for those portions of such data that are classified as not public data under state or federal law. Any civil investigative data presented as evidence in court or made part of a court record shall be public. For purposes of this provision, a civil investigation becomes inactive upon the occurrence of any of the following events:

    a. a decision by the school district, or by the chief attorney for the school district, not to pursue the civil legal action. However, such investigation may subsequently become active if the school district or its attorney decides to renew the civil legal action;

    b. the expiration of the time to file a complaint under the statute of limitations or agreement applicable to the civil legal action; or

    c. the exhaustion or expiration of rights of appeal by either party to the civil legal action.

5. A "pending civil legal action" for purposes of this subdivision is defined as

including, but not limited to, judicial, administrative, or arbitration proceedings.

D. Chemical Abuse Records

To the extent the school district maintains records of the identity, diagnosis, prognosis, or treatment of any student which are maintained in connection with the performance of any drug abuse prevention function conducted, regulated, or directly or indirectly assisted by any department or agency of the United States, such records are classified as confidential and shall be disclosed only for the purposes and under the circumstances expressly authorized by law.

X. DISCLOSURE OF SCHOOL RECORDS PRIOR TO EXCLUSION OR EXPULSION HEARING

At a reasonable time prior to any exclusion or expulsion hearing, the student and the student's parent or guardian or representative shall be given access to all school district records pertaining to the student, including any tests or reports upon which the action proposed by the school district may be based, pursuant to the Minnesota Pupil Fair Dismissal Act, Minnesota Statutes, section 121A.40, *et seq*.

XI. DISCLOSURE OF DATA TO MILITARY RECRUITING OFFICERS AND ~~POST-SECONDARY~~ POSTSECONDARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

A. The school district will release the names, addresses, electronic mail address (which shall be the electronic mail addresses provided by the school district, if available, that may be released to military recruiting officers only), and home telephone numbers of students in grades 11 and 12 to military recruiting officers and ~~post-secondary~~ postsecondary educational institutions within sixty (60) days after the date of the request unless a parent or eligible student has refused in writing to release this data pursuant to Paragraph C. below.

B. Data released to military recruiting officers under this provision:

1. may be used only for the purpose of providing information to students about military service, state and federal veterans' education benefits, and other career and educational opportunities provided by the military;

2. cannot be further disseminated to any other person except personnel of the recruiting services of the armed forces; and

3. copying fees shall not be imposed.

C. A parent or eligible student has the right to refuse the release of the name, address, electronic mail addresses (which shall be the electronic mail addresses provided by the school, if available, that may be released to military recruiting officers only) or home telephone number to military recruiting officers and ~~post-secondary~~ postsecondary educational institutions. To refuse the release of the above information to military recruiting officers and ~~post-secondary~~ postsecondary educational institutions, a parent or eligible student must notify the responsible authority Executive Director of Business Services and ~~Finance~~ Operations in writing by Oct. 1st each year. The written request must include the following information:

1. Name of student and parent, as appropriate;

2. Home address;

3. Student's grade level;

4. School presently attended by student;

5. Parent's legal relationship to student, if applicable;

6. Specific category or categories of information which are not to be released to military recruiting officers and ~~post-secondary~~ postsecondary educational institutions; and

7. Specific category or categories of information which are not to be released to the public, including military recruiting officers and ~~post-secondary~~ postsecondary educational institutions.

D. Annually, the school district will provide public notice by any means that are reasonably likely to inform the parents and eligible students of their rights to refuse to release the names, addresses, and home phone numbers of students in grades 11 and 12 without prior consent.

E. A parent or eligible student's refusal to release the above information to military recruiting officers and ~~post-secondary~~ postsecondary educational institutions does not affect the school district's release of directory information to the rest of the public, which includes military recruiting officers and ~~post-secondary~~ postsecondary educational institutions. In order to make any directory information about a student private, the procedures contained in ~~Section~~ Article VII. of this policy also must be followed. Accordingly, to the extent the school district has designated the name, address, home phone number, and grade level of students as directory information, absent a request from a parent or eligible student not to release such data, this information will be public data and accessible to members of the public, including military recruiting officers and ~~post-secondary~~ postsecondary educational institutions.

XII. LIMITS ON REDISCLOSURE

A. Redisclosure

Consistent with the requirements herein, the school district may only disclose personally identifiable information from the education records of a student on the condition that the party to whom the information is to be disclosed will not disclose the information to any other party without the prior written consent of the parent of the student or the eligible student, except that the officers, employees, and agents of any party receiving personally identifiable information under this ~~section~~ Article may use the information, but only for the purposes for which the disclosure was made.

B. Redisclosure Not Prohibited

1. ~~Subdivision~~ Paragraph A. of this ~~section~~ Article does not prevent the school district from disclosing personally identifiable information under ~~Section~~ Article VI. of this policy with the understanding that the party receiving the information may make further disclosures of the information on behalf of the school district provided:

   a. The disclosures meet the requirements of ~~Section~~ Article VI. of this policy; and

   b. The school district has complied with the record-keeping requirements of ~~Section~~ Article XIII. of this policy.

2. ~~Subdivision~~ Paragarph A. of this ~~section~~ Article does not apply to disclosures

made pursuant to court orders or lawfully issued subpoenas or litigation, to disclosures of directory information, to disclosures to a parent or student or to parents of dependent students, or to disclosures concerning sex offenders and other individuals required to register under 42 United States Code, section 14071. However, the school district must provide the notification required in ~~Section~~ Paragraph XII.D. of this policy if a redisclosure is made based upon a court order or lawfully issued subpoena.

C. Classification of Disclosed Data

The information disclosed shall retain the same classification in the hands of the party receiving it as it had in the hands of the school district.

D. Notification

The school district shall inform the party to whom a disclosure is made of the requirements set forth in this section, except for disclosures made pursuant to court orders or lawfully issued subpoenas, disclosure of directory information under ~~Section~~ Article VII. of this policy, disclosures to a parent or student, or disclosures to parents of a dependent student. In the event that the Family Policy Compliance Office determines that a state or local educational authority, a federal agency headed by an official listed in 34 Code of Federal Regulations, section 99.31(a)(3), or an authorized representative of a state or local educational authority or a federal agency headed by an official listed in section 99.31(a)(3), or a third party outside of the school district improperly rediscloses personally identifiable information from education records or fails to provide notification required under this section of this policy, the school district may not allow that third party access to personally identifiable information from education records for at least five (5) years.

XIII. RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY; RECORD SECURITY; AND RECORD KEEPING

A. Responsible Authority

The responsible authority shall be responsible for the maintenance and security of student records.

B. Record Security

The principal of each school subject to the supervision and control of the responsible authority shall be the records manager of the school, and shall have the duty of maintaining and securing the privacy and/or confidentiality of student records.

C. Plan for Securing Student Records

The building principal shall submit to the responsible authority a written plan for securing students records by September 1 of each school year. The written plan shall contain the following information:

1. A description of records maintained;

2. Titles and addresses of person(s) responsible for the security of student records;

3. Location of student records, by category, in the buildings;

4. Means of securing student records; and

5. Procedures for access and disclosure.

D. Review of Written Plan for Securing Student Records

The responsible authority shall review the plans submitted pursuant to Paragraph C. of this ~~section~~ Article for compliance with the law, this policy, and the various administrative policies of the school district. The responsible authority shall then promulgate a chart incorporating the provisions of Paragraph C. which shall be attached to and become a part of this policy.

E. Record Keeping

1. The principal shall, for each request for and each disclosure of personally identifiable information from the education records of a student, maintain a record, with the education records of the student, that indicates:

   a. the parties who have requested or received personally identifiable information from the education records of the student;

   b. the legitimate interests these parties had in requesting or obtaining the information; and

   c. the names of the state and local educational authorities and federal officials and agencies listed in ~~Section~~ Subparagraph VI.B.4. of this policy that may make further disclosures of personally identifiable information from the student's education records without consent.

2. In the event the school district discloses personally identifiable information from an education record of a student pursuant to ~~Section~~ Paragraph XII.B. of this policy, the record of disclosure required under this ~~section~~ Article shall also include:

   a. the names of the additional parties to which the receiving party may disclose the information on behalf of the school district;

   b. the legitimate interests under ~~Section~~ Article VI. of this policy which each of the additional parties has in requesting or obtaining the information; and

   c. a copy of the record of further disclosures maintained by a state or local educational authority or federal official or agency listed in ~~Section~~ Subparagraph VI.B.4. of this policy in accordance with 34 Code of Federal Regulations, section 99.32 and to whom the school district disclosed information from an education record. The school district shall request a copy of the record of further disclosures from a state or local educational authority or federal official or agency to whom education records were disclosed upon a request from a parent or eligible student to review the record of requests for disclosure.

3. ~~Section~~ Subparagraph XIII.E.1. does not apply to requests by or disclosure to a parent of a student or an eligible student, disclosures pursuant to the written consent of a parent of a student or an eligible student, requests by or disclosures to other school officials under ~~Section~~ Subparagraph VI.B.1. of this policy, to requests for disclosures of directory information under ~~Section~~ Article VII. of this policy, or to a party seeking or receiving the records as directed by a federal grand jury or other law enforcement subpoena and the issuing court or agency has ordered that the existence or the contents of the subpoena or

the information provided in response to the subpoena not be disclosed or as directed by an ex parte court order obtained by the United States Attorney General (or designee not lower than an Assistant Attorney General) concerning investigations or prosecutions of an offense listed in 18 United States Code, section 2332b(g)(5)(B) or an act of domestic or international terrorism.

4. The record of requests of disclosures may be inspected by:

   a. the parent of the student or the eligible student;

   b. the school official or his or her assistants who are responsible for the custody of the records; and

   c. the parties authorized by law to audit the record-keeping procedures of the school district.

5. The school district shall record the following information when it discloses personally identifiable information from education records under the health or safety emergency exception:

   a. the articulable and significant threat to the health or safety of a student or other individual that formed the basis for the disclosure; and

   b. the parties to whom the school district disclosed the information.

6. The record of requests and disclosures shall be maintained with the education records of the student as long as the school district maintains the student's education records.

XIV. RIGHT TO INSPECT AND REVIEW EDUCATION RECORDS

A. Parent of a Student, an Eligible Student or the Parent of an Eligible Student Who is Also a Dependent Student

The school district shall permit the parent of a student, an eligible student, or the parent of an eligible student who is also a dependent student who is or has been in attendance in the school district to inspect or review the education records of the student, except those records which are made confidential by state or federal law or as otherwise provided in ~~Section~~ Article VIII. of this policy.

B. Response to Request for Access

The school district shall respond to any request pursuant to ~~Subdivision~~ Paragraph A. of this ~~section~~ Article immediately, if possible, or within ten (10) days of the date of the request, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays.

C. Right to Inspect and Review

The right to inspect and review education records under ~~Subdivision~~ Paragraph A. of this section includes:

1. The right to a response from the school district to reasonable requests for explanations and interpretations of records; and

2. If circumstances effectively prevent the parent or eligible student from exercising the right to inspect and review the education records, the school

district shall provide the parent or eligible student with a copy of the records requested or make other arrangements for the parent or eligible student to inspect and review the requested records.

3. Nothing in this policy shall be construed as limiting the frequency of inspection of the education records of a student with a disability by the student's parent or guardian or by the student upon the student reaching the age of majority.

D. Form of Request

Parents or eligible students shall submit to the school district a written request to inspect education records which identify as precisely as possible the record or records he or she wishes to inspect.

E. Collection of Student Records

If a student's education records are maintained in more than one (1) location, the responsible authority may collect copies of the records or the records themselves from the various locations so they may be inspected at one (1) site. However, if the parent or eligible student wishes to inspect these records where they are maintained, the school district shall attempt to accommodate those wishes. The parent or eligible student shall be notified of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

F. Records Containing Information on More Than One Student

If the education records of a student contain information on more than one (1) student, the parent or eligible student may inspect and review or be informed of only the specific information which pertains to that student.

G. Authority to Inspect or Review

The school district may presume that either parent of the student has authority to inspect or review the education records of a student unless the school district has been provided with evidence that there is a legally binding instrument or a state law or court order governing such matters as marriage dissolution, separation, or custody which provides to the contrary.

H. Fees for Copies of Records

1. The school district shall charge a reasonable fee for providing photocopies or printed copies of records unless printing a copy is the only method to provide for the inspection of data. In determining the amount of the reasonable fee, the school district shall consider the following:

   a. the cost of materials, including paper, used to provide the copies;

   b. the cost of the labor required to prepare the copies;

   c. any schedule of standard copying charges established by the school district in its normal course of operations;

   d. any special costs necessary to produce such copies from machine-based record-keeping systems, including but not limited to computers and microfilm systems; and

   e. mailing costs.

2. If one hundred (100) or fewer pages of black and white, letter or legal size paper copies are requested, actual costs shall not be used, and, instead, the charge shall be no more than twenty-five (25) cents for each page copied.

3. The cost of providing copies shall be borne by the parent or eligible student.

4. The responsible authority, however, may not impose a fee for a copy of an education record made for a parent or eligible student if doing so would effectively prevent or, in the case of a student with a disability, impair the parent or eligible student from exercising their right to inspect or review the student's education records.

XV. REQUEST TO AMEND RECORDS; PROCEDURES TO CHALLENGE DATA

A. Request to Amend Education Records

The parent of a student or an eligible student who believes that information contained in the education records of the student is inaccurate, misleading, or violates the privacy rights of the student may request that the school district amend those records.

1. The request shall be in writing, shall identify the item the requestor believes to be inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of the privacy or other rights of the student, shall state the reason for this belief, and shall specify the correction the requestor wishes the school district to make. The request shall be signed and dated by the requestor.

2. The school district shall decide whether to amend the education records of the student in accordance with the request within thirty (30) days after receiving the request.

