



Jordan School District #717
Policy Committee Minutes

Monday, September 30, 2013 at 5:30 PM
Policy Committee
Jordan Public Schools
500 Sunset Drive; Suite 3
Jordan, MN 55352

1. Review of policy #613 Graduation Requirements
2. Review of policy #614 Testing Plan and Procedure
3. Review of policy #618 Assessment of Standard Achievement
4. Review of policy #616 System Accountability
5. Review of policy #506 Student Discipline
6. Review of policy 534 "Memorials"
7. Review of policy 602 "Organization School Calendar"
8. Review of policy 626 "Early Entrance to Kindergarten"

School Board Clerk

Date

**JORDAN DISTRICT SCHOOLS
POLICY**

Adopted: September 12, 2007

Revised: 2013

613 GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

[Note: The requirements set forth in this policy govern the graduation standards that Minnesota public schools must require for a high school diploma for all students.]

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to set forth requirements for graduation from the school district.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The policy of the school district is that all students entering grade 9 in the 2012-2013 school year and earlier must satisfactorily complete, as determined by the school district, all credit requirements, all state academic standards, or local standards where state standards do not apply, and successfully pass graduation examinations, as required, in order to graduate. For students entering grade 9 in the 2013-2014 school year and later, the school district's policy is that students must demonstrate, as determined by the school district, their satisfactory completion of the credit requirements and their understanding of academic standards on a nationally normed college entrance exam. The school district must adopt graduation requirements that meet or exceed state graduation requirements established in law or rule.

III. DEFINITIONS

- A. "Academic standard" means: (1) a statewide adopted expectation for student learning in the content areas of language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, physical education, or the arts, or (2) a locally adopted expectation for student learning in health, the arts, career and technical education, or world languages.
- B. "Credit" means a student's successful completion of an academic year of study or a student's mastery of the applicable subject matter, as determined by the school district.
- C. "Section 504 Accommodation" means the defined appropriate accommodations or modifications that must be made in the school environment to address the needs of an individual student with disabilities.
- D. "Individualized Education Program" or "IEP" means a written statement developed for a student eligible by law for special education and services.

- E. “English learners” or “EL” student means an individual whose first language is not English and whose test performance may be negatively impacted by lack of English language proficiency.
- F. “GRAD” means the graduation-required assessment for diploma that measures the reading, writing, and mathematics proficiency of high school students.

IV. TEST ADMINISTRATOR

The Director of Curriculum and Assessment shall be named the school district test administrator. Said person shall be in charge of all test procedures and shall bring recommendations to the school board annually for approval.

V. GRADUATION ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

- A. Students enrolled in grade 8 through the 2009-2010 school year are eligible to be assessed under:
 - 1. the graduation-required assessment for diploma (GRAD) in reading, mathematics, or writing under Minn. Stat. § 120B.30, Subd. 1(c)(1) and (2) and Subd. 1(d) (2012) as follows:
 - a. for reading and mathematics:
 - i. obtaining an achievement level equivalent to or greater than proficient as determined through a standard setting process on the Minnesota comprehensive assessments in grade 10 for reading and grade 11 for mathematics or achieving a passing score as determined through a standard setting process on the GRAD in grade 10 for reading and grade 11 for mathematics or subsequent retests;
 - ii. achieving a passing score as determined through a standard setting process on the state-identified language proficiency test in reading and the mathematics test for English learners or the GRAD equivalent of those assessments for students designated as English learners;
 - iii. achieving an individual passing score on the GRAD as determined by appropriate state guidelines for students with an individualized education program (IEP) or Section 504 (504) plan;
 - iv. obtaining an achievement level equivalent to or greater than proficient as determined through a standard setting process on the state-identified alternate assessment or assessments in grade 10 for reading and grade 11 for mathematics for students with an IEP; or

- v. achieving an individual passing score on the state-identified alternate assessment or assessments as determined by appropriate state guidelines for students with an IEP; and
- b. for writing:
 - i. achieving a passing score on the GRAD;
 - ii. achieving a passing score as determined through a standard setting process on the state-identified language proficiency test in writing for students designated as English learners;
 - iii. achieving an individual passing score on the GRAD as determined by appropriate state guidelines for students with an IEP or 504 plan; or
 - iv. achieving an individual passing score on the state-identified alternate assessment or assessments as determined by appropriate state guidelines for students with an IEP.
 - c. Students enrolled in grade 8 in any school year from the 2005-2006 school year to the 2009-2010 school year who do not pass the mathematics GRAD under Section V.A.1. are eligible to receive a high school diploma if they:
 - i. complete with a passing score or grade all state and local coursework and credits required for graduation by the school board granting the students their diploma;
 - ii. participate in district-prescribed academic remediation in mathematics; and
 - iii. fully participate in at least two retests of the mathematics GRAD test or until they pass the mathematics GRAD test, whichever comes first.
- 2. the WorkKeys job skills assessment;
 - 3. the Compass college placement test;
 - 4. the ACT assessment for college admission;
 - 5. a nationally recognized armed services vocational aptitude test; or
 - 6. the school district may substitute a score from an alternative, equivalent assessment to satisfy the requirements of this paragraph.

- B. Students enrolled in grade 8 in the 2010-2011 or 2011-2012 school year are eligible to be assessed under:
1. the GRAD in reading, mathematics, or writing under Minn. Stat. § 120B.30, Subd. 1(c)(1) and (2) (2012) as follows:
 - a. for reading and mathematics:
 - i. obtaining an achievement level equivalent to or greater than proficient as determined through a standard setting process on the Minnesota comprehensive assessments in grade 10 for reading and grade 11 for mathematics or achieving a passing score as determined through a standard setting process on the GRAD in grade 10 for reading and grade 11 for mathematics or subsequent retests;
 - ii. achieving a passing score as determined through a standard setting process on the state-identified language proficiency test in reading and the mathematics test for English learners or the GRAD equivalent of those assessments for students designated as English learners;
 - iii. achieving an individual passing score on the GRAD as determined by appropriate state guidelines for students with an IEP or 504 plan;
 - iv. obtaining an achievement level equivalent to or greater than proficient as determined through a standard setting process on the state-identified alternate assessment or assessments in grade 10 for reading and grade 11 for mathematics for students with an IEP; or
 - v. achieving an individual passing score on the state-identified alternate assessment or assessments as determined by appropriate state guidelines for students with an IEP; and
 - b. for writing:
 - i. achieving a passing score on the GRAD;
 - ii. achieving a passing score as determined through a standard setting process on the state-identified language proficiency test in writing for students designated as English learners;
 - iii. achieving an individual passing score on the GRAD as determined by appropriate state guidelines for students with an IEP or 504 plan; or

- iv. achieving an individual passing score on the state-identified alternate assessment or assessments as determined by appropriate state guidelines for students with an IEP.
 2. the WorkKeys job skills assessment;
 3. the Compass college placement test;
 4. the ACT assessment for college admission;
 5. a nationally recognized armed services vocational aptitude test; or
 6. the school district may substitute a score from an alternative, equivalent assessment to satisfy the requirements of this paragraph.
- C. For students enrolled in grade 8 in the 2012-2013 school year and later, students' state graduation requirements, based on a longitudinal, systematic approach to student education and career planning, assessment, instructional support, and evaluation, include the following:
 1. demonstrate understanding of required academic standards on a nationally normed college entrance exam;
 2. achievement and career and college readiness tests in mathematics, reading, and writing. The tests must have a continuum of empirically derived, clearly defined benchmarks focused on students' attainment of knowledge and skills so that students, their parents, and teachers know how well students must perform to have a reasonable chance to succeed in a career or college without the need for postsecondary remediation. In addition, the tests must ensure that the foundational knowledge and skills for students' successful performance in postsecondary employment or education and articulated series of possible targeted interventions are clearly identified and satisfy Minnesota's postsecondary admission requirements. To the extent available, the tests should:
 - a. monitor students' continuous development of and growth in requisite knowledge and skills; analyze students' progress and performance levels, identifying students' academic strengths and diagnosing areas where students require curriculum or instructional adjustments, targeted interventions, or remediation; and
 - b. based on analysis of students' progress and performance data, determine students' learning and instructional needs and the instructional tools and best practices that support academic rigor for the student; and
 3. consistent with this paragraph and Minn. Stat. § 120B.125 (*see Policy 604, Section II.H.*), age-appropriate exploration and planning activities and

career assessments to encourage students to identify personally relevant career interests and aptitudes and help students and their families develop a regularly reexamined transition plan for postsecondary education or employment without need for postsecondary remediation.

4. Based on appropriate state guidelines, students with an IEP may satisfy state graduation requirements by achieving an individual score on the state-identified alternative assessments.
 5. Students meeting the state graduation requirements under this section must receive targeted, relevant, academically rigorous, and resourced instruction which may include a targeted instruction and intervention plan focused on improving the student's knowledge and skills in core subjects so that the student has a reasonable chance to succeed in a career or college without need for postsecondary remediation.
 6. Students meeting the state graduation requirements under this section and who are students in grade 11 or 12 and who are identified as academically ready for a career or college must be actively encouraged by the school district to participate in courses and programs awarding college credit to high school students. Students are not required to achieve a specified score or level of proficiency on an assessment under this subdivision to graduate from high school.
- D. Students enrolled in grade 8 through the 2011-2012 school year who have not yet demonstrated proficiency on the Minnesota comprehensive assessments, the GRAD, or the basic skills testing requirements prior to high school graduation may satisfy state high school graduation requirements for assessments in reading, mathematics, and writing by taking:
1. the GRAD in reading, mathematics, or writing Minn. Stat. § 120B.30, Subd. 1(c)(1) and (2) (2012) as follows:
 - a. for reading and mathematics:
 - i. obtaining an achievement level equivalent to or greater than proficient as determined through a standard setting process on the Minnesota comprehensive assessments in grade 10 for reading and grade 11 for mathematics or achieving a passing score as determined through a standard setting process on the GRAD in grade 10 for reading and grade 11 for mathematics or subsequent retests;
 - ii. achieving a passing score as determined through a standard setting process on the state-identified language proficiency test in reading and the mathematics test for English learners or the GRAD equivalent of those assessments for students designated as English learners;

- iii. achieving an individual passing score on the GRAD as determined by appropriate state guidelines for students with an IEP or 504 plan;
 - iv. obtaining an achievement level equivalent to or greater than proficient as determined through a standard setting process on the state-identified alternate assessment or assessments in grade 10 for reading and grade 11 for mathematics for students with an IEP; or
 - v. achieving an individual passing score on the state-identified alternate assessment or assessments as determined by appropriate state guidelines for students with an IEP; and
- b. for writing:
- i. achieving a passing score on the GRAD;
 - ii. achieving a passing score as determined through a standard setting process on the state-identified language proficiency test in writing for students designated as English learners;
 - iii. achieving an individual passing score on the GRAD as determined by appropriate state guidelines for students with an IEP or 504 plan; or
 - iv. achieving an individual passing score on the state-identified alternate assessment or assessments as determined by appropriate state guidelines for students with an IEP.
- 2. the WorkKeys job skills assessment;
 - 3. the Compass college placement test, a nationally recognized armed services vocation aptitude test; or
 - 4. the ACT assessment for college admission.