3. If the school district decides to refuse to amend the education records of the student in accordance with the request, it shall inform the parent of the student or the eligible student of the refusal and advise the parent or eligible student of the right to a hearing under ~~Subdivision~~ Paragraph B. of this ~~section~~ Article.

B. Right to a Hearing

If the school district refuses to amend the education records of a student, the school district, on request, shall provide an opportunity for a hearing in order to challenge the content of the student's education records to ensure that information in the education records of the student is not inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the privacy or other rights of the student. A hearing shall be conducted in accordance with ~~Subdivision~~ Paragraph C. of this ~~section~~ Article.

1. If, as a result of the hearing, the school district decides that the information is inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the privacy or other rights of the student, it shall amend the education records of the student accordingly and so inform the parent of the student or the eligible student in writing.

2. If, as a result of the hearing, the school district decides that the information is not inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the privacy or other rights of the student, it shall inform the parent or eligible student of the right to place a statement in the record commenting on the contested information in the record or stating why he or she disagrees with the decision of the school district, or both.

3. Any statement placed in the education records of the student under ~~Subdivision~~ Paragraph B. of this ~~section~~ Article shall:

a. be maintained by the school district as part of the education records of the student so long as the record or contested portion thereof is maintained by the school district; and

b. if the education records of the student or the contested portion thereof is disclosed by the school district to any party, the explanation shall also be disclosed to that party.

C. Conduct of Hearing

1. The hearing shall be held within a reasonable period of time after the school district has received the request, and the parent of the student or the eligible student shall be given notice of the date, place, and time reasonably in advance of the hearing.

2. The hearing may be conducted by any individual, including an official of the school district who does not have a direct interest in the outcome of the hearing. The school board attorney shall be in attendance to present the school board's position and advise the designated hearing officer on legal and evidentiary matters.

3. The parent of the student or eligible student shall be afforded a full and fair opportunity for hearing to present evidence relative to the issues raised under ~~Subdivisions~~ Paragraphs A. and B. of this ~~section~~ Article and may be assisted or represented by individuals of his or her choice at his or her own expense, including an attorney.

4. The school district shall make a decision in writing within a reasonable period of time after the conclusion of the hearing. The decision shall be based solely on evidence presented at the hearing and shall include a summary of evidence and reasons for the decision.

D. Appeal

The final decision of the designated hearing officer may be appealed in accordance with the applicable provisions of Minnesota Statutes, chapter 14 relating to contested cases.

XVI. PROBLEMS ACCESSING DATA

A. The data practices compliance official is the designated employee to whom persons may direct questions or concerns regarding problems in obtaining access to data or other data practices problems.

B. Data practices compliance official means Executive Director of Business Services and ~~Finance~~ Operations Simone Zunich.

C. Any request by an individual with a disability for reasonable modifications of the school district's policies or procedures for purposes of accessing records shall be made to the data practices compliance official.

XVII. COMPLAINTS FOR NONCOMPLIANCE WITH FERPA

A. Where to File Complaints

Complaints regarding alleged violations of rights accorded parents and eligible students by FERPA, and the rules promulgated thereunder, shall be submitted in writing to the U.S. Department of Education, Student Privacy Policy Office, 400 Maryland Avenue S.W., Washington, D.C. 20202-8520.

B. Content of Complaint

A complaint filed pursuant to this ~~section~~ Article must contain specific allegations of fact giving reasonable cause to believe that a violation of FERPA and the rules promulgated thereunder has occurred.

XVIII. WAIVER

A parent or eligible student may waive any of ~~his or her~~ their rights provided herein pursuant to FERPA. A waiver shall not be valid unless in writing and signed by the parent or eligible student. The school district may not require such a waiver.

XIX. ANNUAL NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS

A. Contents of Notice

The school district shall give parents of students currently in attendance and eligible students currently in attendance annual notice by such means as are reasonably likely to inform the parents and eligible students of the following:

1. That the parent or eligible student has a right to inspect and review the student's education records and the procedure for inspecting and reviewing education records;

2. That the parent or eligible student has a right to seek amendment of the student's education records to ensure that those records are not inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy or other rights and the procedure for requesting amendment of records;

3. That the parent or eligible student has a right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that federal and state law and the regulations promulgated thereunder authorize disclosure without consent;

4. That the parent or eligible student has a right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education regarding an alleged failure by the school district to comply with the requirements of FERPA and the rules promulgated thereunder;

5. The criteria for determining who constitutes a school official and what constitutes a legitimate educational interest for purposes of disclosing education records to other school officials whom the school district has determined to have legitimate educational interests; and

6. That the school district forwards education records on request to a school in which a student seeks or intends to enroll or is already enrolled as long as the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer and that such records may include suspension and expulsion records pursuant to the federal Every Student Succeeds Act and, if applicable, a student's history of violent behavior.

B. Notification to Parents of Students Having a Primary Home Language Other Than English

The school district shall provide for the need to effectively notify parents of students identified as having a primary or home language other than English.

C. Notification to Parents or Eligible Students Who are Disabled

The school district shall provide for the need to effectively notify parents or eligible students identified as disabled.

XX. DESTRUCTION AND RETENTION OF RECORDS

Destruction and retention of records by the school district shall be controlled by state and federal law.

XXI. COPIES OF POLICY

Copies of this policy may be obtained by parents and eligible students at the superintendent's office.

Legal References:
Minn. Stat. Ch. 13 (Minnesota Government Data Practices Act)
Minn. Stat. § 13.32, Subd. 5 (Directory Information)
Minn. Stat. § 13.393 (Attorneys)
Minn. Stat. Ch. 14 (Administrative Procedures Act)
Minn. Stat. § 120A.22 (Compulsory Instruction)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.40-121A.56 (The Pupil Fair Dismissal Act)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.75 (Receipt of Records; Sharing)
Minn. Stat. § 127A.852 (Military-Connected Youth Identifier)
Minn. Stat. § 144.341-144.347 (Consent of Minors for Health Services)
Minn. Stat. Ch. 256B (Medical Assistance for Needy Persons)
Minn. Stat. Ch. 256L (MinnesotaCare)
Minn. Stat. § 260B.171, Subds. 3 and 5 (Disposition Order and Peace Officer Records of Children)
Minn. Stat. Ch. 260E (Reporting of Maltreatment of Minors)
Minn. Stat. § 363A.42 (Public Records; Accessibility)
Minn. Stat. § 480.40 (Personal Information, Dissemination)
Minn. Stat. § 626.557 (Reporting of Maltreatment of Vulnerable Adults)
Minn. Rules Parts 1205.0100-1205.2000 (Data Practices)
10 U.S.C. § 503(b) and (c) (Enlistments: Recruiting Campaigns; Compilation of Directory Information)
18 U.S.C. § 2331 (Definitions)
18 U.S.C. § 2332b (Acts of Terrorism Transcending National Boundaries)
20 U.S.C. § 1232g *et seq.* (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act)
20 U.S.C. § 6301 *et seq.* (Every Student Succeeds Act)
20 U.S.C. § 7908 (Armed Forces Recruiting Information)
20 U.S.C. § 7917 (Transfer of School Disciplinary Records)
25 U.S.C. § 5304 (Definitions – Tribal Organization)
26 U.S.C. §§ 151 and 152 (Internal Revenue Code)
42 U.S.C. § 1711 *et seq.* (Child Nutrition Act)
42 U.S.C. § 1751 *et seq.* (Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act)
34 C.F.R. §§ 99.1-99.67 (Family Educational Rights and Privacy)
34 C.F.R. § 300.610-300.627 (Confidentiality of Information)
42 C.F.R. § 2.1 *et seq.* (Confidentiality of Drug Abuse Patient Records)
Gonzaga University v. Doe, 536 U.S. 273 309 (2002)
Dept. of Admin. Advisory Op. No. 21-008 (December 8, 2021)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 414 (Mandated Reporting of Child Neglect or Physical or Sexual Abuse)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 417 (Chemical Use and Abuse)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 506 (Student Discipline)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 519 (Interviews of Students by Outside Agencies)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 520 (Student Surveys)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 711 (Video Recording on School Buses)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 722 (Public Data Requests)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 906 (Community Notification of Predatory Offenders)
~~MSBA School Law Bulletin "I" (School Records – Privacy – Access to Data)~~

Resources:

U.S. Department of Education: *FAQs on Photos and Videos under FERPA | Protecting Student Privacy* (accessed 012926)

U.S. Department of Education: *Letter to Wachter Regarding Surveillance Video of Multiple Students | Protecting Student Privacy* (accessed 012926)

U.S. Department of Education: *School Resource Officers, School Law Enforcement Units, and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) | Protecting Student Privacy* (accessed 012926)

U.S. Department of Education: *Protecting Student Privacy While Using Online Educational Services: Requirements and Best Practices | Protecting Student Privacy* (accessed 012926)

U.S. Department of Education: *FERPA/IDEA Crosswalk | Protecting Student Privacy* (accessed 012926)

U.S. Department of Education: *What is the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment? | Protecting Student Privacy* (accessed 012926)

Minnesota Department of Health: *The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and Immunization Data* (including *Possible School Consent Language for Sharing Immunization Data with Registries*) (accessed 012926)

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524 INTERNET, TECHNOLOGY, AND CELL PHONE ACCEPTABLE USE AND SAFETY POLICY

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to set forth policies and guidelines for access to the school district computer system and acceptable and safe use of the Internet, including electronic communications.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

In making decisions regarding student and employee access to the school district computer system and the Internet, including electronic communications, the school district considers its own stated educational mission, goals, and objectives. Electronic information research skills are now fundamental to preparation of citizens and future employees. Access to the school district computer system and to the Internet enables students and employees to explore thousands of libraries, databases, bulletin boards, and other resources while exchanging messages with people around the world. The school district expects that faculty will blend thoughtful use of the school district computer system and the Internet throughout the curriculum and will provide guidance and instruction to students in their use.

III. LIMITED EDUCATIONAL PURPOSE

The school district is providing students and employees with access to the school district computer system, which includes Internet access. The purpose of the system is more specific than providing students and employees with general access to the Internet. The school district system has a limited educational purpose, which includes use of the system for classroom activities, educational research, and professional or career development activities. Users are expected to use Internet access through the district system to further educational and personal goals consistent with the mission of the school district and school policies. Uses which might be acceptable on a user's private personal account on another system may not be acceptable on this limited-purpose network.

IV. USE OF SYSTEM IS A PRIVILEGE

The use of the school district system and access to use of the Internet is a privilege, not a right. Depending on the nature and degree of the violation and the number of previous violations, unacceptable use of the school district system or the Internet may result in one or more of the following consequences: suspension or cancellation of use or access privileges; payments for damages and repairs; discipline under other appropriate school district policies, including suspension, expulsion, exclusion, or termination of employment; or civil or criminal liability under other applicable laws.

V. UNACCEPTABLE USES

A. While not an exhaustive list, the following uses of the school district system and Internet resources or accounts are considered unacceptable:

1. Users will not use the school district system to access, review, upload, download, store, print, post, receive, transmit, or distribute:

a. pornographic, obscene, or sexually explicit material or other visual depictions that are harmful to minors;

b. obscene, abusive, profane, lewd, vulgar, rude, inflammatory, threatening, disrespectful, or sexually explicit language;

c. materials that use language or images that are inappropriate in the education setting or disruptive to the educational process;

d. information or materials that could cause damage or danger of disruption to the educational process;

e. materials that use language or images that advocate violence or discrimination toward other people (hate literature) or that may constitute harassment or discrimination.

2. Users will not use the school district system to knowingly or recklessly post, transmit, or distribute false or defamatory information about a person or organization, or to harass another person, or to engage in personal attacks, including prejudicial or discriminatory attacks.

3. Users will not use the school district system to engage in any illegal act or violate any local, state, or federal statute or law.

4. Users will not use the school district system to vandalize, damage, or disable the property of another person or organization, will not make deliberate attempts to degrade or disrupt equipment, software, or system performance by spreading computer viruses or by any other means, will not tamper with, modify, or change the school district system software, hardware, or wiring or take any action to violate the school district's security system, and will not use the school district system in such a way as to disrupt the use of the system by other users.

5. Users will not use the school district system to gain unauthorized access to information resources or to access another person's materials, information, or files without the implied or direct permission of that person.

6. Users will not use the school district system to post private information about another person, personal contact information about themselves or other persons, or other personally identifiable information, including, but not limited to, addresses, telephone numbers, school addresses, work addresses, identification numbers, account numbers, access codes or passwords, labeled photographs, or other information that would make the individual's identity easily traceable, and will not repost a message that was sent to the user privately without permission of the person who sent the message.

   a. This paragraph does not prohibit the posting of employee contact information on school district webpages or communications between employees and other individuals when such communications are made for education-related purposes (i.e., communications with parents or other staff members related to students).

   b. Employees creating or posting school-related webpages may include personal contact information about themselves on a webpage. However, employees may not post personal contact information or other personally identifiable information about students unless:

      (1) such information is classified by the school district as directory

information and verification is made that the school district has not received notice from a parent/guardian or eligible student that such information is not to be designated as directory information in accordance with Policy 515; or

(2) such information is not classified by the school district as directory information but written consent for release of the information to be posted has been obtained from a parent/guardian or eligible student in accordance with Policy 515.

In addition, prior to posting any personal contact or personally identifiable information on a school-related webpage, employees shall obtain written approval of the content of the postings from the building administrator.

c. These prohibitions specifically prohibit a user from utilizing the school district system to post personal information about a user or another individual on ~~social networks~~ all current and emerging social media platforms or digital communities, including, but not limited to, social networks such as "Facebook," "Twitter," "Instagram," "Snapchat," "TikTok," "Reddit," and similar websites or applications.

7. ~~Users must keep all account information and passwords on file with the designated school district official.~~ Users will not attempt to gain unauthorized access to the school district system or any other system through the school district system, attempt to log in through another person's account, or use computer accounts, access codes, or network identification other than those assigned to the user. Messages and records on the school district system may not be encrypted without the permission of appropriate school authorities. When available and required, multi-factor authentication must be setup and utilized. Multi-factor authentication devices (i.e. Yubikey or other hardware key), access codes and passwords must be kept secure and must not be shared.

8. Users will not use the school district system to violate copyright laws or usage licensing agreements, or otherwise to use another person's property without the person's prior approval or proper citation, including the downloading or exchanging of pirated software or copying software to or from any school computer, and will not plagiarize works they find on the Internet.

9. Users will not use the school district system for conducting business, for unauthorized commercial purposes, or for financial gain unrelated to the mission of the school district. Users will not use the school district system to offer or provide goods or services or for product advertisement. Users will not use the school district system to purchase goods or services for personal use without authorization from the appropriate school district official.

10. Users will not use the school district system to engage in bullying or cyberbullying in violation of the school district's Bullying Prohibition Policy. This prohibition includes using any technology or other electronic communication off school premises to the extent that student learning or the school environment is substantially and materially disrupted.

11. Virtual Private Networks (VPNs) and proxy servers are not permitted for use on district devices, aside from VPNs provided by the district for specific authorized users.

B. The school district has a special interest in regulating off-campus speech that materially disrupts classwork or involves substantial disorder or invasion of the rights of others. A student or employee engaging in the foregoing unacceptable uses of the Internet when off school district premises also may be in violation of this policy as well as other school district policies. Examples of such violations may include, but are not limited to, serious or severe bullying or harassment targeting particular individuals, threats aimed at teachers or other students, failure to follow rules concerning lessons, the writing of papers, the use of computers, or participation in other online school activities, and breaches of school security devices. If the school district receives a report of an unacceptable use originating from a non-school computer or resource, the school district may investigate such reports to the best of its ability. Students or employees may be subject to disciplinary action for such conduct, including, but not limited to, suspension or cancellation of the use or access to the school district computer system and the Internet and discipline under other appropriate school district policies, including suspension, expulsion, exclusion, or termination of employment.

C. If a user inadvertently accesses unacceptable materials or an unacceptable Internet site, the user shall immediately disclose the inadvertent access to an appropriate school district official. In the case of a school district employee, the immediate disclosure shall be to the employee's immediate supervisor and/or the building administrator. This disclosure may serve as a defense against an allegation that the user has intentionally violated this policy. In certain rare instances, a user also may access otherwise unacceptable materials if necessary to complete an assignment and if done with the prior approval of and with appropriate guidance from the appropriate teacher or, in the case of a school district employee, the building administrator.

VI. FILTER

[NOTE: The 2025 Minnesota legislature amended Minnesota Statutes 125B.15 as follows: "A school district ~~receiving technology revenue under section 125B.26~~ must prohibit, including through use of available software filtering technology or other effective methods, adult access to material that under federal or state law is reasonably believed to be obscene or child pornography."]

A. With respect to any of its computers with Internet access, the school district will monitor the online activities of both minors and adults and employ technology protection measures during any use of such computers by minors and adults. The technology protection measures utilized will block or filter Internet access to any visual depictions that are:

1. Obscene;

2. Child pornography; or

3. Harmful to minors.

B. The term "harmful to minors" means any picture, image, graphic image file, or other visual depiction that:

1. Taken as a whole and with respect to minors, appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sex, or excretion; or

2. Depicts, describes, or represents, in a patently offensive way with respect to

what is suitable for minors, an actual or simulated sexual act or sexual contact, actual or simulated normal or perverted sexual acts, or a lewd exhibition of the genitals; and

3. Taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value as to minors.

C. Software filtering technology shall be narrowly tailored and shall not discriminate based on viewpoint.

D. An administrator, supervisor, or other person authorized by the Superintendent may disable the technology protection measure, during use by an adult, to enable access for bona fide research or other lawful purposes.

E. The school district will educate students about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals in digital communities,~~on social networking websites and in chat rooms and~~ responsible use of Artificial Intelligence, and cyberbullying awareness and response.

VII. CONSISTENCY WITH OTHER SCHOOL POLICIES

Use of the school district computer system, ~~and use of the~~ Internet and related tools including Artificial Intelligence shall be consistent with school district policies and the mission of the school district.

VIII. LIMITED EXPECTATION OF PRIVACY

A. By authorizing use of the school district system, the school district does not relinquish control over materials on the system or contained in files on the system. Users should expect only limited privacy in the contents of personal files on the school district system.

B. Routine maintenance and monitoring of the school district system may lead to a discovery that a user has violated this policy, another school district policy, or the law.

C. An individual investigation or search will be conducted if school authorities have a reasonable suspicion that the search will uncover a violation of law or school district policy.

D. Parents may have the right at any time to investigate or review the contents of their child's files and e-mail files in accordance with the school district's Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records Policy. Parents have the right to request the termination of their child's individual account at any time.

E. School district employees should be aware that the school district retains the right at any time to investigate or review the contents of their files and e-mail files. In addition, school district employees should be aware that data and other materials in files maintained on the school district system may be subject to review, disclosure, or discovery under Minnesota Statutes chapter 13 (Minnesota Government Data Practices Act).

F. The school district will cooperate fully with local, state and federal authorities in any investigation concerning or related to any illegal activities or activities not in compliance with school district policies conducted through the school district system.

IX. INTERNET USE ~~AGREEMENT~~

A. The proper use of the Internet, and the educational value to be gained from proper Internet use, is the joint responsibility of students, parents, and employees of the school district.

B. This policy requires the permission of and supervision by the school's designated professional staff before a student may use a school account or resource to access the Internet.

~~C. The Internet Use Agreement form for students must be read and signed by the user, the parent or guardian, and the supervising teacher. The Internet Use Agreement form for employees must be signed by the employee. The form must then be filed at the school office. As supervising teachers change, the agreement signed by the new teacher shall be attached to the original agreement.~~

X. LIMITATION ON SCHOOL DISTRICT LIABILITY

Use of the school district system is at the user's own risk. The system is provided on an "as is, as available" basis. The school district will not be responsible for any damage users may suffer, including, but not limited to, loss, damage, or unavailability of data stored on school district diskettes, tapes, hard drives, cloud storage or servers, or for delays or changes in or interruptions of service or misdeliveries or nondeliveries of information or materials, regardless of the cause. The school district is not responsible for the accuracy or quality of any advice or information obtained through or stored on the school district system. The school district will not be responsible for financial obligations arising through unauthorized use of the school district system or the Internet.

XI. USER NOTIFICATION

A. All users shall be notified of the school district policies relating to Internet use.

B. This notification shall include the following:

1. Notification that Internet use is subject to compliance with school district policies.

2. Disclaimers limiting the school district's liability relative to:

   a. Information stored on school district diskettes, hard drives, ~~or~~ servers or cloud storage.

   b. Information retrieved through school district computers, networks, or online resources.

   c. Personal property used to access school district computers, networks, or online resources.

   d. Unauthorized financial obligations resulting from use of school district resources/accounts to access the Internet.

3. A description of the privacy rights and limitations of school sponsored/managed

Internet accounts.

4. Notification that, even though the school district may use technical means to limit student Internet access, these limits do not provide a foolproof means for enforcing the provisions of this acceptable use policy.

5. Notification that goods and services can be purchased over the Internet that could potentially result in unwanted financial obligations and that any financial obligation incurred by a student through the Internet is the sole responsibility of the student and/or the student's parents.

6. Notification that the collection, creation, reception, maintenance, and dissemination of data via the Internet, including electronic communications, is governed by Public and Private Personnel Data Policy, and Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records Policy.

7. Notification that, should the user violate the school district's acceptable use policy, the user's access privileges may be revoked, school disciplinary action may be taken and/or appropriate legal action may be taken.

8. Notification that all provisions of the acceptable use policy are subordinate to local, state, and federal laws.

XII. PARENTS' RESPONSIBILITY; NOTIFICATION OF STUDENT INTERNET USE

A. Outside of school, parents bear responsibility for the same guidance of Internet use as they exercise with information sources such as television, telephones, radio, movies, and other possibly offensive media. Parents are responsible for monitoring their student's use of the school district system and of the Internet if the student is accessing the school district system from home or a remote location.

B. Parents will be notified that their students will be using school district resources/accounts to access the Internet and that the school district will provide parents the option to request alternative activities not requiring Internet access. This notification should include:

1. A copy of the user notification form provided to the student user.

2. A description of parent/guardian responsibilities.

3. A notification that the parents have the option to request alternative educational activities not requiring Internet access and the material to exercise this option.

~~4. A statement that the Internet Use Agreement must be signed by the user, the parent or guardian, and the supervising teacher prior to use by the student.~~

5. A statement that the school district's acceptable use policy is available for parental review.

XIII. NOTIFICATION REGARDING TECHNOLOGY PROVIDERS

A. "Technology provider" means a person who:

1. contracts with the school district, as part of a one-to-one program or otherwise, to provide a school-issued device for student use; and

2. creates, receives, or maintains educational data pursuant or incidental to a contract with the school district.

B. "Parent" means a parent of a student and includes a natural parent, a guardian, or an individual acting as a parent in the absence of a parent or a guardian.

C. Within 30 days of the start of each school year, the school district must give parents and students direct and timely notice, by United States mail, e-mail, or other direct form of communication, of any curriculum, testing, or assessment technology provider contract affecting a student's educational data. The notice must:

1. identify each curriculum, testing, or assessment technology provider with access to educational data;

2. identify the educational data affected by the curriculum, testing, or assessment technology provider contract; and

3. include information about the contract inspection and provide contact information for a school department to which a parent or student may direct questions or concerns regarding any program or activity that allows a curriculum, testing, or assessment technology provider to access a student's educational data.

D. The school district must provide parents and students an opportunity to inspect a complete copy of any contract with a technology provider.

E. A contract between a technology provider and the school district must include requirements to ensure appropriate security safeguards for educational data. The contract must require that:

1. the technology provider's employees or contractors have access to educational data only if authorized; and

2. the technology provider's employees or contractors may be authorized to access educational data only if access is necessary to fulfill the official duties of the employee or contractor.

F. All educational data created, received, maintained, or disseminated by a technology provider pursuant or incidental to a contract with a public educational agency or institution are not the technology provider's property.

XIV. SCHOOL-ISSUED DEVICES

A. "School-issued device" means hardware or software that the school district, acting independently or with a technology provider, provides to an individual student for that student's ~~dedicated personal~~ use. A school-issued device includes a device issued through a one-to-one program.

B. Except as provided in paragraph C, the school district or a technology provider must not electronically access or monitor:

1. any location-tracking feature of a school-issued device;

2. any audio or visual receiving, transmitting, or recording feature of a school issued device; or

3. student interactions with a school-issued device, including but not limited to keystrokes and web-browsing activity.

C. The school district or a technology provider may only engage in activities prohibited by paragraph B if:

1. the activity is limited to a noncommercial educational purpose for instruction, technical support, or exam-proctoring by school district employees, student teachers, staff contracted by the school district, a vendor, or the Minnesota Department of Education, and notice is provided in advance;

2. the activity is permitted under a judicial warrant;

3. the school district is notified or becomes aware that the device is missing or stolen;

4. the activity is necessary to respond to an imminent threat to life or safety and the access is limited to that purpose;

5. the activity is necessary to comply with federal or state law, including but not limited to Minnesota Statutes section 121A.031; or

6. the activity is necessary to participate in federal or state funding programs, including but not limited to the E-Rate program.

D. If the school district or a technology provider interacts with a school-issued device as provided in paragraph C, clause 4, it must, within 72 hours of the access, notify the student to whom the school-issued device was issued or that student's parent/guardian and provide a written description of the interaction, including which features of the device were accessed and a description of the threat. This notice is not required at any time when the notice itself would pose an imminent threat to life or safety, but must instead be given within 72 hours after that imminent threat has ceased.

XV. CELL PHONE USE

The school board directs the superintendent and school district administration to establish rules and procedures regarding student possession and use of cell phones in schools. These rules and procedures should seek to minimize the impact of cell phones on student behavior, mental health, and academic attainment. These rules and procedures may be designed for specific school buildings, grade levels, or similar criteria.

[NOTE: In 2024, the Minnesota legislature enacted a law requiring that school districts adopt a policy on students' possession and use of cell phones in school by March 15, 2025. This law does not state that school districts must incorporate specific language or provisions in the school district policy.

MSBA recognizes the common practice of setting forth cell phone rules in a student handbook or similar document. This Article directs school administration to establish

cell phone rules, which the school board may require be presented to the board for approval. This approach enables administrators to craft flexible and specific rules that are specific to grade levels and buildings. The school board may choose to set forth general principles regarding cell phone use in this Article.

~~Under the new law,~~ T~~t~~he Minnesota Elementary School Principals Association and the Minnesota Association of Secondary School Principals ~~will~~ collaborated to make best practices available to schools on a range of different strategies to achieve the goals stated above.]

XVI. LIMIT ON SCREEN TIME FOR CHILDREN IN PRESCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN

A child in a publicly funded preschool or kindergarten program may not use an individual-use screen, such as a tablet, smartphone, or other digital media, without engagement from a teacher or other students. This section does not apply to a child for whom the school has an individualized family service plan, an individualized education program, or a 504 plan in effect.

XVII. IMPLEMENTATION; POLICY REVIEW

A. The school district administration may develop appropriate user notification forms, guidelines, and procedures necessary to implement this policy for submission to the school board for approval. Upon approval by the school board, such guidelines, forms, and procedures shall be an addendum to this policy.

B. The administration shall revise the user notifications, including student and parent notifications, if necessary, to reflect the adoption of these guidelines and procedures.

C. The school district Internet policies and procedures are available for review by all parents, guardians, staff, and members of the community.

D. Because of the rapid changes in the development of the Internet, the school board shall conduct an annual review of this policy.