VI. GRADUATION CREDIT REQUIREMENTS

- A. Students beginning 9th grade in the 2011-2012 school year and later must successfully complete, as determined by the school district, the following high school level credits for graduation:
 - 1. Four credits of language arts;
 - 2. Three credits of mathematics, encompassing at least algebra, geometry, statistics, and probability sufficient to satisfy the academic standard.

3. Three credits of science, including at least: (a) one credit in biology; (b) one chemistry or physics credit or a career and technical education credit that meets standards underlying the chemistry, physics, or biology credit or a combination of those standards approved by the school district; and (c) meeting biology standards under Section VI.A.3.(b) does not meet the biology requirement under Section VI.A.3.(a);
 4. Three and one-half credits of social studies, encompassing at least United States history, geography, government and citizenship, world history, and economics, or three credits of social studies, encompassing at least United States history, geography, government and citizenship, and world history, and one-half credit of economics taught in a school's social studies, agriculture education, or business department;
 5. One credit in the arts; and
 6. A minimum of seven elective credits.
 7. Credit equivalencies
 - a. A credit is equivalent to a student successfully completing an academic year of study or a student mastering the applicable subject matter, as determined by the school district.
 - b. An agriculture science credit may fulfill a credit requirement other than the specified science credit in biology under Section VI.A.3.
 - c. A career and technical education credit may fulfill a mathematics or arts credit requirement or a science requirement other than the specified science credit in biology under Section VI.A.2., VI.A.3., or VI.A.5.
- B. Students beginning 9th grade in the 2013-2014 school year and later must successfully complete the following high school level credits for graduation:
1. Four credits of language arts sufficient to satisfy all of the academic standards in English language arts;
 2. Three credits of mathematics, including an algebra II credit or its equivalent, sufficient to satisfy all of the academic standards in mathematics;
 3. An algebra I credit by the end of 8th grade sufficient to satisfy all of the 8th grade standards in mathematics;
 4. Three credits of science, including at least one credit of chemistry or physics, and one elective credit of science. The combination of credits

under this clause must be sufficient to satisfy:

- a. all of the academic standards in either chemistry or physics and
 - b. all other academic standards in science;
5. Three and one-half credits of social studies, encompassing at least United States history, geography, government and citizenship, world history, and economics sufficient to satisfy all of the academic standards in social studies;
 6. One credit of the arts sufficient to satisfy all of the state or local academic standards in the arts; and
 7. A minimum of seven elective credits.
 8. Credit equivalencies
 - a. A one-half credit of economics taught in an agriculture education or business department may fulfill a one-half credit in social studies under Section VI.B.5. if the credit is sufficient to satisfy all of the academic standards in economics.
 - b. An agriculture science or career and technical education credit may fulfill the elective science credit requirement other than the specified science credit under Section VI.B.4. if the course meets academic standards in science as approved by the school district. An agriculture science or career and technical education credit may fulfill the credit in chemistry or physics or the elective science credit required under Section VI.B.4. if:
 - i. the credit meets the chemistry, physics, or biology academic standards or a combination of these academic standards as approved by the school district; and
 - ii. the student satisfies either all of the chemistry academic standards, all of the physics academic standards, or all of the applicable elective science standards prior to graduation. An agriculture science or career and technical education credit may not fulfill the required biology credit under Section VI.B.4.
 - c. A career and technical education credit may fulfill a mathematics or arts credit requirement under Section VI.B.2. or Section VI.B.6.
 - d. An agriculture education teacher is not required to meet the requirements of Minn. Rules Part 3505.1150, Subpart 1, Item B (2012), to meet the credit equivalency requirements of Section VI.B.8.b.

VII. GRADUATION STANDARDS REQUIREMENTS

- A. All students must demonstrate their understanding of the following academic standards on a nationally normed college entrance exam:
1. School District Standards, Health and Physical Education (K-12);
 2. School District Standards, Vocational and Technical Education (K-12); and
 3. School District Standards, World Languages (K-12).
- B. Academic standards in health, world languages, and vocational and technical education will be reviewed on an annual basis.*
- * Reviews are required to be conducted on a periodic basis. Therefore, this time period may be changed to accommodate individual school district needs.
- C. All students must satisfactorily complete the following required Graduation Standards in accordance with the standards developed by the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE):
1. Minnesota Academic Standards, Language Arts K-12;
 2. Minnesota Academic Standards, Mathematics K-12;
 3. Minnesota Academic Standards, Science K-12;
 4. Minnesota Academic Standards, Social Studies K-12; and
 5. Minnesota Academic Standards, Arts K-12.
- D. The academic standards for language arts, mathematics, and science apply to all students except the very few students with extreme cognitive or physical impairments for whom an IEP team has determined that the required academic standards are inappropriate. An IEP team that makes this determination must establish alternative standards.

VIII. EARLY GRADUATION

Students may be considered for early graduation, as provided for within Minn. Stat. § 120B.07, upon meeting the following conditions:

- A. All course or standards and credit requirements must be met;
- B. The principal or designee shall conduct an interview with the student and parent or guardian, familiarize the parties with opportunities available in post-secondary

education, and arrive at a timely decision; and

- C. The principal's decision shall be in writing and may be subject to review by the superintendent and school board.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 120B.02 (Educational Expectations for Minnesota's Students)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.018 (Definitions)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.021 (Required Academic Standards)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.023 (Benchmarks)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.024 (Graduation Requirements; Course Credits)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.07 (Early Graduation)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.11 (School District Process)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.125 (Planning for Students' Successful Transition to Postsecondary Education and Employment; Involuntary Career Tracking Prohibited)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.128 (Educational Planning and Assessment System (EPAS) Program)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.30 (Statewide Testing and Reporting System)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0640-3501.0655 (Academic Standards for Language Arts)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0700-3501.0745 (Academic Standards for Mathematics)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0800-3501.0815 (Academic Standards for the Arts)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0900-3501.0955 (Academic Standards in Science)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.1000-3501.1190 (Graduation-Required Assessment for Diploma) (repealed Minn. L. 2013, Ch. 116, Art. 2, § 22)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.1300-3501.1345 (Academic Standards for Social Studies)
20 U.S.C. § 6301, *et seq.* (No Child Left Behind Act)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 104 (School District Mission Statement)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 601 (School District Curriculum and Instruction Goals)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 614 (School District Testing Plan and Procedure)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 615 (Testing Accommodations, Modifications, and Exemptions for IEPs, Section 504 Plans, and LEP Students)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 616 (School District System Accountability)

Adopted: _____

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 613

Orig. 1997

Revised: _____

Rev. 2012 2013

613 GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

[Note: The requirements set forth in this policy govern the graduation standards that Minnesota public schools must require for a high school diploma for all students.]

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to set forth requirements for graduation from the school district.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The policy of the school district is that all students entering grade 9 in the 2012-2013 school year and earlier must satisfactorily complete, as determined by the school district, all ~~course~~ credit requirements, all state academic standards, or local standards where state standards do not apply, and successfully pass graduation examinations, as required, in order to graduate. For students entering grade 9 in the 2013-2014 school year and later, the school district's policy is that students must demonstrate, as determined by the school district, their satisfactory completion of the credit requirements and their understanding of academic standards on a nationally normed college entrance exam. The school district must adopt graduation requirements that meet or exceed state graduation requirements established in law or rule.

III. DEFINITIONS

A. "Academic standard" means: (1) a statewide adopted expectation for student learning in the content areas of language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, physical education, or the arts, or (2) a locally adopted expectation for student learning in health, the arts, career and technical education, or world languages.

~~A B.~~ "~~Course-credit~~ Credit" is equivalent to means a student's successful completion of an academic year of study or a student's mastery of the applicable subject matter, as determined by the school district.

~~B C.~~ "Section 504 Accommodation" means the defined appropriate accommodations or modifications that must be made in the school environment to address the needs of an individual student with disabilities.

~~C D.~~ "Individualized Education Program" or "IEP" means a written statement developed for a student eligible by law for special education and services.

~~D E.~~ "English language learners" or "ELL" student means an individual whose first

language is not English and whose test performance may be negatively impacted by lack of English language proficiency.

~~E.F.~~ “GRAD” means the graduation-required assessment for diploma that measures the reading, writing, and mathematics proficiency of high school students.

IV. TEST ADMINISTRATOR

(Position Title) shall be named the school district test administrator. Said person shall be in charge of all test procedures and shall bring recommendations to the school board annually for approval.