Legal References:

Minn. Stat. Ch. 13 (Minnesota Government Data Practices Act
Minn. Stat. § 13.32 (Educational Data)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.031 (School Student Bullying Policy)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.73 (School Cell Phone Policy)
Minn. Stat. § 124D.166 (Limit on Screen Time for Children in Preschool and Kindergarten)
Minn. Stat. § 125B.15 (Internet Access for Students)
Minn. Stat. § 125B.26 (Telecommunications/Internet Access Equity Act)
15 U.S.C. § 6501 *et seq.* (Children's Online Privacy Protection Act)
17 U.S.C. § 101 *et seq.* (Copyrights)
20 U.S.C. § 1232g (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act)
47 U.S.C. § 254 (Children's Internet Protection Act of 2000 (CIPA))
47 C.F.R. § 54.520 (FCC rules implementing CIPA)
Mahanoy Area Sch. Dist. v. B.L., 594 U.S. 180, 141 S. Ct. 2038 (2021)
Tinker v. Des Moines Indep. Cmty. Sch. Dist., 393 U.S. 503 (1969)
United States v. Amer. Library Assoc., 539 U.S. 1942003)
Sagehorn v. Indep. Sch. Dist. No. 728, 122 F.Supp.2d 842 (D. Minn. 2015)
R.S. v. Minnewaska Area Sch. Dist. No. 2149, 894 F.Supp.2d 1128 (D. Minn. 2012)
Tatro v. Univ. of Minnesota, 800 N.W.2d 811 (Minn. App. 2011), aff'd on other grounds 816 N.W.2d 509 (Minn. 2012)

S.J.W. v. Lee's Summit R-7 Sch. Dist., 696 F.3d 771 (8th Cir. 2012)
Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, Inc. v. Camdenton R-III Sch. Dist., 853 F.Supp.2d 888 (W.D. Mo. 2012)
M.T. v. Cent. York Sch. Dist., 937 A.2d 538 (Pa. Commw. Ct. 2007)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 403 (Discipline, Suspension, and Dismissal of School District Employees)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 406 (Public and Private Personnel Data)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 505 (Distribution of Nonschool-Sponsored Materials on School Premises by Students and Employees)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 506 (Student Discipline)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 514 (Bullying Prohibition Policy)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 515 (Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 519 (Interviews of Students by Outside Agencies)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 521 (Student Disability Nondiscrimination)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 522 (Title IX Sex Nondiscrimination Grievance Procedures and Process)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 603 (Curriculum Development)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 604 (Instructional Curriculum)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 606 (Textbooks and Instructional Materials)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 806 (Crisis Management Policy)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 904 (Distribution of Materials on School District Property by Nonschool Persons)

Replacing: Policy 3187
Immediate Adoption: 08-16-2022
Revised:

722 PUBLIC DATA AND DATA SUBJECT REQUESTS

I. PURPOSE

The school district recognizes its responsibility relative to the collection, maintenance, and dissemination of public data as provided in state statutes.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The school district will comply with the requirements of the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minnesota Statutes chapter 13 (MGDPA), and Minnesota Rules parts 1205.0100-1205.2000 in responding to requests for public data.

III. DEFINITIONS

A. Confidential Data on Individuals

Data made not public by statute or federal law applicable to the data and are inaccessible to the individual subject of those data.

B. Data on Individuals

All government data in which any individual is or can be identified as the subject of that data, unless the appearance of the name or other identifying data can be clearly demonstrated to be only incidental to the data and the data are not accessed by the name or other identifying data of any individual.

C. Data Practices Compliance Officer

The data practices compliance official is the designated employee of the school district to whom persons may direct questions or concerns regarding problems in obtaining access to data or other data practices problems. The responsible authority may be the data practices compliance official.

D. Government Data

All data collected, created, received, maintained or disseminated by any government entity regardless of its physical form, storage media or conditions of use.

E. Individual

"Individual" means a natural person. In the case of a minor or an incapacitated person as defined in Minnesota Statutes section 524.5-102, subdivision 6, "individual" includes a parent or guardian or an individual acting as a parent or guardian in the absence of a parent or guardian, except that the responsible authority shall withhold data from parents or guardians, or individuals acting as parents or guardians in the absence of parents or guardians, upon request by the minor if the responsible authority determines that withholding the data would be in the best interest of the minor.

F. Inspection

"Inspection" means the visual inspection of paper and similar types of government data. Inspection does not include printing copies by the school district, unless printing a copy is the only method to provide for inspection of the data. For data stored in electronic form and made available in electronic form on a remote access basis to the public by the school district, typically through an online portal or the government entity's website, inspection includes remote access to the data by the public and the

ability to print copies of or download the data on the public's own computer equipment.

G. Not Public Data

Any government data classified by statute, federal law, or temporary classification as confidential, private, nonpublic, or protected nonpublic.

H. Nonpublic Data

Data not on individuals made by statute or federal law applicable to the data: (a) not accessible to the public; and (b) accessible to the subject, if any, of the data.

I. Private Data on Individuals

Data made by statute or federal law applicable to the data: (a) not public; and (b) accessible to the individual subject of those data.

J. Protected Nonpublic Data

Data not on individuals made by statute or federal law applicable to the data (a) not public and (b) not accessible to the subject of the data.

K. Public Data

All government data collected, created, received, maintained, or disseminated by the school district, unless classified by statute, temporary classification pursuant to statute, or federal law, as nonpublic or protected nonpublic; or, with respect to data on individuals, as private or confidential.

L. Public Data Not on Individuals

Data accessible to the public pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 13.03.

M. Public Data on Individuals

Data accessible to the public in accordance with the provisions of section 13.03.

N. Responsible Authority

The individual designated by the school board as the individual responsible for the collection, use, and dissemination of any set of data on individuals, government data, or summary data, unless otherwise provided by state law. Until an individual is designated by the school board, the responsible authority is the superintendent.

O. Summary Data

Statistical records and reports derived from data on individuals but in which individuals are not identified and from which neither their identities nor any other characteristic that could uniquely identify an individual is ascertainable. Unless classified pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 13.06, another statute, or federal law, summary data is public.

IV. REQUESTS FOR PUBLIC DATA

A. All requests for public data must be made in writing using the data practices form and directed to the responsible authority.

1. A request for public data must include the following information:

a. Date the request is made;

b. A clear description of the data requested;

c. Identification of the form in which the data is to be provided (e.g., inspection, copying, both inspection and copying, etc.); and

d. Method to contact the requestor (such as phone number, address, or email address).

2. Unless specifically authorized by statute, the school district may not require persons to identify themselves, state a reason for, or justify a request to gain access to public government data. A person may be asked to provide certain identifying or clarifying information for the sole purpose of facilitating access to the data.

3. The identity of the requestor is public, if provided, but cannot be required by the government entity.

4. The responsible authority may seek clarification from the requestor if the request is not clear before providing a response to the data request.

B. The responsible authority will respond to a data request at reasonable times and places as follows:

1. The responsible authority will notify the requestor in writing as follows:

a. The requested data does not exist; or

b. The requested data does exist but either all or a portion of the data is not accessible to the requestor; or

(1) If the responsible authority determines that the requested data is classified so that access to the requestor is denied, the responsible authority will inform the requestor of the determination in writing, as soon thereafter as possible, and shall cite the specific statutory section, temporary classification, or specific provision of federal law on which the determination is based.

(2) Upon the request of a requestor who is denied access to data, the responsible authority shall certify in writing that the request has been denied and cite the specific statutory section, temporary classification, or specific provision of federal law upon which the denial was based.

~~c. The requested data does exist and provide arrangements for inspection of the data, identify when the data will be available for pick-up, or indicate that the data will be sent by mail. If the requestor does not appear at the time and place established for inspection of the data or the data is not picked up within ten (10) business days after the requestor is notified, the school district will conclude that the data is no longer wanted and will consider the request closed.~~

2. The school district's response time may be affected by the size and complexity of the particular request, including necessary redactions of the data, and also

by the number of requests made within a particular period of time.

3. The school district will provide an explanation of technical terminology, abbreviations, or acronyms contained in the responsive data on request.

4. The school district is not required by the MGDPA to create or collect new data in response to a data request, or to provide responsive data in a specific form or arrangement if the school district does not keep the data in that form or arrangement.

5. The school district is not required to respond to questions that are not about a particular data request or requests for data in general.

C. If the school district notifies the requesting person that responsive data or copies are available for inspection or collection, and the requesting person does not inspect the data or collect the copies within five (5) business days of the notification, the school district may suspend any further response to the request until the requesting person inspects the data that has been made available, or collects and pays for the copies that have been produced.

[NOTE: The 2025 Minnesota legislature enacted Paragraph C.]

V. REQUEST FOR SUMMARY DATA

A. All requests for the preparation of summary data must be made in writing using the data practices form and directed to the responsible authority.

1. A request for the preparation of summary data must include the following information:

a. Date the request is made;

b. A clear description of the data requested;

c. Identify the form in which the data is to be provided (e.g., inspection, copying, both inspection and copying, etc.); and

d. Method to contact requestor (phone number, address, or email address).

B. The responsible authority will respond within ten (10) business days of the receipt of a request to prepare summary data and inform the requestor of the following:

1. The estimated costs of preparing the summary data, if any; and

2. The summary data requested; or

3. A written statement describing a time schedule for preparing the requested summary data, including reasons for any time delays; or

4. A written statement describing the reasons why the responsible authority has determined that the requestor's access would compromise the private or confidential data.

C. The school district may require the requestor to pre-pay all or a portion of the cost of creating the summary data before the school district begins to prepare the summary data.

VI. DATA BY AN INDIVIDUAL DATA SUBJECT

A. Collection and storage of all data on individuals and the use and dissemination of private and confidential data on individuals shall be limited to that necessary for the administration and management of programs specifically authorized by the legislature or local governing body or mandated by the federal government.

B. Private or confidential data on an individual shall not be collected, stored, used, or disseminated by the school district for any purposes other than those stated to the individual at the time of collection in accordance with Minnesota Statutes section 13.04, except as provided in Minnesota Statutes section 13.05, subdivision 4.

C. Upon request to the responsible authority or designee, an individual shall be informed whether the individual is the subject of stored data on individuals, and whether it is classified as public, private or confidential. Upon further request, an individual who is the subject of stored private or public data on individuals shall be shown the data without any charge and, if desired, shall be informed of the content and meaning of that data.

D. After an individual has been shown the private data and informed of its meaning, the data need not be disclosed to that individual for six (6) months thereafter unless a dispute or action pursuant to this section is pending or additional data on the individual has been collected or created.

E. The responsible authority or designee shall provide copies of the private or public data upon request by the individual subject of the data. The responsible authority or designee may require the requesting person to pay the actual costs of making and certifying the copies.

F. The responsible authority or designee shall comply immediately, if possible, with any request made pursuant to this subdivision, or within ten (10) days of the date of the request, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays, if immediate compliance is not possible.

G. An individual subject of the data may contest the accuracy or completeness of public or private data. To exercise this right, an individual shall notify in writing the responsible authority describing the nature of the disagreement. The responsible authority shall within 30 (30) days either: (1) correct the data found to be inaccurate or incomplete and attempt to notify past recipients of inaccurate or incomplete data, including recipients named by the individual; or (2) notify the individual that the authority believes the data to be correct. Data in dispute shall be disclosed only if the individual's statement of disagreement is included with the disclosed data.

H. The determination of the responsible authority may be appealed by a data subject pursuant to the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act relating to contested cases. Upon receipt of an appeal by an individual, the ~~c~~Commissioner of the Minnesota Dpartment of Administration ("Commissioner") shall, before issuing the order and notice of a contested case hearing required by Minnesota Statutes, chapter 14, try to resolve the dispute through education, conference, conciliation, or persuasion. If the parties consent, the ~~c~~Commissioner may refer the matter to mediation. Following these efforts, the ~~c~~Commissioner shall dismiss the appeal or issue the order and notice of hearing.

I. Data on individuals that have been successfully challenged by an individual must be completed, corrected, or destroyed by a government entity without regard to the requirements of Minnesota Statutes section 138.17.

J. After completing, correcting, or destroying successfully challenged data, the school district may retain a copy of the ~~c~~Commissioner's ~~of administration's~~ order issued

under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 14 or, if no order were issued, a summary of the dispute between the parties that does not contain any particulars of the successfully challenged data.

VII. REQUESTS FOR DATA BY AN INDIVIDUAL SUBJECT OF THE DATA

A. All requests for individual subject data must be made in writing directed to the responsible authority.

B. A request for individual subject data must include the following information:

1. Statement that one is making a request as a data subject for data about the individual or about a student for whom the individual is the parent or guardian;

2. Date the request is made;

3. A clear description of the data requested;

4. Proof that the individual is the data subject or the data subject's parent or guardian;

5. Identification of the form in which the data is to be provided (e.g., inspection, copying, both inspection and copying, etc.); and

6. Method to contact the requestor (such as phone number, address, or email address).

C. The identity of the requestor of private data is private.

D. The responsible authority may seek clarification from the requestor if the request is not clear before providing a response to the data request.

E. Policy 515 (Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records) addresses requests of students or their parents for educational records and data.

VIII. COSTS

A. Public Data

1. The school district will charge for copies provided as follows:

a. One hundred (100) or fewer pages of black and white, letter or legal sized paper copies will be charged at twenty-five (25) cents for a one-sided copy or fifty (50) cents for a two-sided copy.

b. More than one hundred (100) pages or copies of other materials are charged based upon the actual cost of searching for and retrieving the data and making the copies or electronically sending the data, unless the cost is specifically set by statute or rule.

(1) The actual cost of making copies includes employee time, the cost of the materials onto which the data is copied (paper, CD, DVD, etc.), and mailing costs (if any).

(2) Also, if the school district does not have the capacity to make the copies, e.g., photographs, the actual cost paid by the

school district to an outside vendor will be charged.

2. All charges must be paid for [in cash, check, or online service] in advance of receiving the copies.

B. Summary Data

1. Any costs incurred in the preparation of summary data shall be paid by the requestor prior to preparing or supplying the summary data.

2. The school district may assess costs associated with the preparation of summary data as follows:

a. The cost of materials, including paper, the cost of the labor required to prepare the copies, any schedule of standard copying charges established by the school district, any special costs necessary to produce such copies from a machine-based record-keeping system, including computers and microfilm systems;

b. The school district may consider the reasonable value of the summary data prepared and, where appropriate, reduce the costs assessed to the requestor.

C. Data Belonging to an Individual Subject

1. The responsible authority or designee may require the requesting person to pay the actual costs of making and certifying the copies.

The responsible authority shall not charge the data subject any fee in those instances where the data subject only desires to view private data.

The responsible authority or designee may require the requesting person to pay the actual costs of making and certifying the copies. Based on the factors set forth in Minnesota Rule 1205.0300, subpart 4, the school district determines that a reasonable fee would be the charges set forth in section VIII.A of this policy that apply to requests for data by the public.

2. The school district may not charge a fee to search for or to retrieve educational records of a child with a disability by the child's parent or guardian or by the child upon the child reaching the age of majority.

IX. Annual Review and Posting

A. The responsible authority shall prepare a written data access policy and a written policy for the rights of data subjects (including specific procedures the school district uses for access by the data subject to public or private data on individuals). The responsible authority shall update the policies no later than August 1 of each year, and at any other time as necessary to reflect changes in personnel, procedures, or other circumstances that impact the public's ability to access data.

B. Copies of the policies shall be easily available to the public by distributing free copies to the public or by posting the policies in a conspicuous place within the school district that is easily accessible to the public or by posting them on the school district's website.

Data Practices Contacts

Responsible Authority:
Superintendent
709 Portia Johnson Dr.
Duluth, MN 55811
data.request@isd709.org

Data Practices Compliance Official:
Executive Director of Business Services and Finance
709 Portia Johnson Dr.
Duluth, MN 55811
data.request@isd709.org

Data Practices Designee(s):
Business Services Coordinator
709 Portia Johnson Dr.
Duluth, MN 55811
data.request@isd709.org

Legal References:
Minn. Stat. Ch. 13 (Minnesota Government Data Practices Act)
Minn. Stat. § 13.01 (Government Data)
Minn. Stat. § 13.02 (Definitions)
Minn. Stat. § 13.025 (Government Entity Obligation)
Minn. Stat. § 13.03 (Access to Government Data)
Minn. Stat. § 13.04 (Rights of Subjects to Data)
Minn. Stat. § 13.05 (Duties of Responsible Authority)
Minn. Stat. § 13.32 (Educational Data)
Minn. Rules Part 1205.0300 (Access to Public Data)
Minn. Rules Part 1205.0400 (Access to Private Data)

Cross References:
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 406 (Public and Private Personnel Data)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 515 (Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records)

Resources:
MN Department of Administration: *Actual Cost*
MN Department of Administration: *Copy Costs*
MN Department of Administration: *Education Data*

New Policy
Replacing: Policy 108
First Reading: 09-18-2018
Adopted: 10-16-2018
Reviewed: 10-15-2019
Reviewed: 07-21-2020
First Reading: 11-15-2022
Second Reading: 12-20-2022

Reviewed: 01-23-2024
Reviewed: 03-18-2025

1080 VISITS TO SCHOOLS

Members of the community and other interested persons are welcome and encouraged to visit the schools. Both visitors and school personnel will make every effort to ensure that school visits will enhance the effect of the educational program. All school visitors, community persons and/or School District staff are expected to identify themselves at the principal's office before visiting elsewhere in the building. All community visitors will be accompanied by the principal or by the principal's designee. Neither teachers nor students will be interviewed, questioned, or solicited by visitors without the permission of the principal.

Adopted: 06-09-1970 ISD 709
Revised: 06-20-1995 ISD 709

3041 GRANTS AND GIFTS - DEVELOPING AND MANAGING PROPOSAL

The School District supports the development of special and general proposals for acquiring and managing grants, gifts, and other monies with the purpose of providing a better education for learners. Due to the uniqueness of the School District, the School Board realizes that various fundings are necessary to bring about the mission of the School District. The School Board realizes that coordination must be done with activities, resources, and finances of proposals implemented in behalf of the School District. The School Board further realizes that the following regulations are necessary to implement and manage this policy.

Adopted: 03-16-1993 ISD 709
Revised: 06-20-1995 ISD 709

3189 SOFTWARE COPYRIGHT AND MANAGEMENT

It is ISD 709 policy to respect all computer software copyrights. ISD 709 will adhere to the terms of all software licenses to which ISD 709 is a party. The Director of Technology is ISD 709's District Technology Hardware/Software Manager and is charged with the responsibility for enforcing this policy and regulation. All users of District technology will comply with 3189R and with all applicable laws and regulations.

Adopted: 02-23-1999 ISD 709
Revised: 07-17-2001
07-16-2002 ISD 709

3189 SOFTWARE COPYRIGHT AND MANAGEMENT

It is ISD 709 policy to respect all computer software copyrights. ISD 709 will adhere to the terms of all software licenses to which ISD 709 is a party. The Director of Technology is ISD 709's District Technology Hardware/Software Manager and is charged with the responsibility for enforcing this policy and regulation. All users of District technology will comply with 3189R and with all applicable laws and regulations.

Adopted: 02-23-1999 ISD 709
Revised: 07-17-2001
07-16-2002 ISD 709

6025 VOLUNTEERS IN SCHOOL

The School Board, recognizing that educational excellence can only be achieved by using all the resources available in our community, supports the use of volunteers in the classroom and in other locations within school buildings as a method by which teachers and students may receive additional assistance. The purpose of the volunteer program is:

1. To provide positive adult relationships to students.
2. To provide individualized attention for students.
3. To provide enrichment for students.
4. To provide an added dimension of self-esteem and self-confidence for students.
5. To assist in providing supervision for special student activities.
6. To provide an opportunity for parents to become more familiar with school activities and/or operations.

The School District will provide an inservice for volunteers as an assurance that the presence of volunteers will not result in a higher student ratio and that confidentiality of students will be maintained.

The use of volunteers is at the discretion of each building's professional staff.

The professional staff within a school that has accepted the use of volunteers will assume the responsibility for the effectiveness of the volunteer(s).

Ways in which a volunteer may be used in a school include, but are not limited to: instructional assistance, assisting with materials and equipment, non-instructional assistance, creativeness in areas of personal interest or talent, and participation in a school's structured program offerings.

Adopted: 05-13-1986 ISD 709
Revised: 06-20-1995
08-17-2004 ISD 709

3041R GRANTS AND GIFTS - DEVELOPING AND MANAGING PROPOSALS

1. To be considered, a proposal for any new idea, grant, or other item relating to a program or constituting a program in the School District must be submitted in writing responding to the following:
   a. Description of how proposal relates to District mission
   b. Program summary
   c. What's unique about the program
   d. What problem does program address
   e. Goals - methodology/activities - outcomes
   f. Budget - description and amounts of line items
   g . Signature of responsible person
2. Proposals should be submitted by writers/applicant to the direct supervisor for review and sent to the administrator in charge in the division where the proposal originated.
3. The administrator in charge will distribute copies to the other division administrators for review and comment.
4. The administrator in charge will make a recommendation to the Superintendent after the proposal is reviewed by the cabinet.
5. Two weeks must be allowed for review and approval.
6. Proposals should be accompanied by a suggested source of funding, preferably other than the School District's general fund.
7. Proposals are not limited to instruction.
8. Proposals will be judged on their ability to meet a need in the mission for the School District.
9. All proposals and grant applications must include a completed revenue and expenditure summary.
10. Once proposals are received from a funding agency in an approved status, copies will be distributed to the divisions of the School District for information and management purposes.
11. The responsible administrator will meet with the proposal writer and staff to set up program and finance management procedures according to School District policy, expectations and state/federal laws.

Approved: 03-16-1993 ISD 709
Revised: 06-20-1995 ISD 709

515.1R COLLECTION, MAINTENANCE, AND DISSEMINATION OF STUDENT RECORDS AND INFORMATION

The Superintendent shall approve administrative regulations, which establish procedures and practices in regard to student records to:

1. Ensure that information and data collected from and about students by staff personnel will be used for the educational benefit of the students and attainment of the School District's educational goals and objectives.
2. Ensure that such information and data, be it manually or electronically stored, shall not be released to an unauthorized third party or parties without the written consent of the student and his/her parent or guardian.
3. Grant the student and/or his/her parent or guardian access to all school records pertaining to that student within a reasonable period of time following receipt of a written request by the principal or other designated staff member. If the student is eighteen years of age or older, only he/she may have access to those records, and the student must provide written consent prior to release of his/her records to a third party. The term "third party" includes parents.
4. Permit parents and/or their child the opportunity to challenge alleged inaccurate information within the student's record.
5. Ensure School District compliance with all federal and state statutes, as well as State Board of Education regulations, designed to protect the confidentiality and privacy rights of students and families. In accordance with these requirements, staff will be notified about students with communicable diseases if the information is necessary to provide an appropriate education or if special precautions are required. In accordance with the above requirements, the written permission of the students' parent or legal guardian must be secured.

Designation of a Responsible Authority

The School Board designates the Superintendent as the responsible authority having jurisdiction over all data collected and maintained on individuals.

The duties include:

1. Establishment of procedures and safeguards to ensure that information contained in records is accurate, complete, current, and available.
2. General supervision of collection and storage of data and use and dissemination of data to ensure that such activities are limited to those necessary for the administration and management of authorized programs.
3. Appointment of an individual to be responsible for each file or system containing data on individuals.
4. Document and file a report by August 1 of each year with the Minnesota Commissioner of Administration concerning the nature of all data on individuals which is collected and stored, the need for all, and intended use of such data.

Principals and other designated staff members shall be responsible for the maintenance, confidentiality, and security of student records. Records security at all times shall be maintained, including periods of authorized use as set forth in the administrative regulations.

References: MN Data Practices Act, Chap. 13

Adopted: 05.17.2005 ISD 709
Renumbered from 5060.1R: 05.02.23

515.2R RIGHTS OF STUDENTS AND PARENTS OR GUARDIANs REGARDING DATA COLLECTION

When school officials collect private data for student records, the student's parent or guardian, or the student if age eighteen years or older, shall be informed of the following:

1. Purpose and intended use of the data collected.
2. Whether he/she may refuse or is legally required to supply the data.
3. Possible consequences of supplying or refusing to supply requested information.
4. The identity of persons or entities authorized by state or federal law to receive the data.

Data Collection Requiring Written Consent

Plans for personality testing, diagnostic and assessment, and any other individual testing should proceed only with informed written consent of the student's parent or guardian. When such consent is required, the student's consent should also be obtained in those instances wherein he/she understands the nature and consequence of such data collection. When a student reaches the age of eighteen, or is married whether eighteen or not, his/her consent alone must be obtained.

Parents and students are to be fully informed, in writing, as to the methods by which the data will be collected and the purposes for which the data will be utilized.

This type of data-gathering will be done only by qualified professional staff members.

As noted above, private or confidential data collected on an individual shall not be collected, stored, used, or disseminated by the district for purposes other than those stated to the individual at the time of collection.

Data Collection Through Interview

Certain special problems are presented in gathering data in student interviews by counselors, social workers, nurses, administrators, and psychologists. In most of these situations the requirement of informed consent may not be met, perhaps because of the unforeseeable course of the interview process. It is the responsibility of the professional staff member to help the student understand the implications of the interview situation, to protect the rights of the student regarding confidentiality of information obtained, and to stress the voluntary character of the student's participation. The professional should seek parental consent and perhaps involvement when the student is clearly in need of intervention but declines to participate.

Examination of Records

Upon written request, an individual shall be informed as to whether he/she is the subject of stored data. Upon further request, the individual, or parent or guardian in the case of a minor, shall be shown the data within a reasonable period of time and without any charge.

(Upon request of the individual, parent or guardian, provision for access to the records must

be made no later than 45 days after the request has been made.) A school official competent in interpreting records should be available to explain the meaning and implications of certain data included in the records.

After being shown and informed about data contained within the records, the student, parent or guardian need not be given access to the data again for six months thereafter, unless additional data has been collected. An entry in the Record of Inspection shall also be completed.

The School District shall provide copies of the records upon request of the subject individual, parent or guardian in the case of a minor, providing that the cost of such reproduction is borne by the requesting individual.

Exceptions

1. Desk Drawer Information: Student records maintained by instructional personnel are not deemed School District data and need not be disclosed to the student, parent or guardian if they meet all of the following qualifications:

   a. They are in the sole possession of the maker;
   b. They are not accessible or revealed to any other individual except a substitute teacher; and
   c. They are destroyed at the end of the school year.

2. The Superintendent, or his/her designee, is required to provide notification to minor students of their right to request denial of access to the parent or guardian. The Superintendent, or his/her designee, has the authority to withhold certain data from parents or guardians if the Superintendent, or his designee, determine that withholding the data would be in the best interests of the minor student. Such notification should be made part of the student bulletin at each school building or should be included in the Directory Information notice to households.

Right to Challenge Student Records

Following the examination of a student's records by the student, parent or guardian, he/she may elect to contest the accuracy of completeness of the records. If so, the following procedures are to be observed:

1. The student or parent is to notify the responsible authority in writing, describing the nature of the challenge.

2. The responsible authority shall, within thirty (30) days, correct or delete the data if it is found to be inaccurate, incomplete, or irrelevant. He/she must also attempt to notify past recipients of the correcting actions.

3. If the responsible authority finds the data to be accurate and complete, he/she will notify the contesting individual within thirty (30) days that the alleged inaccuracy, incompleteness, or irrelevancy is denied.