V. GRADUATION ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

~~A. For students enrolled in grade 8 before the 2005-2006 school year, only Minnesota basic skills tests in reading, mathematics, and writing shall fulfill students’ basic skills testing requirements for a passing state notation. The passing scores of basic skills tests in reading and mathematics are the equivalent of 75 percent correct for students entering grade 9 as based on the first uniform test administered in February 1998. Students who have not successfully passed a basic skills test by the end of the 2011-2012 school year must pass the GRAD as set forth in Section V.B. or V.C., except that, for the 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 school years only, these students must satisfy the state’s graduation test requirement for math by complying with Sections V.C.1. and V.C.3.~~

A. Students enrolled in grade 8 through the 2009-2010 school year are eligible to be assessed under:

1. the graduation-required assessment for diploma (GRAD) in reading, mathematics, or writing under Minn. Stat. § 120B.30, Subd. 1(c)(1) and (2) and Subd. 1(d) (2012) as follows:

a. for reading and mathematics:

i. obtaining an achievement level equivalent to or greater than proficient as determined through a standard setting process on the Minnesota comprehensive assessments in grade 10 for reading and grade 11 for mathematics or achieving a passing score as determined through a standard setting process on the GRAD in grade 10 for reading and grade 11 for mathematics or subsequent retests;

ii. achieving a passing score as determined through a standard setting process on the state-identified language proficiency test in reading and the mathematics test for English language learners or the GRAD equivalent of those assessments for students designated as English language learners;

- iii. achieving an individual passing score on the GRAD as determined by appropriate state guidelines for students with an individualized education program (IEP) or Section 504 (504) plan;
 - iv. obtaining an achievement level equivalent to or greater than proficient as determined through a standard setting process on the state-identified alternate assessment or assessments in grade 10 for reading and grade 11 for mathematics for students with an IEP; or
 - v. achieving an individual passing score on the state-identified alternate assessment or assessments as determined by appropriate state guidelines for students with an IEP; and
- b. for writing:
- i. achieving a passing score on the GRAD;
 - ii. achieving a passing score as determined through a standard setting process on the state-identified language proficiency test in writing for students designated as English language learners;
 - iii. achieving an individual passing score on the GRAD as determined by appropriate state guidelines for students with an IEP or 504 plan; or
 - iv. achieving an individual passing score on the state-identified alternate assessment or assessments as determined by appropriate state guidelines for students with an IEP.
- c. Students enrolled in grade 8 in any school year from the 2005-2006 school year to the 2009-2010 school year who do not pass the mathematics GRAD under Section V.A.1. are eligible to receive a high school diploma if they:
- i. complete with a passing score or grade all state and local coursework and credits required for graduation by the school board granting the students their diploma;
 - ii. participate in district-prescribed academic remediation in mathematics; and
 - iii. fully participate in at least two retests of the mathematics GRAD test or until they pass the mathematics GRAD test, whichever comes first.

2. the WorkKeys job skills assessment;
3. the Compass college placement test;
4. the ACT assessment for college admission;
5. a nationally recognized armed services vocational aptitude test; or
6. the school district may substitute a score from an alternative, equivalent assessment to satisfy the requirements of this paragraph.

B. Students enrolled in grade 8 in the 2010-2011 or 2011-2012 school year are eligible to be assessed under:

1. the GRAD in reading, mathematics, or writing under Minn. Stat. § 120B.30, Subd. 1(c)(1) and (2) (2012) as follows:
 - a. for reading and mathematics:
 - i. obtaining an achievement level equivalent to or greater than proficient as determined through a standard setting process on the Minnesota comprehensive assessments in grade 10 for reading and grade 11 for mathematics or achieving a passing score as determined through a standard setting process on the GRAD in grade 10 for reading and grade 11 for mathematics or subsequent retests;
 - ii. achieving a passing score as determined through a standard setting process on the state-identified language proficiency test in reading and the mathematics test for English language learners or the GRAD equivalent of those assessments for students designated as English language learners;
 - iii. achieving an individual passing score on the GRAD as determined by appropriate state guidelines for students with an IEP or 504 plan;
 - iv. obtaining an achievement level equivalent to or greater than proficient as determined through a standard setting process on the state-identified alternate assessment or assessments in grade 10 for reading and grade 11 for mathematics for students with an IEP; or
 - v. achieving an individual passing score on the state-identified alternate assessment or assessments as determined by appropriate state guidelines for students with an IEP; and

- b. for writing:
 - i. achieving a passing score on the GRAD;
 - ii. achieving a passing score as determined through a standard setting process on the state-identified language proficiency test in writing for students designated as English language learners;
 - iii. achieving an individual passing score on the GRAD as determined by appropriate state guidelines for students with an IEP or 504 plan; or
 - iv. achieving an individual passing score on the state-identified alternate assessment or assessments as determined by appropriate state guidelines for students with an IEP.
- 2. the WorkKeys job skills assessment;
- 3. the Compass college placement test;
- 4. the ACT assessment for college admission;
- 5. a nationally recognized armed services vocational aptitude test; or
- 6. the school district may substitute a score from an alternative, equivalent assessment to satisfy the requirements of this paragraph.

B C. For students enrolled in grade 8 in the ~~2005-2006~~ 2012-2013 school year and later, ~~only the following options shall fulfill~~ students' state graduation test requirements, based on a longitudinal, systematic approach to student education and career planning, assessment, instructional support, and evaluation, include the following:

- 1. ~~For reading and mathematics:~~
 - a. ~~obtaining an achievement level equivalent to or greater than proficient as determined through a standard setting process on the Minnesota comprehensive assessments in grade 10 for reading and grade 11 for mathematics or achieving a passing score as determined through a standard setting process on the GRAD in grade 10 for reading and grade 11 for mathematics or subsequent retests;~~
 - b. ~~achieving a passing score as determined through a standard setting process on the state-identified language proficiency test in reading and the mathematics test for English language learners or the~~

~~GRAD equivalent of those assessments for students designated as English language learners;~~

- ~~e. achieving an individual passing score on the GRAD as determined by appropriate state guidelines for students with an IEP or 504 plan;~~
- ~~d. obtaining an achievement level equivalent to or greater than proficient as determined through a standard setting process on the state-identified alternate assessment or assessments in grade 10 for reading and grade 11 for mathematics for students with an IEP; or~~
- ~~e. achieving an individual passing score on the state-identified alternate assessment or assessments as determined by appropriate state guidelines for students with an IEP; and~~

~~2. For writing:~~

- ~~a. achieving a passing score on the GRAD;~~
- ~~b. achieving a passing score as determined through a standard setting process on the state-identified language proficiency test in writing for students designated as English language learners;~~
- ~~e. achieving an individual passing score on the GRAD as determined by appropriate state guidelines for students with an IEP or 504 plan; or~~
- ~~d. achieving an individual passing score on the state-identified alternate assessment or assessments as determined by appropriate state guidelines for students with an IEP.~~

~~C. Students enrolled in grade 8 in any school year from the 2005-2006 school year to the 2009-2010 school year who do not pass the mathematics GRAD under Section V.B. above are eligible to receive a high school diploma if they:~~

- ~~1. Complete with a passing score or grade all state and local coursework and credits required for graduation by the school board granting the students their diploma;~~
- ~~2. Participate in district-prescribed academic remediation in mathematics; and~~
- ~~3. Fully participate in at least two retests of the mathematics GRAD test or until they pass the mathematics GRAD test, whichever comes first.~~

~~*[Note: Section V.C. applies to the 2009-2010 through 2013-2014 school years only.]*~~

1. demonstrate understanding of required academic standards on a nationally normed college entrance exam;
2. achievement and career and college readiness tests in mathematics, reading, and writing. The tests must have a continuum of empirically derived, clearly defined benchmarks focused on students' attainment of knowledge and skills so that students, their parents, and teachers know how well students must perform to have a reasonable chance to succeed in a career or college without the need for postsecondary remediation. In addition, the tests must ensure that the foundational knowledge and skills for students' successful performance in postsecondary employment or education and articulated series of possible targeted interventions are clearly identified and satisfy Minnesota's postsecondary admission requirements. To the extent available, the tests should:
 - a. monitor students' continuous development of and growth in requisite knowledge and skills; analyze students' progress and performance levels, identifying students' academic strengths and diagnosing areas where students require curriculum or instructional adjustments, targeted interventions, or remediation; and
 - b. based on analysis of students' progress and performance data, determine students' learning and instructional needs and the instructional tools and best practices that support academic rigor for the student; and
3. consistent with this paragraph and Minn. Stat. § 120B.125 (see Policy 604, Section II.H.), age-appropriate exploration and planning activities and career assessments to encourage students to identify personally relevant career interests and aptitudes and help students and their families develop a regularly reexamined transition plan for postsecondary education or employment without need for postsecondary remediation.
4. Based on appropriate state guidelines, students with an IEP may satisfy state graduation requirements by achieving an individual score on the state-identified alternative assessments.
5. Students meeting the state graduation requirements under this section must receive targeted, relevant, academically rigorous, and resourced instruction which may include a targeted instruction and intervention plan focused on improving the student's knowledge and skills in core subjects so that the student has a reasonable chance to succeed in a career or college without need for postsecondary remediation.
6. Students meeting the state graduation requirements under this section and who are students in grade 11 or 12 and who are identified as academically ready for a career or college must be actively encouraged by the school district to participate in courses and programs awarding college credit to

high school students. Students are not required to achieve a specified score or level of proficiency on an assessment under this subdivision to graduate from high school.

D. Students enrolled in grade 8 through the 2011-2012 school year who have not yet demonstrated proficiency on the Minnesota comprehensive assessments, the GRAD, or the basic skills testing requirements prior to high school graduation may satisfy state high school graduation requirements for assessments in reading, mathematics, and writing by taking:

1. the GRAD in reading, mathematics, or writing Minn. Stat. § 120B.30, Subd. 1(c)(1) and (2) (2012) as follows:

a. for reading and mathematics:

i. obtaining an achievement level equivalent to or greater than proficient as determined through a standard setting process on the Minnesota comprehensive assessments in grade 10 for reading and grade 11 for mathematics or achieving a passing score as determined through a standard setting process on the GRAD in grade 10 for reading and grade 11 for mathematics or subsequent retests;

ii. achieving a passing score as determined through a standard setting process on the state-identified language proficiency test in reading and the mathematics test for English language learners or the GRAD equivalent of those assessments for students designated as English language learners;

iii. achieving an individual passing score on the GRAD as determined by appropriate state guidelines for students with an IEP or 504 plan;

iv. obtaining an achievement level equivalent to or greater than proficient as determined through a standard setting process on the state-identified alternate assessment or assessments in grade 10 for reading and grade 11 for mathematics for students with an IEP; or

v. achieving an individual passing score on the state-identified alternate assessment or assessments as determined by appropriate state guidelines for students with an IEP; and

b. for writing:

i. achieving a passing score on the GRAD;

- ii. achieving a passing score as determined through a standard setting process on the state-identified language proficiency test in writing for students designated as English language learners;
 - iii. achieving an individual passing score on the GRAD as determined by appropriate state guidelines for students with an IEP or 504 plan; or
 - iv. achieving an individual passing score on the state-identified alternate assessment or assessments as determined by appropriate state guidelines for students with an IEP.
- 2. the WorkKeys job skills assessment;
 - 3. the Compass college placement test, a nationally recognized armed services vocation aptitude test; or
 - 4. the ACT assessment for college admission.