4. Should the student or parent choose to appeal the responsible authority's determination, an impartial review panel shall be established by the Superintendent.

The burden of proof as to the accuracy of the record shall be on the School District. If the review panel finds the information to be inaccurate, incomplete, or irrelevant, the records shall be corrected.

5. Should the review panel support the responsible authority's contention that the record is accurate, complete, and relevant, the student and his/her parent or guardian shall have the right to prepare and sign written objections to the information. The written objections shall be made a permanent part of the record in question.

Warning to Staff Members Regarding Written Statements

Notes or anecdotal records made by professional staff members regarding a student do not enjoy immunity from charges of libel or slander. If placed in a student's record and exposed to public view, such notes may well be used as a basis for legal action. It is recommended that anecdotal records contain only factual statements and be devoid of value judgments and personal opinions.

References: 20 U.S.C., Sec. 1232g. (Family Ed Rights and Privacy Act of 1974)
MN Data Practices Act, Chap. 13

Approved: 06-09-1970 ISD 709
Revised: 08-10-1976
07-11-1989
06-20-1995 ISD 709
Renumbered from 5060.2R: 05.02.2023

515.~~31~~R TRANSFER OF RECORDS ~~AND RELEASE OF INFORMATION~~

Transfer of Student Records Within the School District

When a student is enrolled, who has transferred from another school within the School District, the receiving school shall notify the sending school of said enrollment and shall request all records pertaining to the enrollee. The transfer of such records shall not require the written permission of either student, parent or guardian providing the disclosure is to other school officials, including teachers, that are determined to have legitimate educational interests in the information. Records to be transferred include: the Permanent Record Card, the Cumulative File, Health Records, and the Clinical File should one be in existence. Principals are responsible for safe and efficient records transfer. All students including homeless students* will be immediately enrolled.

Transfer of Student Records Outside the School District

The School District may release personally identifiable information from an education record of a student without written consent if

1. The disclosure is to officials of other schools or school systems in which the student seeks or intends to enroll,
2. The student's parent or guardian is notified of the transfer (Notification of Transfer of Student Records to School Outside District 709) and receive a copy of the record if desired, and
3. The student's parent or guardian have an opportunity for a hearing to challenge the content of the record.

The School District shall receive written verification prior to the transfer that the transferee will not permit any other party to have access to such information without the written consent of the parent or guardian of the student.

Whenever possible and practical, written permission to release individual student information should be the method of choice. The use of Release of Personal Information Form, or a comparable form, will accomplish the requirement for signed release should the need arise. The above conditions also apply to applications of high school students sent to post-secondary institutions.

Requests for Transfer of Student Records from Another School District

When a student is enrolled who has transferred from a school in another school district, the receiving school shall notify the sending school of said enrollment and shall request (Request Transfer of Student Records from School Outside District 709 Form) records pertaining to enrollee. While the transfer of such records may not require the written permission of either student, parent or guardian, the written consent (Release of Personal Data Form) to release information may speed the transfer of information important to the continuation of the student's education. All students including homeless students* will be immediately enrolled.

Release of Student Records to Non-School Recipients

No person, agency, or institution shall have access to a student's records except under the following conditions:

1. When proper written consent has been obtained from students 18 years of age or the student's parent or guardian (Release of Personal Data Form). The written consent must specify the records to be released and to whom they may be released. Each request for consent must be made separately. No blanket permission for the release of information shall be allowed.
2. By judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena, upon condition that parents or guardian and the student are notified of all such orders or subpoenas in advance of the compliance therewith by the School District.
3. When student data is required for research purposes and the data will be released in a summary form and individual student data will be unidentifiable.

~~Directory Information~~

~~The School District shall release Directory Information as public information upon request and payment of a fee to cover the costs of publication. All requests for such Directory Information will be directed to the Data Processing Department Business Service Department, CAB District Services Center, for processing. Under federal law and regulation, Directory Information includes:~~

~~1. Name~~
~~2. Date and place of birth~~
~~3. Participation in officially recognized activities and sports~~
~~4. Height and weight of members of athletic teams~~
~~5. Dates of attendance~~
~~6. Degrees and awards received~~

~~The School District will, prior to the start of every school year, give notice to the parent or guardian of every student that~~

~~1. The above items will be designated as directory information,~~
~~2. The parent or the adult student has the right to refuse to permit the school district to designate some or all of the categories as directory information with respect to that particular student, and~~
~~3. The parent, guardian, or adult student has 14 calendar days from the opening day of the school year to notify, using the form provided, the principal of the school the student is attending that this information is NOT to be so designated as to that student.~~

~~Information that the School District does not designate as directory information or that the parent, guardian or adult student objects to the designation in the manner provided above, remains as private information and may be released only as described in this regulation.~~

~~*The term "homeless children and youth" - a) means individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence...; and b) includes - children and youths who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative accommodations; are living in emergency shelters; are abandoned in hospitals; or are awaiting foster care placement.~~

~~References~~: ~~Federal Register, Volume 67, #46, Pg. 10697-10701~~
~~McKinney-Viento Education of Homeless Children Act Family Ed Rights~~

~~Privacy Act of 1974 MN Data Practices Act, Chap. 13~~

Approved:	06-09-1970 ISD 709
Revised:	08-10-1976
	07-11-1989
	01-15-1991
	06-20-1995
	11-19-2002 ISD 709
Renumbered from 5060.3R:	05.02.2023
Revised:	

515.~~42~~R ELECTRONIC ACCESS TO STUDENT INFORMATION REGULATION

The Duluth Public Schools uses a secure Internet site to enable electronic access to student information enhancing communication between our parents/guardians, students, teachers, principals, and administrators.

Rights and Responsibilities

This access is a free service offered to all parents/guardians and students of the Duluth Public Schools. Access to student information from the Internet is a privilege, not a right. Only after a child has been enrolled in the Duluth Public Schools will the parent/guardian and/or student be authorized to activate a student information web account. With this learning tool, parents/guardians, students, and staff must understand and practice proper and ethical use.

Information Accuracy Responsibilities

Information accuracy is the joint responsibility of schools, parents/guardians, and students. Each school will make every attempt to ensure information is accurate and complete. If a parent/guardian or student discovers any inaccurate information, they will notify their school.

Access to Information or Information Accessibility

Duluth Public Schools reserves the right to add, modify, or delete functions viewed via the Internet site at any time without notice, including the functions listed below:

1. Attendance
2. Class Schedule
3. Report Cards
4. Transcripts
5. Student Demographics
6. Course Requests
7. Emergency Information
8. Immunizations
9. Work in Progress, test scores

Students enrolled in grades six to twelve, the ~~Adult~~ Area Learning Center, and alternative programs may request a secure account. A student will only have access to ~~his/her~~ their student information.

Electronic Web Access Agreement

To obtain a student information system web account, each parent/guardian must complete and sign an Electronic Web Access Acceptable Use and Safety Policy Acceptance Form. After verification of information on the form, the school will follow the process outlined in this regulation to establish an account.

If a parent/guardian is unable to visit the school, ~~he/she~~ they may download the Electronic Web Access Acceptable Use and Safety Policy Acceptance Form from the District web site. The parent must have the form certified by a notary public and mail the completed and signed form with the notary public seal to ~~his/her~~ their child's school.

The school will file the completed form in one of the parent's/guardian's children's Cumulative File and will be maintained in accordance with Minnesota State Law Regarding record retention.

Use of the System

Parents/Guardians and students are required to adhere to the following guidelines:

1. Parents/Guardians and students will act in a responsible, ethical, and legal manner.
2. Parents/Guardians and students will not attempt to harm or destroy the school or District's data or networks.
3. Parents/Guardians and students will not attempt to access information or any account assigned to another user.
4. Parents/Guardians and students will not use this Internet site for any illegal activity, including violation of Federal and State Privacy laws. Anyone found to be in violation of these laws will be subject to civil and/or criminal prosecution.
5. Parents/Guardians and students who identify a security problem within must notify the Duluth Public Schools Technology Department immediately, without demonstrating the problem to anyone else.
6. Parents/Guardians and students will not share their password with anyone, including their own child(ren).
7. Parents/Guardians and students will not set their computer to automatically login to the Internet site.
8. Parents/Guardians and students identified as a security risk will be denied access to the site.

Security Features

1. Access is made available with a secure Internet site. Note: Account holder is responsible for not sharing their password and to properly protect or destroy any printed/electronic documentation generated from this site.
2. Three unsuccessful login attempts will disable the user's account. The Technology Department will automatically enable a locked account after a predefined waiting period. The minimum wait period will be twenty (20) minutes and seventy five (75) minutes for the maximum wait period.
3. The user will be automatically logged off if ~~he/she~~ they leave~~s~~ the web browser open and inactive for a period of time.
4. All attempts at logging into the system are recorded and monitored, and an audit trail is established.

Initial Account Request and Setup

For parents/guardians new to the District:

1. An Electronic Web Access Agreement can be completed when a parent/guardian enrolls a child/ren.
2. The parent/guardian only needs to complete one Electronic Web Access Agreement for all children in ~~his/her~~ their household.
3. For security reasons each parent/guardian must sign the form in the presence of a school

secretary, principal, or teacher.

4. If the parent/guardian cannot visit the school, a notary public must witness the parent signing the form and use his/her public seal with a current date.
5. After the student is enrolled into the student information system, the parent/guardian requesting the account will be e-mailed or mailed an activation code and "PersonID".
   a. The activation key is used by the parent/guardian to create a secure account.
   b. The "PersonID" is used by the schools to verify a person requesting an account unlock.
6. School will verify parent/guardian identification with an official government identification.
7. The school will file the completed form in one of the parent/guardian child's Cumulative File and it will be maintained in accordance with Minnesota State law regarding record retention.

For parents/guardians with a child already enrolled in the Duluth Public Schools:

1. The parent/guardian only needs to complete one Electronic Web Access Agreement for all children in their household.
2. For security reasons, each parent/guardian must sign the form in front of the school secretary, principal, or teacher.
3. The parent/guardian requesting the account will be given an activation code and "PersonID".
   a. The activation key is used by the parent/guardian to create a secure account.
   b. The "PersonID" is used by the schools to verify a person requesting an account unlock.
4. School will verify parent/guardian identification with an official government identification.
5. The school will file the completed form in one of the parent/guardian child's Cumulative File and it will be maintained in accordance with Minnesota State law regarding record retention.

For students:

1. Students from grades six through twelve can request their own account from their school.
2. A student requesting an account will be given an activation code and "PersonID".
   a. The activation key is used by the student to create a secure account.
   b. The "PersonID" is used by the schools to verify a person requesting an account unlock.
3. Schools will verify the student identification.

For schools:

1. The activation code will not be given to a parent/guardian or student without first verifying the identity of the requestor.
2. The Electronic Web Access Agreement signed by a parent/guardian will be maintained in only one child's Cumulative File for that parent.

Forgotten User Name and/or Password

If a Parent/Guardian or student has forgotten their user name and/or password, they can request help by calling the Technology Department at (218) 336-8754. The requester will be asked a series of

random questions from the family/student data stored in the system to verify their identity. If the requester is unable to answer the questions, ~~he/she~~ they will be directed to go to the child's school to resolve the issue. In this case, the Technology Department will e-mail the child's school secretary and explain the problem.

System Requirements

The most current system requirements will be posted to the Duluth Public Schools website.

Support

Telephone support for issues concerning student information or procedures will be available between the hours of 9:00 am and 3:00 pm at the student's school. The school will identify the caller using the PersonID. If the caller reaches voicemail system ~~he/she~~ they need~~s~~ to leave their name, phone number, the best time to contact, and a brief description of the problem.

Limitation of School District Liability

The Duluth Public Schools will use reasonable measures to protect student information from unauthorized viewing. The District will not be responsible for financial obligations arising through unauthorized use of the District's system or Internet. The District does not promise any particular level or method of access to the Internet site for viewing student information. The District will not be responsible for actions taken by the parent/guardian or student that would cause compromise of their student information. The District reserves the right to limit or terminate the Internet site for viewing student information without notice. All parents/guardians and students of the District network by requesting an Internet site for viewing student information account consent to electronic monitoring and understand that this is a private network used as an educational tool by ISD 709 employees and students. Activity is electronically recorded.

References: ~~Duluth School District Policy 5085 (School Discipline Policy)~~MSBA/MASA Model Policy 506 (Student Discipline)
~~Duluth School District Policy 3187 (Use Policy for Technology and Internet Access)~~ MSBA/MASA Model Policy 524 (Internet Acceptable Use & Safety)

Adopted:	05-17-2005 ISD 709
Revised:	06-12-2007 ISD 709
Renumbered from 5060.4R:	05.02.2023
Revised:	

STUDENT RECORD UPDATE FORM

PLEASE PRINT

CURRENT STUDENT NAME (First / Middle / Last) :_____

DATE OF REQUEST: _____

STUDENT ID# _____ SCHOOL _____

STUDENT AGE _____ DATE OF BIRTH _____

PLEASE ADD TO OR CHANGE THE FOLLOWING IN THE STUDENT RECORD:

UPDATED STUDENT NAME (First / Middle / Last):_____

GENDER (Required by the State of Minnesota): ☐ Female ☐ Male

PRONOUNS FLAG: ☐ She/Her/Hers ☐ He/Him/His ☐ They/Them/Their ☐ Write-in:_____

EMAIL and HOUSEHOLD RELATIONSHIPS (Change to reflect Updated Student Name) ☐ Yes ☐ No

- These change(s) are being requested because the student consistently identifies as the name and/or gender requested above.
- I understand that this form does not constitute a legal name and/or gender change and that this form only changes the name and/or gender of the student as reflected in the student records system.
- I understand that this form does not change the name used for "legal documents" including state testing processes.
- I understand that the student's original name and/or gender will be retained in the history of the student records system.
- I understand that the State of Minnesota presently requires a gender of either "Female" or "Male" for state reporting purposes.
- I understand that changing my name and/or gender may complicate future record requests.
- I authorize release of the student's original and updated name/gender to authorized parties as part of student records requests.
- I understand the use of this form to indicate specific pronouns results in a "flag" in student records system. This "flag" will be visible to staff directly working with the student to review, listing pronouns.
- I understand that the elements of obscenity, health, and safety may be considered as legitimate causes for denial of my request.
- I understand that request to change the student's last name requires a court order or an updated birth certificate.