VI. GRADUATION CREDIT REQUIREMENTS

D A. Students beginning 9th grade in the 2011-2012 school year and later must successfully complete, as determined by the school district, the following high school level ~~course~~ credits for graduation:

- 1. Four credits of language arts;
- 2. Three credits of mathematics, encompassing at least algebra, geometry, statistics, and probability sufficient to satisfy the academic standard. ~~Beginning in the 2010-2011 school year, students must satisfactorily complete an algebra I credit by the end of eighth grade. Students scheduled to graduate in the 2014-2015 school year or later must satisfactorily complete an algebra II credit or its equivalent;~~
- 3. Three credits of science, including at least: (a) one credit in biology; (b) one chemistry or physics credit or a career and technical education credit that meets standards underlying the chemistry, physics, or biology credit or a combination of those standards approved by the school district; and (c) meeting biology standards under Section ~~V.D.3.(b)~~ VI.A.3.(b) does not meet the biology requirement under Section ~~V.D.3.(a)~~ VI.A.3.(a);
- 4. Three and one-half credits of social studies, encompassing at least United States history, geography, government and citizenship, world history, and economics, or three credits of social studies, encompassing at least United States history, geography, government and citizenship, and world history, and one-half credit of economics taught in a school's social studies, agriculture education, or business department;

5. One credit in the arts; and
6. A minimum of seven elective ~~course~~ credits.

7. Credit equivalencies

- a. A credit is equivalent to a student successfully completing an academic year of study or a student mastering the applicable subject matter, as determined by the school district.
- 7 b. An agriculture science ~~course~~ credit may fulfill a credit requirement other than the specified science credit in biology under Section ~~V.D.3.~~ VI.A.3 above.
- 8 c. A career and technical education ~~course~~ credit may fulfill a mathematics or arts credit requirement or a science requirement other than the specified science credit in biology under Section ~~V.D.2., V.D.3., or V.D.5.~~ VI.A.2., VI.A.3., or VI.A.5 above.

B. Students beginning 9th grade in the 2013-2014 school year and later must successfully complete the following high school level credits for graduation:

1. Four credits of language arts sufficient to satisfy all of the academic standards in English language arts;
2. Three credits of mathematics, including an algebra II credit or its equivalent, sufficient to satisfy all of the academic standards in mathematics;
3. An algebra I credit by the end of 8th grade sufficient to satisfy all of the 8th grade standards in mathematics;
4. Three credits of science, including at least one credit of chemistry or physics, and one elective credit of science. The combination of credits under this clause must be sufficient to satisfy:
 - a. all of the academic standards in either chemistry or physics and
 - b. all other academic standards in science;
5. Three and one-half credits of social studies, encompassing at least United States history, geography, government and citizenship, world history, and economics sufficient to satisfy all of the academic standards in social studies;
6. One credit of the arts sufficient to satisfy all of the state or local academic standards in the arts; and

7. A minimum of seven elective credits.
8. Credit equivalencies
 - a. A one-half credit of economics taught in an agriculture education or business department may fulfill a one-half credit in social studies under Section VI.B.5. if the credit is sufficient to satisfy all of the academic standards in economics.
 - b. An agriculture science or career and technical education credit may fulfill the elective science credit requirement other than the specified science credit under Section VI.B.4. if the course meets academic standards in science as approved by the school district. An agriculture science or career and technical education credit may fulfill the credit in chemistry or physics or the elective science credit required under Section VI.B.4. if:
 - i. the credit meets the chemistry, physics, or biology academic standards or a combination of these academic standards as approved by the school district; and
 - ii. the student satisfies either all of the chemistry academic standards, all of the physics academic standards, or all of the applicable elective science standards prior to graduation. An agriculture science or career and technical education credit may not fulfill the required biology credit under Section VI.B.4.
 - c. A career and technical education credit may fulfill a mathematics or arts credit requirement under Section VI.B.2. or Section VI.B.6.
 - d. An agriculture education teacher is not required to meet the requirements of Minn. Rules Part 3505.1150, Subpart 1, Item B (2012), to meet the credit equivalency requirements of Section VI.B.8.b.

VII. GRADUATION STANDARDS REQUIREMENTS

- ~~E A.~~ All students must satisfactorily complete the following required and elective standards, in accordance with the standards adopted by the school district demonstrate their understanding of the following academic standards on a nationally normed college entrance exam:
1. School District Standards, Health and Physical Education (K-12);
 2. School District Standards, Vocational and Technical Education (K-12);
and

3. School District Standards, World Languages (K-12).

~~F B.~~ Academic standards in health, world languages, and vocational and technical education will be reviewed on an annual basis.*

* Reviews are required to be conducted on a periodic basis. Therefore, this time period may be changed to accommodate individual school district needs.

~~G C.~~ All students must satisfactorily complete the following required Graduation Standards in accordance with the standards developed by the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE):

1. Minnesota Academic Standards, Language Arts K-12;
2. Minnesota Academic Standards, Mathematics K-12;
3. Minnesota Academic Standards, Science K-12;
4. Minnesota Academic Standards, Social Studies K-12; and
5. Minnesota Academic Standards, Arts K-12;

~~*[Note: Beginning in the 2010-2011 school year, students will be required to satisfactorily complete revised Minnesota Academic Standards and high school graduation requirements in the arts. Beginning in the 2012-2013 school year, students will be required to satisfactorily complete revised Minnesota Academic Standards and high school graduation requirements in language arts and physical education. Beginning in the 2013-2014 school year, students will be required to satisfactorily complete revised Minnesota Academic Standards and high school graduation requirements in social studies.]*~~

~~or~~

- ~~1. Minnesota Academic Standards, Social Studies K-12, or have met the requirements of an IEP, a Section 504 accommodation plan, or alternative learning center;~~
- ~~2. Minnesota Academic Standards, Arts K-12, or have met the requirements of an IEP, a Section 504 accommodation plan, or alternative learning center; and~~
- ~~3. Alternative standards established in the student's IEP in the academic areas of language arts, mathematics and science.~~

~~*[Note: In place of the Minnesota Academic Standards, Arts K-12, the school district may substitute its own locally developed academic standards.]*~~

- D. The academic standards for language arts, mathematics, and science apply to all students except the very few students with extreme cognitive or physical impairments for whom an IEP team has determined that the required academic standards are inappropriate. An IEP team that makes this determination must establish alternative standards.

VI. STUDENTS IN UNIQUE SITUATIONS

~~In order to graduate from the school district, all students must fulfill the graduation test requirements in reading, mathematics, and writing established by Minn. Stat. §§ 120B.02 and 120B.30 as set forth in Sections V.A., V.B., and V.C. above, with the following exceptions:~~

- ~~A. ELL students are required to pass the GRAD only if they have been enrolled in any Minnesota school for at least four consecutive years. An ELL student who first enrolls in a Minnesota school in grade 9 or above and who completes the coursework and any other state and district requirements to graduate within a four year period is not required to pass the GRAD;~~
- ~~B. Shared time students are not required to pass the GRAD unless they intend to graduate from the school district.~~
- ~~C. Students who have transferred from another state will not be required to pass the GRAD if they passed graduation examinations in other states with examinations acceptable to MDE.~~
- ~~D. Students with IEPs or 504 accommodation plans will be tested and required to pass the GRAD as specified in the students' IEPs or 504 accommodation plans.~~

VII. EARLY GRADUATION

Students may be considered for early graduation, as provided for within Minn. Stat. § 120B.07, upon meeting the following conditions:

- A. All course or standards and credit requirements must be met;
- B. The principal or designee shall conduct an interview with the student and parent or guardian, familiarize the parties with opportunities available in post-secondary education, and arrive at a timely decision; and
- C. The principal's decision shall be in writing and may be subject to review by the superintendent and school board.

VIII. NOTICE

~~Within 30 working days of a student's entry into grade 9 or transfer into the district during or after grade 9, the school district will notify students and their parents of the school district's graduation requirements and the grade in which the student will have the~~

~~first opportunity to take a GRAD. The school district also will provide written notice of the GRAD results to parents and the student no later than 60 days after the school district receives the results and will provide written notice of the basic requirements test results no later than 90 days after the school district receives the results. The school district also will provide notice of remediation and/or additional testing opportunities and/or accommodations.~~

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 120B.02 (Educational Expectations for Minnesota’s Students)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.018 (Definitions)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.021 (Required Academic Standards)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.023 (Benchmarks)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.024 (Graduation Requirements; Course Credits)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.07 (Early Graduation)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.11 (School District Process)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.125 (Planning for Students’ Successful Transition to Postsecondary Education and Employment; Involuntary Career Tracking Prohibited)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.128 (Educational Planning and Assessment System (EPAS) Program)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.30 (Statewide Testing and Reporting System)
~~Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0010-3501.0180 (Graduation Standards—Mathematics and Reading)~~
~~Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0200-3501.0290 (Graduation Standards—Written Composition)~~
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.~~0505~~0640-3501.0655 (Academic Standards for Language Arts)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0700-3501.0745 (Academic Standards for Mathematics)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0800-3501.0815 (Academic Standards for the Arts)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0900-3501.0955 (Academic Standards in Science)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.1000-3501.1190 (Graduation-Required Assessment for Diploma) (repealed Minn. L. 2013, Ch. 116, Art. 2, § 22)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.1300-3501.1345 (Academic Standards for Social Studies)
20 U.S.C. § 6301, *et seq.* (No Child Left Behind Act)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 104 (School District Mission Statement)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 601 (School District Curriculum and Instruction Goals)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 614 (School District Testing Plan and Procedure)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 615 (Testing Accommodations, Modifications, and Exemptions for IEPs, Section 504 Plans, and LEP Students)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 616 (School District System Accountability)

**JORDAN DISTRICT SCHOOLS
POLICY**

Adopted: September 12, 2007

Revised:

614 SCHOOL DISTRICT TESTING PLAN AND PROCEDURE

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to set forth the school district's testing plan and procedure.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

It is the policy of the school district is to implement procedures for testing, test security, reporting, documentation, notification to students and parents and student record keeping in accordance with Minnesota law.

III. DUTIES OF SCHOOL DISTRICT TEST ADMINISTRATOR

The school district test administrator as named in Policy 613, Graduation Requirements, shall be responsible for preparing and presenting annually to the school board for approval, and overseeing the publishing of, the basic requirements test administration plan. The plan shall include, at a minimum, the following:

- A. The graduation requirements;
- B. The number of opportunities a student shall have to retake tests of basic standards during each year;
- C. The opportunities for remediation for a student who has not passed tests of basic requirements;
- D. The process for requesting an additional testing opportunity and accommodations for a senior who has met all other graduation requirements but has not passed one or more basic requirements;
- E. The process for appealing the school district's response to requests in item C.;
- F. The method to report breaches in test security procedures to the school district and the Department; and
- G. Procedures for meeting the needs of Limited English Proficient students, students who require an IEP or students who require Section 504 Accommodation.

IV. TEST SECURITY

- A. Security Requirements. When administering tests for the basic standards, the school district shall observe the following test security measures in addition to any requirements imposed by the Minnesota Department of Education:
1. All test booklets, answer sheets, and test materials shall be placed in locked storage before and after the test administration;
 2. The tests, testing materials, and answer sheets are nonpublic data under Minn. Stat. § 13.34;
 3. No copies of test booklets or answer sheets shall be made; and
 4. The school district shall report any violations of test security to the Department. The Department shall receive reports of violations of test security from anyone with knowledge of such an incident.
- B. Security Violations. MDE shall investigate any reported incidents of breaches in test security. The consequences of a violation of test security may include:
1. The invalidation of test scores if a violation is found to justify serious questions about the integrity of the results of the test administration; or
 2. Other reasonable sanctions that are necessary to preserve the security and confidentiality of future tests and test administrations.

V. SCHOOL DISTRICT REPORTING TO THE DEPARTMENT AND PUBLIC

- A. The school district shall report the information specified below to the Department annually by October 15 in a format to be determined by the Department.
- B. The school district shall prepare and disseminate annually by October 15 a public report of the information specified below through the official newspaper or through publications sent to all households in the school district.
- C. The reports required above shall include:
1. The number of students enrolled at each grade level 9 through 12 according to the end of the year Minnesota Automated Reporting Student System (MARSS) report;
 2. The number of students at each grade level 9 through 12 passing each basic requirement at the state standard level;
 3. The number of students at each grade level 9 through 12 passing each basic requirement at an individualized level under an IEP or a Section 504 accommodation plan;

4. The number of students at each grade level 9 through 12 passing tests in each basic requirement with tests that have been translated into a language other than English;
 5. The number of students at each grade level 9 through 12 exempt from testing in each basic standard; and
 6. For grade 12 of the previous year only, the number of students currently denied a high school diploma because of not passing the state standard for a basic standard when all other graduation requirements have been met.
- D. The superintendent shall submit reports identifying expenditures related to basic standards testing, to the Department as required by law.

VI. REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION FOR PROGRAM AUDIT

The school district shall maintain records necessary for program audits conducted by the Department. The records must include documentation that:

- A. Required notifications to parents and students meet the requirements of Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0120;
- B. Required student records meet the requirements of Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0130;
- C. The school district's process for additional testing of students meets the requirements of Minn. Rules Part 3501.0050;
- D. Test security procedures comply with Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0150;
- E. The school district's decisions regarding testing accommodations, modifications, and granting exemptions are in compliance with Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0090, and 3501.0100;
- F. The school district's curriculum and instruction provides appropriate learning opportunities in the basic standards in compliance with Minn. Rules Part 3501.0110;
- G. Remediation plans for students are on file consistent with Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0110;
- H. The basic requirements test administration plan complies with Minn. Rules Part 3501.0140, subpart 2;
- I. The documentation for students granted accommodations or exempted from testing complies with Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0090;

- J. The assessments and documentation of performance for students granted modifications of statewide standards comply with Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0090, subpart 2, item C; and
- K. The school district's process for testing considerations for LEP students complies with Minn. Rules Part 3501.0100.

VII. REQUIRED NOTIFICATION TO PARENTS AND STUDENTS

- A. Written Notice. The school district shall establish and maintain a system to provide written notice to parents and students about graduation requirements.
- B. Notice of Graduation Requirements. No later than thirty (30) working days after the date of the entrance into grade 9 or transfer of a student into the school district during or after grade 9, the school district shall provide to the parents and the student written notice of:
 - 1. The graduation requirements; and
 - 2. The grade in which the student shall have the first opportunity to take a test in a basic requirement.
- C. Notice of Test Results and Remediation Opportunities. The school district shall provide no later than ninety (90) days after a student takes a test of basic standards, written notice to the parents and the student of:
 - 1. Basic requirements test results; and
 - 2. Consistent with Minn. Rules Part 3501.0050, subpart 3, if the student is in the graduating year:
 - a. The process by which a parent or student can request additional testing and testing accommodations after April 1; and
 - b. The process by which a parent or student can appeal the school district's decision if additional testing or testing accommodation is denied.
- D. Notice Pertaining to Adequate Yearly Progress. If the school district is proposed for identification for school improvement, for corrective action, or for restructuring by the Minnesota Department of Education, the school district shall provide to parents of students in the school district sufficiently detailed summary data of its academic assessments or other academic indicators reviewed to determine whether the school is making adequate yearly progress to permit parents to appeal the Department's proposal.

VIII. STUDENT RECORD KEEPING

- A. Test Results. The school district shall keep a record on each student that includes:
1. The basic standards tests taken; and
 2. The results of the most recent basic requirements tests given;
- B. Student Progress. Individual student progress shall be reported on a student record as described in items 1 to 4 below.
1. “Pass-state level” shall be noted on the record of a student who passes a basic standards test under standard conditions or with an accommodation. The records for students passing with an accommodation shall not be different from the records of students passing the test under standard conditions.
 2. “Pass-individual level” shall be noted on the record of a student who passes a basic standards test with a modification established in the IEP or Section 504 accommodation plan in accordance with Minn. Rules Part 3501.0090.
 3. “Pass-translation” shall be noted on the record of a student who passes a basic standards test that has been translated into a language other than English and has not been validated by the state as a state test with a set passing score.
 4. “Exempt” shall be noted on the record of a student who has been exempted from a basic standards test.

Legal References:

Minn. Stat. § 13.34 (Examination Data)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.11 (School District Process)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.30 (Statewide Testing and Reporting System)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.36, Subd. 2 (Adequate Yearly Progress)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0010-3501.0180 (Rules relating to Graduation Standards – Mathematics and Reading)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0200-3501.0290 (Rules relating to Graduation Standards – Written Composition)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0505-3501.0635 (K-12 Standards)
20 U.S.C. § 6301, *et seq.* (No Child Left Behind Act)

Cross References:

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 601 (School District Curriculum and Instruction Goals)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 613 (Graduation Requirements)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 615 (Testing Accommodations, Modifications, and Exemptions for IEPs, Section 504 Plans, and LEP Students)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 616 (School District System Accountability)

Adopted: _____

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 614

Orig. 1997

Revised: _____

Rev. 2009

614 SCHOOL DISTRICT TESTING PLAN AND PROCEDURE

[Note: ~~The provisions of this policy substantially reflect statutory requirements. With the repeal of the graduation-required assessment for diploma (GRAD), school districts no longer are required to comply with any of the provisions of this policy.]~~

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to set forth the school district's testing plan and procedure.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The policy of the school district is to implement procedures for testing, test security, reporting, documentation, notification to students and parents, and student record keeping in accordance with Minnesota law.

III. DUTIES OF SCHOOL DISTRICT TEST ADMINISTRATOR

The school district test administrator as named in Policy 613, Graduation Requirements, shall be responsible for preparing and presenting annually to the school board for approval, and overseeing the publishing of, the basic requirements test administration plan. The school district test administrator shall file the plan with the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) and deliver the plan to all households in the school district by October 15 of each year. The plan shall include, at a minimum, the following:

- A. The graduation requirements;
- B. The number of opportunities a student shall have to retake tests of basic requirements during each year;
- C. The opportunities for remediation for a student who has not passed tests of basic requirements;
- D. The process for requesting an additional testing opportunity and accommodations for a senior who has met all other graduation requirements but has not passed one or more basic requirements;
- E. The process for appealing the school district's response to requests in item D.; and
- F. The method to report breaches in test security procedures to the school district and MDE.

IV. TEST SECURITY

A. Security Requirements.

1. When administering tests for the basic requirements, the school district shall observe the following test security measures in addition to any requirements imposed by MDE:
 - a. All test booklets, answer sheets, and test materials shall be placed in locked storage before and after the test administration;
 - b. The tests, testing materials, and answer sheets are nonpublic data under Minn. Stat. § 13.34; and
 - c. No copies of test booklets or answer sheets shall be made.
2. When administering a graduation-required assessment for diploma (GRAD), the school district must observe the following test security measures:
 - a. All test materials must be secured, either physically or electronically, before and after the test administration;
 - b. All testing materials are nonpublic data under Minn. Stat. § 13.34; and
 - c. A student is required to present valid photo identification before being admitted to the testing site if:
 - (1) the student is not enrolled in the testing district; or
 - (2) the student is unknown to the test proctor.
3. The school district must report any known violations of test security to MDE which must accept reports of violations of test security from anyone with knowledge of such an incident.

B. Security Violations. MDE shall investigate any reported incidents of breaches in test security. The consequences of a violation of test security may include:

1. The invalidation of test scores if a violation is found to justify serious questions about the integrity of the results of the test administration; or
2. Other reasonable sanctions that are necessary to preserve the security and confidentiality of future tests and test administrations.

V. SCHOOL DISTRICT REPORTING TO MDE AND THE PUBLIC

- A. The school district shall report the information specified below to MDE annually

by October 15 in a format to be determined by MDE.

- B. The school district shall prepare and disseminate annually by October 15 a public report of the information specified below through the official newspaper or through publications sent to all households in the school district.
- C. The reports required above shall include:
 - 1. The number of students enrolled at each grade level 9 through 12 according to the end of the year Minnesota Automated Reporting Student System (MARSS) report;
 - 2. The number of students at each grade level 9 through 12 passing each basic requirement at the state standard level;
 - 3. The number of students at each grade level 9 through 12 passing each basic requirement at an individualized level under an IEP or a Section 504 accommodation plan;
 - 4. The number of students at each grade level 9 through 12 passing tests in each basic requirement with tests that have been translated into a language other than English;
 - 5. The number of students at each grade level 9 through 12 exempt from testing in each basic requirement; and
 - 6. For grade 12 of the previous year only, the number of students currently denied a high school diploma because of not passing the state standard for a basic requirement when all other graduation requirements have been met.