By signing and submitting this form, I request Duluth Public Schools change the name and/or gender of the student listed above.

_____ PRINT PARENT / GUARDIAN NAME(S)
(required for students under age 18)

_____ PARENT / GUARDIAN SIGNATURE(S)
(required for students under age 18)

_____ PRINT STUDENT NAME
(Always ask, required for students over age 18)

_____ STUDENT SIGNATURE
(Always ask, required for students over age 18)

Parent or Student: Submit form to Building Principal for approval

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For Office Use Only

_____
PRINCIPAL SIGNATURE & Date (effective date)
(Indicates approval to make requested additions or changes)

Building Secretary: Submit approved record updates to census@isd709.org
Building Secretary: Add flag and pronouns to student records system

Duluth Public Schools

524.1R ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) TOOL USE

INTRODUCTION

Artificial intelligence (AI) presents significant opportunities to enhance K-12 education by providing innovative tools for staff and students. To ensure the ethical, secure, and effective use of AI within Duluth Public Schools, this regulation outlines guidelines for district staff and students.

APPROVED AI TOOLS

Google Gemini is the primary AI tool authorized for educational use within Duluth Public Schools. This tool has undergone rigorous evaluation to confirm its alignment with district standards for educational value, privacy compliance, and security. Students may have access to additional tools and resources with AI-embedded functionality. The district reserves the right to restrict access to specific AI tools.

Staff may use AI tools other than Google Gemini for productivity and educational purposes. The district reserves the right to restrict specific tools.

ETHICAL USE OF AI

AI tools must be employed ethically and in adherence to the district's acceptable use policy.

Staff and students must be cognizant of potential biases inherent in AI tools and exercise critical judgment when interpreting and presenting AI-generated information or content.

DATA SECURITY

All staff and students must adhere to state, federal, and district regulations governing data privacy and security. With the exception of staff using the district's protected Google Gemini environment while authenticated with their ISD709 staff credentials, the following restrictions apply:

- **Data Protection:** The sharing of student and staff personal data with generative AI tools is ~~strictly~~ prohibited.
- **Identifiable Information:** Disclosure of any identifiable information, including individuals, locations, or sites, to generative AI tools is prohibited ~~forbidden~~.

TRAINING AND SUPPORT

The district will provide training to equip staff and students with the knowledge and skills necessary for the ethical and responsible use of AI tools. Staff are encouraged to complete this training prior to AI tool use. Students will learn about responsible use of technology, including AI, through classroom lessons.

Staff and students are encouraged to seek guidance from the Digital Innovation Specialist regarding AI-related questions or concerns.

CONSEQUENCES OF NON-COMPLIANCE

Misuse of AI tools, including breaches of data privacy or ethical guidelines, may result in the revocation or restriction of AI tools and/or technology access. The district may also pursue other applicable disciplinary processes in place for students (see student handbook) and staff.

REGULATION REVIEW AND UPDATES

This regulation will undergo periodic review to incorporate advancements in AI technology and emerging best practices.

By adhering to this regulation, Duluth Public Schools aims to harness the potential of AI while safeguarding student and staff privacy, maintaining ethical standards, and optimizing the learning experience.

NOTE

The initial 2024 draft of this regulation was generated with assistance from Google Gemini.

Adopted: 08.15.2024
Revised: 12.11.2025
Revised:

903R VISITORS TO DISTRICT PROPERTY AND FACILITIES

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish rules and procedures governing visits to District property and District facilities.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The School Board encourages interest on the part of parents and community members in the Districts programs and activities. At the same time the Board recognizes that reasonable restrictions must be placed on visits to District facilities in order to maintain an environment that is safe and conducive to learning and working. The Board has adopted this policy after considering and weighing these and other social, political, economic, and educational factors.

III. DEFINITIONS

A. "District administrator" means the Superintendent and the Principals of the schools.

B. "District facility" means any building that is owned, leased, or operated by the District.

C. "District property" means any real property that is owned, leased, or operated by the District, including, but not limited to, athletic stadiums and athletic fields.

D. "Parent" means a biological parent, adoptive parent, legal guardian, or conservator.

E. "School building" means any District facility where a program of education is offered to preschool, elementary school and middle school students.

F. "Visitor" means any person who enters a District facility during regular school hours, except for the following: enrolled students who are in the facility to attend school, to participate in a school sponsored event or activity, or to attend a meeting of a student-initiated, non-curriculum related group that is recognized by the District; employees who are assigned to work at the facility or are otherwise authorized to enter the facility, and part time employees during their assigned working hours.

IV. PROCEDURES

A. Visitor Procedures. All visitors must comply with the following procedures when entering a District facility, unless they are attending an event or activity that is open to the public, such as parent-teacher conferences, a school board meeting, or an athletic contest:

1. Immediately upon entering a District facility, all visitors must report to the administrative office or reception desk. Signage to this effect must be prominently displayed on or near all unlocked doors to the facility.

2. Upon reporting to the administrative office or reception desk, all visitors must sign in to the building and detail the following: print and sign their names, state the purpose of their visit, state the time of their arrival, and state the location of the building in which the visit will occur.

3. Subject to the requirements of this policy, parents may observe their child in the classroom for up to two hours on two occasions per school year. Parents who wish to observe their children in the classroom during the regular school day must schedule the visit at least three (3) school days in advance with the

building principal. A district administrator, building principal, assistant principal, or designee may reschedule or terminate any visit in the event of an emergency or unforeseen circumstance.

4. A district administrator or building principal may impose additional restrictions on any visitor who has caused a disruption in a District facility.

5. A district administrator, the building principal, an assistant principal, or a designee will follow this policy in determining whether or not permission will be granted for a visit to a school building. A district administrator will follow this policy in determining whether or not permission will be granted for a visit to a District facility that is not a school building.

6. If permission for a visit is granted, the visitor will be given a visitor's identification badge stating the visitor's name and the location in the building where the visit will occur.

7. All visitors must wear the issued visitor identification badge in a conspicuous location at all times while in a District facility.

8. If a school employee sees a visitor in a school building without a visitor's identification badge, the employee must either escort the visitor to the administrative office or immediately notify the administrative office of the presence of the visitor.

9. Upon completing a visit, a visitor must return to the administrative office or reception desk, return the visitor's identification badge, sign his/her name on the same form that was signed upon entering the building, and state the time of his/her departure.

B. Parent/Guardian Procedures for Communicating with Children. The District recognizes that under limited circumstances parents/guardians may occasionally need to communicate with their children during the school day. When this need arises, parents must follow one of the following procedures:

1. Parents/guardians may call the office and ask to speak with their child. School staff will then locate the child and instruct the child to come to the office to speak with the parent by telephone. Students generally will not be permitted to place or receive a call from a classroom.

2. Parents/guardians may enter the administrative office of a school building and ask the office staff to call their child to the office. School staff will review the students Infinite Campus record to verify that parental rights have been terminated or the parent/guardian does not have physical custody or visitation rights during the school day or the period of time when the parent/guardian wants to visit. Parents/guardians may not go directly to a classroom or to any other location in a District facility without complying with the Visitor Procedures stated in this policy.

3. Students will not be permitted to make calls or receive calls on personal cell phones.

C. Administrative Procedures in Response to Inappropriate Conduct. District administrators, building principals, assistant principals, and designees are encouraged to take the following steps when a visitor violates this policy or engages in any other inappropriate conduct:

1. Notify the offending visitor that his or her conduct is inappropriate.

2. Notify the offending visitor that if the conduct does not cease immediately, the visitor will be required to leave the building, grounds, or event.

3. Notify the offending visitor that he or she is required to immediately leave the building, grounds, or event.

4. Contact law enforcement.

5. Document the incident and send notification to district administration and the Health and Safety Coordinator.

6. Take other action that the district administrator, building principal, assistant principal, or designee reasonably deems to be prudent or necessary in order to: (a) protect the safety of students, staff, or school property; (b); maintain an environment that is conducive to learning and working; and (c) maintain an environment that is free from all forms of abusive and disruptive conduct.

7. Any step or steps of this procedure may be skipped or addressed at a later time if the district administrator, building principal, assistant principal, or designee determines, in the exercise of his or her professional judgment, that immediate removal of the offending visitor is in the best interests of the students or the staff.

V. RULES OF CONDUCT FOR VISITORS

A. **Required Conduct.** All visitors must demonstrate respect and civility when interacting with other individuals during a visit. In addition, all visitors must immediately comply with any and all lawful directives given by a District employee, including a directive to leave the building.

B. **Prohibited Conduct.** Visitors must not do any of the following during a visit:

1. Violate any law;

2. Violate any District or school policy, regulation, rule, or procedure;

3. Make any threat or engage in any threatening or intimidating behavior;

4. Engage in any conduct that is designed to intimidate another person or that could reasonably be perceived as being designed to intimidate another person;

5. Demonstrate hostility toward another person;

6. Engage in conduct that is objectively rude;

7. Use any obscene or foul language;

8. Make or participate in making any personal attacks against another person;

9. Make or participate in making any objectively disrespectful, demeaning, disparaging, or insulting comments or statements about or to another person;

10. Make physical contact with any person, unless the physical contact is part of the normal greeting process, such as a handshake, or is reasonably necessary to prevent imminent harm to another person or serious harm to property;

11. Photograph, film, or otherwise create an audio or video record of any students, employees, or volunteers of the District, unless the visitor is to attend an event or activity that is open to the public, such as a school board meeting or an athletic contest;

12. Enter onto school property while impaired from the use of alcohol or any other chemical;

13. Create or participate in creating a disruption to the learning or working environment. Examples of disruptive behavior include, but are not limited to, using a raised voice, shouting, or yelling; swearing; talking with a teacher, classroom aide, or a student while observing in a classroom; using or allowing a cellular device make noise in the classroom; and engaging in other conduct that interrupts a lesson while observing in a classroom.

**NOTE: This policy may not be construed to limit the ability or right of any person to file a complaint in accordance with any law or District policy governing the filing of complaints.*

VI. GROUNDS FOR DENYING A REQUEST TO VISIT

A. Parent/Guardian Visits for Purpose Other than Classroom Observation. A district administrator, a building principal, an assistant principal, or a designee may deny permission for a parent/guardian to visit any part of a District facility if the district administrator, the principal, the assistant principal, or the designee determines that:

1. The parent/guardian has refused or failed to comply with any part of this policy;

2. The parent/guardian violated any rule or procedure of this policy while visiting a District facility on a prior occasion during the school year;

3. The requested date or time for the visit is educationally inappropriate or inconvenient;

4. The parent/guardian has created a disruption during a prior visit and is likely to create a disruption if permitted to visit again;

5. The parent/guardian's presence in the District facility is not in the best interests of student or staff;

6. The parent/guardian presents a risk of harm to a student, to a staff member, or to District property;

7. The parent/guardian's parental rights have been terminated or the parent does not have physical custody or visitation rights during the school day or the period of time when the parent wants to visit the District facility; or

8. The parent/guardian's actions or words suggest that the parent is impaired from using alcohol or another chemical.

B. **Classroom Observations by Parent/Guardian.** A district administrator, the building principal, an assistant principal, or a designee may deny a parent/guardian's request to observe his or her child in the classroom, or may revoke permission for such a visit, if the district administrator, principal, assistant principal, or designee determines that:

1. Any of the reasons for denying a visit in Section V(A) of this policy have been met;

2. The parent/guardian has failed or refused to schedule the classroom observation in advance;

3. The parent/guardian observed in the classroom on a prior occasion during the school year and created a disruption;

4. The requested date or time for the observation is educationally inappropriate or inconvenient, such as when a test is being administered, when a substitute teacher or guest speaker is present, or when students are attending an assembly or going on a field trip;

5. The parent/guardian has already observed the child in the classroom on two occasions during the school year;

6. The parent/guardians presence in the classroom is not in the best interests of the student, other children, or staff.

C. **Classroom Observations by an Independent Examiner.** If the parent/guardian of a special education student requests an independent educational evaluation (IEE) or hires an independent examiner to evaluate a child, and the parent/guardian requests that the independent examiner be permitted to observe the child in the classroom, the District will allow the independent examiner to visit and observe the student in the classroom to the extent permitted by law, provided that the independent examiner complies all provisions of this policy and does not create a disruption. The District may assign a staff member to accompany an independent examiner during all observations. An independent examiner may not interview any students at school or any District employees without prior written permission from the District. A District representative will be present during any interviews.

D. **Parent/Guardian's Right to Appeal.** If a parent/guardian believes that a request to visit a District facility has been improperly denied, the parent/guardian may submit a written appeal to the Superintendent. The decision of the Superintendent, or a designee of the Superintendent, is final.

E. **Visits by Third Parties.** A district administrator, a building principal, an assistant principal, or a designee may, as he or she sees fit, deny a visitor's request to visit any part of a District facility if the visitor is not a parent/guardian of a child who attends school in the facility.

VII. PARKING

During school hours, visitors must park their vehicles in spaces designated for visitors. Vehicles that are parked in unauthorized spaces may be towed to a different location at the vehicle owner's expense or an immobilization device will be attached to the vehicle, to be removed at the expense of the owner or operator.