VI. REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION FOR PROGRAM AUDIT

The school district shall maintain records necessary for program audits conducted by MDE. The records must include documentation that:

- A. Required notifications to parents and students meet the requirements of Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0120 and 3501.1120;
- B. Required student records meet the requirements of Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0130 and 3501.1130;
- C. The school district's process for additional testing of students meets the requirements of Minn. Rules Part 3501.0050;
- D. Test security procedures comply with Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0150 and 3501.1150;

- E. The school district's decisions and processes regarding testing accommodations, modifications, and granting exemptions are in compliance with Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0090, 3501.0100, and 3501.1180;
- F. The school district's curriculum and instruction provides appropriate learning opportunities in the basic requirements in compliance with Minn. Rules Part 3501.0110 and state graduation requirements in compliance with Minn. Rules Part 3501.1110;
- G. Remediation plans for students are on file consistent with Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0110 and 3501.1110;
- H. The basic requirements test administration plan complies with Minn. Rules Part 3501.0140, subpart 2, and the GRAD administration plan complies with Minn. Rules Part 3501.1140;
- I. The documentation for students granted accommodations or exempted from testing complies with Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0090 and 3501.1190;
- J. The assessments and documentation of performance for students granted modifications of statewide standards comply with Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0090, subpart 2, item C, and 3501.1190; and
- K. The school district's process for testing considerations for limited English proficiency students complies with Minn. Rules Part 3501.0100.

VII. REQUIRED NOTIFICATION TO PARENTS AND STUDENTS

- A. Written Notice. The school district shall establish and maintain a system to provide written notice to parents and students about graduation requirements.
- B. Notice of Graduation Requirements.
 - 1. No later than thirty (30) working days after the date of the entrance into grade 9 or transfer of a student into the school district during or after grade 9, the school district shall provide to the parents and the student written notice of:
 - a. The graduation requirements; and
 - b. The grade in which the student shall have the first opportunity to take a test in a basic requirement.
 - 2. The school district shall provide parents and students with annual written notice of the grade in which the student will have the first opportunity to take a GRAD. The school district shall provide written notice to parents and students of GRAD results no later than sixty (60) days after the district receives the results of a GRAD. After the date of receiving test

results, students must have a minimum of six (6) weeks for remediation before the next testing opportunity.

- C. Notice of Test Results and Remediation Opportunities. The school district shall provide no later than ninety (90) days after a student takes a test of basic requirements, written notice to the parents and the student of:
1. Basic requirements test results; and
 2. Consistent with Minn. Rules Part 3501.0050, subpart 3, if the student is in the graduating year:
 - a. The process by which a parent or student can request additional testing and testing accommodations after April 1; and
 - b. The process by which a parent or student can appeal the school district's decision if additional testing or testing accommodation is denied.
- D. Notice Pertaining to Adequate Yearly Progress. If the school district is proposed for identification for school improvement, for corrective action, or for restructuring by MDE, the school district shall provide to parents of students in the school district sufficiently detailed summary data of its academic assessments or other academic indicators reviewed to determine whether the school is making adequate yearly progress to permit parents to appeal MDE's proposal.

VIII. STUDENT RECORD KEEPING

- A. Test Results. The school district shall keep a record on each student that includes:
1. The basic requirements tests taken;
 2. The results of the most recent basic requirements tests given;
 3. The GRADs taken; and
 4. The results of the most recent GRAD given.
- B. Student Progress. Individual student progress shall be reported on a student record as described below.
1. "Pass-state level" shall be noted on the record of a student who passes a basic requirement test under standard conditions or with an accommodation. The records for students passing with an accommodation shall not be different from the records of students passing the test under standard conditions.
 2. "Pass-individual level" shall be noted on the record of a student who

passes a basic requirement test with a modification established in the IEP or Section 504 accommodation plan in accordance with Minn. Rules Part 3501.0090.

3. “Pass-translation” shall be noted on the record of a student who passes a basic requirement test that has been translated into a language other than English and has not been validated by the state as a state test with a set passing score.
4. “Exempt” shall be noted on the record of a student who has been exempted from a basic requirement test.
5. “Pass” or “p” must be noted on the record of a student who passes a GRAD under standard conditions or with an accommodation.
6. “Pass” or “p” must also be noted on the record of a student who passes a GRAD with a modification established in the IEP or Section 504 accommodation plan in accordance with Minn. Rules Part 3501.1190. This notation is also used as a GRAD notation for any other modified or alternate assessment used for accountability purposes for students with disabilities. The records for students passing with an accommodation or a modification or who pass an alternate assessment must not differ from the records of students passing the test under standard conditions.

Legal References:

Minn. Stat. § 13.34 (Examination Data)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.11 (School District Process)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.30 (Statewide Testing and Reporting System)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.36, Subd. 2 (Adequate Yearly Progress)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0010-3501.0180 (Graduation Standards – Mathematics and Reading) ([repealed Minn. L. 2013, Ch. 116, Art. 2, § 22](#))
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0200-3501.0290 (Graduation Standards – Written Composition) ([repealed Minn. L. 2013, Ch. 116, Art. 2, § 22](#))
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.~~0505~~0640-3501.0655 (Academic Standards for Language Arts)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0700-3501.0745 (Academic Standards for Mathematics)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0800-3501.0815 (Academic Standards for the Arts)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0900-3501.0955 (Academic Standards in Science)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.1000-3501.1190 (Graduation-Required Assessment for Diploma) ([repealed Minn. L. 2013, Ch. 116, Art. 2, § 22](#))
[Minn. Rules Parts 3501.1300-3501.1345 \(Academic Standards for Social Studies\)](#)
20 U.S.C. § 6301, *et seq.* (No Child Left Behind Act)

Cross References:

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 601 (School District Curriculum and Instruction Goals)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 613 (Graduation Requirements)

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 615 (Testing Accommodations, Modifications, and Exemptions for IEPs, Section 504 Plans, and LEP Students)

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 616 (School District System Accountability)

**JORDAN DISTRICT SCHOOLS
POLICY**

Adopted: September 12, 2007

Revised:

618 ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to institute a process for the establishment and revision of assessments to be used to determine how well students have achieved the Graduation Standards.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The school district has established a procedure by which students shall complete the Graduation Standards. This procedure includes the adoption of performance assessment methods to be used in measuring student performance. The school district strives to continually enhance student achievement of the Graduation Standards.

III. DEFINITIONS

- A. "Benchmark" means the academic knowledge and skills students must achieve at each grade level or high school level to satisfactorily complete a state standard.
- B. "Elective standards" are the academic standards adopted by the school district in the subject areas of vocational and technical education and world languages.
- C. "Performance assessment" means any assessment method that will measure demonstrated student performance of the specifications of a content standard.

IV. ESTABLISHMENT OF CRITERIA FOR ASSESSMENT

- A. The Director of Curriculum and Instruction shall establish criteria by which student performance of the Graduation Standards and elective standards are to be evaluated.
- B. The superintendent shall ensure that students and parents or guardians are provided with notice of the process by which program Graduation Standards will be assessed.
- C. Staff members will be expected to utilize staff development opportunities to the extent necessary to ensure effective implementation and continued improvement of the Minnesota Academic Standards.

V. STANDARDS FOR MINNESOTA ACADEMIC STANDARDS PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENTS

A. Benchmarks

The school district will offer academic knowledge and skills to allow students to satisfactorily complete a state standard by the use of grade level or high school level benchmarks. These benchmarks will be used by the school district and its staff in developing tests to measure student academic knowledge and skills.

B. Local Assessments

Locally selected assessments are expected to provide opportunities for students to demonstrate their achievement of the elective standards or other locally adopted standards. Scoring criteria for performance assessment of elective or other locally adopted standards include:

Individual Teacher Tools; Testing; Reports; Portfolios; Group Projects; Authentic Assessments, and other methods deemed appropriate.

C. Statewide Academic Standards Testing

1. Commencing with the 2005-2006 school year and later, the school district will utilize state constructed tests developed from and aligned with the state's required academic standards as these tests become available. If a state assessment is not available, the school district will determine if a student has met the required academic standards through locally developed assessments.
2. The school district will administer annually, in accordance with the process determined by the Department, the state-constructed tests (MCA's) to all students in grades three through eight and at the high school level as follows:
 - a. annual language arts and mathematics assessments in grades 3 through 8 and at the high school level for the 2005-2006 school year and later; and
 - b. annual science assessments in one grade in the grades three through five span, the grades six through nine span, and a life science assessment in the grades ten through twelve span for the 2007-2009 school year and later.
3. The school district will develop and administer locally constructed tests in social studies, health and physical education, and the arts to determine if a student has met the required academic standards in these areas.

4. Students incapable of taking the statewide or locally constructed tests, as determined by the student's individualized education program team, or students with limited English proficiency who have been in the United States for fewer than three years, shall be exempt from statewide and local testing with the approval of the student's parent or guardian. The school district will report student exemptions to the Department consistent with the format provided by the Department. Alternative assessments shall be provided to students exempt from the statewide tests.
5. The school district may use a student's performance on a statewide assessment as one of the multiple criteria to determine grade promotion or retention. The school district also may use a high school student's performance on a statewide assessment as a percentage of the student's final grade in a course, or place a student's assessment score on the student's transcript.

D. Rigorous Course of Study Waiver

1. Upon receiving a student's application signed by the student's parent or guardian, the school district must declare that a student meets or exceeds a specific academic standard required for graduation if the school board determines that the student:
 - a. is participating in a course of study, including an advanced placement or international baccalaureate course or program; a learning opportunity outside the curriculum of the school district; or an approved preparatory program for employment or post-secondary education that is equally or more rigorous than the corresponding state or local academic standard required by the school district;
 - b. would be precluded from participating in the rigorous course of study, learning opportunity, or preparatory employment or post-secondary education program if the student were required to achieve the academic standard to be waived; and
 - c. satisfactorily completes the requirements for the rigorous course of study, learning opportunity, or preparatory employment or post-secondary education program.
2. The school board also may formally determine other circumstances in which to declare that a student meets or exceeds a specific academic standard that the site requires for graduation under this section.
3. A student who satisfactorily completes a post-secondary enrollment options course or program is not required to complete other requirements of the academic standards corresponding to that specific rigorous course of study.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 120B.02 (Educational Expectations for Minnesota’s Students)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.11 (School District Process)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.021 (Required Academic Standards)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.022 (Elective Standards)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.023 (Benchmarks)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.30 (Statewide Testing and Reporting System)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0010-3501.0180 (Rules relating to Graduation Standards – Mathematics and Reading)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0200-3501.0290 (Rules relating to Graduation Standards – Written Composition)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0505-3501.0635 (K-12 Standards)
20 U.S.C. § 6301, *et seq.* (No Child Left Behind Act)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 104 (School District Mission Statement)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 601 (School District Curriculum and Instruction Goals)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 613 (Graduation Requirements)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 614 (School District Testing Plan and Procedure)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 615 (Testing Accommodations, Modifications, and Exemptions for IEPs, Section 504 Plans, and LEP Students)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 616 (School District System Accountability)

Adopted: _____

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 618

Orig. 1998

Revised: _____

Rev. ~~2011~~ 2013

618 ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

[Note: With the repeal of the Profile of Learning, school districts no longer are required to assess student achievement in accordance with Section V. of this policy. School districts which retain any portion of the Profile of Learning graduation requirements, however, may choose to retain all or a portion of Section V. of this policy and may implement and manage the Profile of Learning content standards in whatever manner they deem appropriate.]

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to institute a process for the establishment and revision of assessments to be used to determine how well students have achieved the Graduation Standards.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The school district has established a procedure by which students shall complete the Graduation Standards. This procedure includes the adoption of performance assessment methods to be used in measuring student performance. The school district strives to continually enhance student achievement of the Graduation Standards.

III. DEFINITIONS

- A. ~~“Graduation required assessment for diploma” or “GRAD” means the assessment that measures the reading, writing, and mathematics proficiency of high school students. “Above-grade level” test items contain subject area content that is above the grade level of the student taking the assessment and is considered aligned with state academic standards to the extent it is aligned with content represented in state academic standards above the grade level of the student taking the assessment. Notwithstanding the student’s grade level, administering above-grade level test items to a student does not violate the requirement that state assessments must be aligned with state standards.~~
- B. ~~“Academic standard” means a summary description of student learning in a required content area or elective content area.~~
- C. ~~“Below-grade level” test items contain subject area content that is below the grade level of the student taking the test and is considered aligned with state academic standards to the extent it is aligned with content represented in state academic standards below the student’s current grade level. Notwithstanding the student’s grade level, administering below-grade level test items to a student does not violate the requirement that state assessments must be aligned with state~~

standards.

- ~~B D.~~ “Benchmark” means the academic specific knowledge and or skills that a students must achieve at master to complete part of an academic standard by the end of the grade level or grade band ~~each grade level or high school level to satisfactorily complete a state standard.~~
- ~~E.~~ “Computer-adaptive assessments” means fully adaptive assessments.
- ~~E F.~~ “Elective standards” ~~are the academic standards adopted by the school district in the subject areas of vocational and technical education and world languages~~ means a locally adopted expectation for student learning in career and technical education and world languages.
- ~~D G.~~ “Exemplar” means an actual example of student work on a performance assessment determined to represent student performance that earns a score of “3” or “4” in accordance with the rubric as defined in item “F.” *[Note: School districts that have eliminated the Profile of Learning content standards as part of their curriculum should delete this definition.]*
- ~~H.~~ “Fully adaptive assessments” include on-grade level test items and items that may be above or below a student’s grade level. [Note: Fully adaptive mathematics and reading assessments must be used for grades 3 through 7 beginning in the 2015-2016 school year and later.]
- ~~I.~~ “On-grade level” test items contain subject area content that is aligned to state academic standards for the grade level of the student taking the assessment.
- ~~E J.~~ “Performance assessment” means any assessment method that will measure demonstrated student performance of the specifications of a content standard. *[Note: School districts that have eliminated the Profile of Learning content standards as part of their curriculum should delete this definition.]*
- ~~F K.~~ “Profile of Learning” refers to the graduation content standards previously required by state law which the school district has retained as part of its locally established graduation requirements. *[Note: School districts that have eliminated the Profile of Learning content standards as part of their curriculum should delete this definition.]*
- ~~L.~~ “Required standard” means a statewide adopted expectation for student learning in the content areas of language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, physical education, and the arts, or a locally adopted expectation for student learning in health or the arts.
- ~~G M.~~ “Rubric” means the criteria set by the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) that must be used by a district to score student work that meets the specifications of a content standard.

- H.N.** “Specifications” means what a student must know and be able to do to complete a Profile of Learning content standard. *[Note: School districts that have eliminated the Profile of Learning content standards as part of their curriculum should delete this definition.]*

IV. ESTABLISHMENT OF CRITERIA FOR ASSESSMENT

- A. The *[school board/superintendent/director of instruction]* shall establish criteria by which student performance of the Profile of Learning or other locally adopted Graduation Standards and elective standards are to be evaluated and approved. The criteria will be submitted to the school board for approval. Upon approval by the school board, the criteria shall be deemed part of this policy. *[Note: School districts that have eliminated the Profile of Learning content standards as part of their curriculum should delete the reference to the Profile of Learning.]*
- B. The superintendent shall ensure that students and parents or guardians are provided with notice of the process by which program Graduation Standards will be assessed.
- C. Staff members will be expected to utilize staff development opportunities to the extent necessary to ensure effective implementation and continued improvement of the implementation of the Profile of Learning Graduation Standards at all levels and/or transition to assessments under the Minnesota Academic Standards. *[Note: School districts that have eliminated the Profile of Learning content standards as part of their curriculum should delete the reference to the Profile of Learning.]*

V. STANDARDS FOR PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENTS

- A. Performance assessments are expected to provide opportunities for students to demonstrate their achievement of the Profile of Learning Graduation Standards. *[Note: School districts that have eliminated the Profile of Learning content standards as part of their curriculum should delete the reference to the Profile of Learning.]*

Scoring criteria for performance assessment include:

1. A score of “4,” that signifies student work that meets or exceeds the rubric for the score of “4”;
2. A score of “3,” that signifies student work that meets the rubric for the score of “3”;
3. A score of “2,” that signifies student work that meets the rubric for the score of “2”;
4. A score of “1,” that signifies student work that meets the rubric for the score of “1”;

5. A score of “0,” that signifies incomplete work on the specifications of a content standard;
 6. Incomplete student work receiving a score of “0” does not complete a content standard.
 7. When a student, under provisions of an individualized education program (IEP) or Section 504 accommodation plan, completes the specifications of a modified content standard as determined in the student’s plan, the school district shall record the score as “pass-individual”;
 8. When a student’s IEP or Section 504 accommodation plan exempts the student from a content standard, the school district shall record “exempt” for that content standard;
 9. When an LEP student, under the provisions of an LEP individual graduation plan completes the specifications of a modified content standard, the school district shall record the score as “pass-LEP”; and
 10. When an LEP student, under the provisions of an individual graduation plan, completes all specifications of a content standard solely in a language other than English, except for work in learning area ten, the school district shall record the score as “pass-LEP.”
- B. The school district may use one or more assessment methods to measure student performance on one or more content standards.
- C. The grade level of a student shall not prohibit a student from receiving the highest state exemplar score upon completion of a content standard. A student may receive a score of “0” that signifies incomplete student work on a standard. The assessment of the content standard must be included as part of the students grade for a subject or course.
- D. The school district will convene an annual meeting of selected teachers and administrators to review performance assessments used to measure student performance. Recommendations and comments regarding the procedures for assessment of student achievement will be submitted to the District Curriculum Coordinator for review.

VI. STANDARDS FOR MINNESOTA ACADEMIC STANDARDS PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENTS

A. Benchmarks

The school district will offer ~~academic knowledge and skills to allow students to satisfactorily complete a state standard by the use of grade level or high school level benchmarks~~ and students must achieve all benchmarks for an academic

standard to satisfactorily complete that state standard. These benchmarks will be used by the school district and its staff in developing tests to measure student academic knowledge and skills.

[School districts are required to formally establish a periodic review cycle for academic standards and related benchmarks in health, world languages, and career and technical education.]

B. Local Assessments

~~Locally selected assessments are expected to provide opportunities for students to demonstrate their achievement of the elective standards or other locally adopted standards. Scoring criteria for performance assessment of elective or other locally adopted standards include:~~

~~*[School districts should insert here the assessments selected by the school board for elective or other locally adopted standards.]*~~

C B. Statewide Academic Standards Testing

1. The school district will utilize state wide assessments ~~constructed tests~~ developed from and aligned with the state's required academic standards as these tests become available to evaluate student progress toward career and college readiness in the context of the state's academic standards. ~~If a state assessment is not available, the school district will determine if a student has met the required academic standards through locally developed assessments.~~
2. The school district will administer annually, in accordance with the process determined by MDE, the state-constructed tests to all students in grades 3 through 8 and at the high school level as follows:
 - a. annual reading and mathematics assessments in grades 3 through 8 ~~and high school reading and mathematics tests;~~
 - b. state-developed grade 8 and high school reading and mathematics tests aligned with state academic standards; and
 - ~~b c.~~ annual science assessments in one grade in the grades 3 through 5 span, the grades 6 through 8 span, and a life science assessment in the grades 9 through 12 span (a passing score on high school science assessments is not a condition of receiving a diploma);~~;~~

~~*[Note: A school district must not offer the GRAD before the grade of its first census administration. Once the test has first been offered to a group of students, the district must continue to offer the GRAD to that group of students at least once a year.]*~~

3. The school district will develop and administer locally constructed tests in social studies, health and physical education, and the arts to determine if a student has met the required academic standards in these areas.
- ~~4. Students for whom the statewide or locally constructed tests are inappropriate, as determined by the student's IEP, or students with limited English proficiency, shall be exempt from or provided appropriate, technically sound accommodations or alternate assessments for statewide and local testing with the approval of the student's parent or guardian.~~
- 5 4. The school district may use a student's performance on a statewide assessment as one of the multiple criteria to determine grade promotion or retention. The school district also may use a high school student's performance on a statewide assessment as a percentage of the student's final grade in a course, or place a student's assessment score on the student's transcript.