VIII. PENALTIES.

Permission to be in a District facility is conditioned upon compliance with this policy. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 609.605, subdivision 4, any person who violates this policy may be found guilty of a misdemeanor. Such persons may be detained by the school principal or a person designated by the school principal in a reasonable manner and for a reasonable period of time pending the arrival of a law enforcement officer. In addition to imposing other consequences specified in this policy, a districtl administrator, building principal, or assistant principal may issue an order prohibiting a person from entering onto school property.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 123B.02 (General Powers of Independent School Districts)
Minn. Stat. § 609.605, subd. 4 (Trespases on school property)

Adopted:

3187R INTERNET USE REGULATIONS

These regulations pertain to the use of District and personal technology resources while on school property, in school vehicles and at school-sponsored activities, as well as the use of District technology resources via off-campus access.

A. Appropriate Use of Technology Resources for Students

(1) Introduction

The Duluth Public Schools is pleased to offer students access to District computers, communications systems[±], the Internet and an array of technology resources to promote educational excellence. Each student is responsible for his/her use of technology, whether personal or District-provided. While using District and personal technology resources on school property, in school vehicles and at school-sponsored activities, as well as using District technology resources via off-campus access, each student must act in an appropriate manner consistent with school, District, and legal guidelines in this limited forum. It is the joint responsibility of school personnel and the parent or guardian of each student to educate the student about his/her responsibilities and to establish expectations when using technology.

(2) Using the Internet and Communications Systems[±]

District technology resources are provided to students to conduct research, complete assignments, and communicate with others in furtherance of their education.

(a) Access is a privilege not a right; as such, general rules of school behavior apply.
(b) Access to these services is given to students who agree to act in a considerate and responsible manner. Just as students are responsible for good behavior in a classroom or a school hallway, they must also be responsible when using school computer networks or personal technologies.
(c) Students must comply with District standards and honor this agreement to be permitted the use of technology.
(d) All digital storage that is provided by the District is District property, and as such, authorized district employees may review files and communications to maintain system integrity and ensure that students are using technology responsibly.
(e) Students should not expect District provided file storage will be private.
(f) The educational value of technology integration in curriculum is substantial. Access to the Internet will enable students to use extensive online informational resources.
(g) Families should be warned that some material accessible via the Internet might contain items that are illegal, defamatory, inaccurate, profane, sexually oriented or potentially offensive to some people. While the intent is to make Internet access available to further educational goals and objectives, students may find ways to access these other materials as well. The Duluth Public Schools does not condone or permit the use of this material and uses content filtering software to protect students to the extent reasonable.
(h) Parents and guardians must be aware that content filtering software is not completely fail-safe and while at school, direct supervision by school personnel of each student using a computer is desired but not always possible.
(i) Students are expected to use technology resources in a manner consistent with the rules below and will be held responsible for their intentional misuse.

(j) The Duluth Public Schools believes that the benefits of student access to the Internet in the form of information resources and opportunities for collaboration exceed any disadvantages.
(k) Ultimately, parents and/or guardians are responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their children should follow when using technology. If a student accidentally accesses inappropriate material they should back out of that information at once and notify the supervising district employee.
(l) When on district property or at a district sponsored event personal technologies must use district provided internet.

(3) Proper and Acceptable Use of All Technology Resources

All District technology resources, including but not limited to District computers, communications systems[1] and the Internet, must be used in support of education and academic research and must be used in a manner consistent with the educational mission and objectives of the Duluth Public Schools.

Activities that are permitted and encouraged include:

(a) school work;
(b) original creation and presentation of academic work;
(c) research on topics being studied in school;
(d) research for opportunities outside of school related to community service, employment or further education consistent with District requirements

Activities that are not permitted when using District or personal technologies include but are not limited to:

(a) plagiarism or representing the work of others as one's own;
(b) any activity that violates a school rule or a local, state, federal, or copyright law;
(c) using obscene language; harassing, insulting, ostracizing, cyber bullying or intimidating others;
(d) representing Copyright ©, Registered ®, and/or Trademark ™ materials as one's own work;
(e) searching, viewing, communicating, publishing, downloading, storing, or retrieving materials that are not related to school work, community service, employment, or further education (thus, searching inappropriate materials is not permitted);
(f) damaging or modifying computers, networks or District-installed software;
(g) intentional or neglectful transmission of viruses or other destructive computer files; hacking into District or external technology systems; intentionally bypassing District filters;
(h) use of USB, bootable CDs, or other devices to alter the function of a computer or a network;
(i) subscription to any online services or ordering of any goods or services;
(j) online sharing of any student's or staff member's name, home address, phone number or other personal information;
(k) non-educational uses such as games, role playing multi-user environments, gambling, junk mail, chain mail, jokes or raffles;
(l) non-district supported participation in online Web 2.0 tools including but not limited to texting and social media unless specifically assigned by a district

employee;

(m) use of District resources for commercial purposes, personal financial gain, or fraud, including but not limited to any activity that requires an exchange of money and/or credit card numbers, any activity that requires entry into an area of service for which the school will be charged a fee, any purchase or sale of any kind; and any use for product advertisement or political lobbying;

(n) pornographic, obscene, or vulgar images, sounds, music, video, language or materials, including screen savers, backdrops, and/or pictures, are prohibited

(o) downloading, uploading, or importing games, screen animations as well as programs or files that can be run or launched.

(p) Illegal use or transfer of copyrighted materials to a school-owned technology device is prohibited

(q) File sharing unless District approved.

(r) Adding, modifying or deleting files, except in the student's 'directory' or 'home directory,' are prohibited.

(s) Putting non-school related material (files) on school district technology devices is prohibited.

(t) Altering/modifying the original District pre-set software image is prohibited. Examples include, but are not limited to:

1. loading/installing any software applications
2. changing the desktop picture
3. changing the computer name
4. changing or removing operating system extensions
5. altering security software
6. altering the pre-loaded operating system or applications
7. taking apart the computer for access to internal parts

Students are expected to report harassment, threats, hate-speech and inappropriate content to a teacher or administrator. If a student has any questions about whether a specific activity is permitted, he or she should ask a districted employee.

(4) Online Assessments

Student assessments may be conducted using technologies such as the Internet or audience response systems. Normally, students will use these technologies as a part of their instructional day. Privacy and security, as defined above, along with confidentiality of assessment responses, are expected.

(5) Vandalism

Any intentional act by a student that damages District technology hardware, software, operating systems, data, or services will be considered vandalism and will be subject to school rules and disciplinary procedures. Any intentional act that requires a person's time to repair, replace, or perform corrective work on District technologies or data is also considered vandalism.

(6) Consequences of Misuse

(a) Misuse of personal[2] or District technology resources while on school property, in school vehicles and at school-sponsored activities, as well as the use of District technology resources via off-campus access may result in disciplinary action up to

and including expulsion.

(b) This regulation shall be used in conjunction with Duluth Public Schools' student policies. In addition, the student's use of District technologies may be suspended or restricted.

(c) A school may temporarily hold (pending parental and/or same-day pick-up) personal technology resources that are used inappropriately.

(d) Individual schools may choose to have additional rules and regulations pertainingto the use of personal, resources in their respective buildings.

(e) Intentional unauthorized access and/or damage to hardware, software, operating systems, data; or services may be punishable under local, state, or federal law.

(7) Student Access

Parents or guardians who do not wish their children to access the Internet must return the ***"Student Internet Permission Form"*** to their children's schools by the date indicated on the form. These forms will be distributed to all households with the Back-to-School information in August prior to the start of the school year.

(8) Student Photographs and Works Displayed on the Internet

Parents or guardians who do not wish their children's pictures or their children's student work to be displayed on the Internet must return the "Request To Deny Public Access To Directory Information and Annual Notification Of Rights Under the Family Education Rights And Privacy Act (FERPA)" form to their children's schools by the date indicated on the form. These forms will be distributed to all households with the Back-to-School information in August prior to the start of the school year.

B. Appropriate Use of Technology Resources for Staff

Employees of Duluth Public Schools are granted the privilege of using technology only in an authorized and acceptable manner. Generally, a use is unacceptable if it conflicts with Duluth Public Schools or the individual department's purpose, goal, or mission, or interferes with an employee's authorized job duties or responsibilities as determined by his/her immediate supervisor. For purposes of this policy, the term "staff" includes permanent and temporary personnel, substitutes, contract personnel, hourly non-contract personnel, student teachers, volunteers, and outside agency personnel allowed use of District technology access.

Administration reserves the right to archive, monitor, review, and audit an employee's use of technology at any time. By using technology, the user consents to this monitoring.

(1) Proper and Acceptable Use of All Technology Resources

Examples of acceptable uses include, but are not limited to, the following types of communication:

(a) for educational purposes;

(b) with students, staff, parents, and other customers of the District;

(c) with federal, state, and local government personnel or agencies, and private businesses with which the School District conducts business;

(d) for professional development;

(e) for administrative purposes;

(f) limited and judicious use of technology for personal use so long as the use is not unacceptable use or violation of School Board policy or the law, and work productivity is not impacted. Employees are to use technology for personal use during designated break time or before/after scheduled work hours;
(g) limited and judicious use of technology for union business. Prior authorization is required from the Department of Human Resources or Superintendent.

Activities that are not permitted when using District or personal technologies include but are not limited to:

(a) excessive personal use of technology. Personal use will be deemed excessive if, in the opinion of an employee's immediate supervisor, the use detracts from the individual employee's or the department's productivity;
(b) communicating to promote personal business ventures (e.g., advertise, promote, or attempt to sell any product, investment, insurance, or other financial proposition) or solicit funds for personal business, political, religious, or other personal causes;
(c) communicating for illegal purposes including, but not limited to: political lobbying, violating copyright laws, downloading, copying, or using unauthorized software (including screensavers), creating or knowingly spreading viruses, impersonating another user, or accessing restricted systems;
(d) interfering with or disrupting network users, services, or equipment including, but not limited to: creating or forwarding chain letters, subscribing to any form of personal mailing list; damaging equipment, accessing a system (including using another user id and/or password) without authorization, altering software settings such operating system configurations (except for wallpaper, default colors, and other standard desktop customization settings), or destroying communications systems or electronic files;
(e) accessing or distributing any communication which may constitute or contain intimidating, hostile, pornographic, offensive or discriminatory material on the basis or sex, race, color, religion, nation origin, sexual orientation or disability;

(2) Social Media Networks

The District recognizes the importance of online social media networks as a communication and e-learning tool. Toward that end, the District provides access to password-protected social media tools and District-approved technologies for e-learning and encourages use of District tools for collaboration by employees. However, public social media networks, outside of those sponsored by the District, may not be used for classroom instruction or school-sponsored activities without the prior authorization of the Superintendent, or designee, and parental consent for student participation on social networks. The District may use these tools and other communication technologies in fulfilling its responsibility for effectively communicating with the general public.

The District recommends Google Apps as its password protected social medial tool for educational use. The District has greater authority and responsibility to protect minors from inappropriate content and can limit public access within this limited public forum.

All social networking must be conducted using district-approved and/or provided and password-protected social media tools and technologies for e-learning. The District prohibits social networking relationships on non-district approved networks between

employees in their roles as employees and students as well as between employees and alumni under the age of 18. The District does not discourage staff from having social networking relationships with students who are family members. "Family members" include the immediate family of a staff member, spouse, or registered domestic partner and shall include father, mother, brother, sister, husband, wife, child, grandparent, aunt, uncle, niece, nephew, brother in law, sister in law, daughter in law, sister in law, and grandchild. Teachers are reminded of their responsibility to abide by the professional code of ethics at all times, including during the use of social networking sites. Employees have responsibility for maintaining appropriate employee student relationships at all times and have responsibility for addressing inappropriate behavior or activity.

(3) Consequences of Misuse

(a) Misuse of personal or District technology resources while on school property, in school vehicles and at school sponsored activities, as well as the use of District technology resources via off-campus remote access may result in disciplinary action up to and including termination.
(b) Intentional unauthorized access and/or damage to networks, servers, user accounts, passwords, or other District resources may be punishable under local, state, or federal law.

C. Privacy and Security

Students and staff must use District technologies responsibly and in a secure manner. They must not share their logins, passwords, or access with others. By using technology, staff is agreeing to, and understands, it is their responsibility to protect employee and/or student information accessed through the Financial/Human Resources information system and/or student information system, and will not release the data to any unauthorized employees or outside agencies.

D. Reliability and Limitation of Liability

(a) The Duluth Public Schools makes no warranties of any kind, expressed or implied, for the technology resources it provides to students and staff.
(b) The Duluth Public Schools will not be responsible for any damages suffered by the student, including those arising from non-deliveries, mis-deliveries, service interruptions, unauthorized use, loss of data, and exposure to potentially harmful or inappropriate material or people. This applies to personal use of technology by students and staff.
(c) Use of any information obtained via the Internet or communications technologies is at the student's or staff's own risk.
(d) The Duluth Public Schools specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through the Internet.
(e) The student and his/her parent/guardian will indemnify and hold the Duluth Public Schools harmless from any losses sustained as the result of misuse of the District's technology resources by the student.

‡(Communication systems include e-mail, web social media, phones, pagers, text messaging, instant messaging, blogging, podcasting, listservs, and/or other emerging technologies).

[3](Personal technologies include but are not limited to cell phones, digital and image devices, handheld electronic devices, two-way radios, and/or other emerging technologies).

References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 524

Duluth School District Policy 5085 (School Discipline Policy)
Duluth School District Policy 3090 (Copyright Policy)
Duluth School District Policy 4025 (Standards of Conduct for Personnel) Duluth School District Policy 3187 (Use Policy for Technology and Internet Access)
Boulder (Colorado) School District Acceptable Internet Use Policy
Henrico (Virginia) County Public Schools Acceptable Use Policy
E-rate Central
Children's Internet Protection Act
Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act

Adopted: 12-16-1997 ISD 709
Revised: 07-21-1998 11-20-2007
09-21-1999 05-04-2010
02-15-2000 09-20-2011
06-19-2001 04-02-2012
02-19-2002 05-24-2012
04-20-2004 06-19-2012
06-12-2007 04-23-2013 ISD 709