~~D.~~ Passing Scores for GRAD

- ~~1. The passing scores of basic skills tests in reading and mathematics are the equivalent of 75 percent correct for students entering grade 9 based on the first uniform test administered in February 1998. Students who have not successfully passed a Minnesota basic skills test by the end of the 2011-2012 school year must pass the GRADs under paragraph VI.D.2. below.~~
- ~~2. For students enrolled in grade 8 in the 2005-2006 school year and later, only the following options shall fulfill students' state graduation test requirements:~~
 - ~~a. for reading and mathematics:~~
 - ~~(1) obtaining an achievement level equivalent to or greater than proficient as determined through a standard setting process on the Minnesota comprehensive assessments in grade 10 for reading and grade 11 for mathematics or achieving a passing score as determined through a standard setting process on the GRAD in grade 10 for reading and grade 11 for mathematics or subsequent retests;~~
 - ~~(2) achieving a passing score as determined through a standard setting process on the state-identified language proficiency test in reading and the mathematics test for English language learners or the GRAD equivalent of those assessments for students designated as English language learners;~~
 - ~~(3) achieving an individual passing score on the GRAD as determined by appropriate state guidelines for students with~~

~~an IEP or Section 504 accommodation plan;~~

- ~~(4) obtaining an achievement level equivalent to or greater than proficient as determined through a standard setting process on the state-identified alternate assessment or assessments in grade 10 for reading and grade 11 for mathematics for students with an IEP; or~~
- ~~(5) achieving an individual passing score on the state-identified alternate assessment or assessments as determined by appropriate state guidelines for students with an IEP; and~~

~~b. for writing:~~

- ~~(1) achieving a passing score on the GRAD;~~
- ~~(2) achieving a passing score as determined through a standard setting process on the state-identified language proficiency test in writing for students designated as English language learners;~~
- ~~(3) achieving an individual passing score on the GRAD as determined by appropriate state guidelines for students with an IEP or Section 504 accommodation plan; or~~
- ~~(4) achieving an individual passing score on the state-identified alternate assessment or assessments as determined by appropriate state guidelines for students with an IEP.~~

~~3. Students enrolled in grade 8 in any school year from the 2005-2006 school year to the 2009-2010 school year who do not pass the mathematics GRAD under paragraph VI.D.2. above, are eligible to receive a high school diploma if they:~~

- ~~a. complete with a passing score or grade all state and local coursework and credits required for graduation by the school board granting the students their diploma;~~
- ~~b. participate in district-prescribed academic remediation in mathematics; and~~
- ~~c. fully participate in at least two retests of the mathematics GRAD test or until they pass the mathematics GRAD test, whichever comes first. A student's current pass status for each subject that has a required graduation assessment must be placed on the student's high school transcript.~~

~~4.5. For students in grade 8 in the 2012-2013 school year and later, The school~~

district must record on the high school transcript a student's progress toward career and college readiness. For other students, this record of progress must be made as soon as practicable. place a student's highest assessment score for each of the following assessments on the student's high school transcript: the mathematics Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment, reading Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment, and writing GRAD, and, when applicable, the mathematics GRAD and reading GRAD. In addition, the school district may include a notation of high achievement on the high school diplomas of those graduating seniors who, according to established school board criteria, demonstrate exemplary academic achievement during high school.

E C. Rigorous Course of Study Waiver

1. Upon receiving a student's application signed by the student's parent or guardian, the school district must declare that a student meets or exceeds a specific academic standard required for graduation if the school board determines that the student:
 - a. is participating in a course of study, including an advanced placement or international baccalaureate course or program; a learning opportunity outside the curriculum of the school district; or an approved preparatory program for employment or post-secondary education that is equally or more rigorous than the corresponding state or local academic standard required by the school district;
 - b. would be precluded from participating in the rigorous course of study, learning opportunity, or preparatory employment or post-secondary education program if the student were required to achieve the academic standard to be waived; and
 - c. satisfactorily completes the requirements for the rigorous course of study, learning opportunity, or preparatory employment or post-secondary education program.
2. The school board also may formally determine other circumstances in which to declare that a student meets or exceeds a specific academic standard that the site requires for graduation under this section.
3. A student who satisfactorily completes a post-secondary enrollment options course or program or an advanced placement or international baccalaureate course or program is not required to complete other requirements of the academic standards corresponding to that specific rigorous course of study.

VII. CAREER EXPLORATION ASSESSMENT

- A. Commencing with the 2014-2015 school year, student assessments, in alignment with state academic standards, shall include career and college readiness benchmarks. Mathematics, reading, and writing assessments for students in grades 8 and 10 must be predictive of a nationally normed assessment for career and college readiness. This nationally recognized assessment must be a college entrance exam and given to students in grade 11. This series of assessments must include a college placement diagnostic exam and contain career exploration elements.
- B. On an annual basis, the school district must use the career exploration elements in these assessments, beginning no later than grade 9, to help students and their families explore and plan for postsecondary education or careers based on the students' interests, aptitudes, and aspirations. The school district must use timely regional labor market information and partnerships, among other resources, to help students and their families successfully develop, pursue, review, and revise an individualized plan for postsecondary education or a career. This process must help increase students' engagement in and connection to school, improve students' knowledge and skills, and deepen students' understanding of career pathways as a sequence of academic and career courses that lead to an industry-recognized credential, an associate's degree, or a bachelor's degree and are available to all students, whatever their interests and career goals.
- C. Students in grade 10 or 11 not yet academically ready for a career or college based on their growth in academic achievement between grades 8 and 10 must take the college placement diagnostic exam before taking the college entrance exam under Section VII.D. Students, their families, the school, and the district can then use the results of the college placement diagnostic exam for targeted instruction, intervention, or remediation and improve students' knowledge and skills in core subjects sufficient for a student to graduate and have a reasonable chance to succeed in a career or college without remediation.
- D. All students, except those eligible for alternative assessments, must be given the college entrance part of these assessments in grade 11. A student under this paragraph who demonstrates attainment of required state academic standards on these assessments, which include career and college readiness benchmarks, is academically ready for a career or college and is encouraged to participate in courses awarding college credit to high school students. Such courses and programs may include sequential courses of study within broad career areas and technical skill assessments that extend beyond course grades.
- E. As appropriate, students through grade 12 must continue to participate in targeted instruction, intervention, or remediation and be encouraged to participate in courses awarding college credit to high school students.
- F. In developing, supporting, and improving students' academic readiness for a career or college, the school district must have a continuum of empirically derived, clearly defined benchmarks focused on students' attainment of knowledge and skills so that students, their parents, and teachers know how well

students must perform to have a reasonable chance to succeed in a career or college without need for postsecondary remediation.

Legal References: [Minn. Stat. § 120B.018 \(Definitions\)](#)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.02 (Educational Expectations for Minnesota’s Students)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.021 (Required Academic Standards)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.022 (Elective Standards)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.023 (Benchmarks)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.11 (School District Process)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.30 (Statewide Testing and Reporting System)
~~Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0010-3501.0180 (Graduation Standards—Mathematics and Reading)~~
~~Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0200-3501.0290 (Graduation Standards—Written Composition)~~
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.~~0505~~[0640](#)-3501.0655 (Academic Standards for Language Arts)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0700-3501.0745 (Academic Standards for Mathematics)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0800-3501.0815 (Academic Standards for the Arts)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0900-3501.0955 (Academic Standards in Science)
~~Minn. Rules Parts 3501.1000-3501.1190 (Graduation Required Assessment for Diploma)~~
[Minn. Rules Parts 3501.1300-3501.1345 \(Academic Standards for Social Studies\)](#)
20 U.S.C. § 6301, *et seq.* (No Child Left Behind Act)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 104 (School District Mission Statement)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 601 (School District Curriculum and Instruction Goals)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 613 (Graduation Requirements)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 614 (School District Testing Plan and Procedure)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 615 (Testing Accommodations, Modifications, and Exemptions for IEPs, Section 504 Plans, and LEP Students)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 616 (School District System Accountability)

**JORDAN DISTRICT SCHOOLS
POLICY 616**

Adopted: September 12, 2007

Revised: February 11, 2013

616 SCHOOL DISTRICT SYSTEM ACCOUNTABILITY

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to focus public education strategies on a process which promotes higher academic achievement for all students and ensures broad-based community participation in decisions regarding the implementation of the Minnesota Academic Standards and the No Child Left Behind Act.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

Implementation of the Minnesota Academic Standards and No Child Left Behind Act will require a new level of accountability for the school district. The school district will establish a system to transition to the graduation requirements of the Minnesota Academic Standards. The school district also will establish a system to review and improve instruction, curriculum, and assessment which will include substantial input by students, parents or guardians, and local community members. The school district will be accountable to the public and the state through annual reporting.

III. DEFINITIONS

- A. “Course credit” is equivalent to a student successfully completing an academic year of study or a student mastering the applicable subject matter as determined by the school district.
- B. “Graduation Standards” means the course credit requirements of Minnesota Academic Standards that school districts must offer and certify that students complete to be eligible for a high school diploma.

IV. ESTABLISHMENT OF GOALS; IMPLEMENTATION; EVALUATION AND REPORTING

- A. School District Goals
 - 1. The school board has established school district-wide goals which provide broad direction for the school district. Incorporated in these goals are the graduation and education standards contained in the Minnesota Academic Standards and the No Child Left Behind Act. The broad goals shall be

reviewed annually and approved by the school board. The school board shall adopt annual goals based on the recommendations of the Advisory Committee for Comprehensive Continuous Improvement of Student Achievement (the “Advisory Committee”).

2. The improvement goals should address recommendations identified through the Advisory Committee process. The school district’s goal setting process will include consideration of individual site goals. School district goals may be developed through an education effectiveness program, an evaluation of student progress committee, or through some other locally determined process.

- B. System for Reviewing All Instruction and Curriculum. Incorporated in the process will be analysis of the school district’s progress toward implementation of the Minnesota Academic Standards.

Jordan Public Schools
Curriculum Review Process and Cycle

Process:

Year One (Review and Analysis)	Year Two (Development and Selection)	Year Three (Implementation)
Task: Form curriculum committee Who: Curriculum Director/ Administrators	Task: Develop standards based curriculum map Who: Curriculum Director/ Committee	Task: Professional Development on new curriculum Who: Curriculum Director/Faculty
Task: Review current practice and data Who: Curriculum Director/ Committee	Task: Select curriculum Who: Curriculum Committee	Task: Implement new curriculum Who: Faculty
Task: Review standards/best practice research Who: Curriculum Director/ Committee	Task: Report to Board on Result Who: Curriculum Director/Comm	Task: Review and evaluate implementation Who: Curriculum Director/ Committee

Cycle:

School Year	Review/Analysis	Development/Selection	Implementation
2010-2011	Science	Math	
2011-2012	Reading and Language Arts Foreign Language	Science	Math
2012-2013	Social Studies Career/Tech Education	Reading and Language Arts Foreign Language	Science
2013-2014	Art Music Phy Ed and Health	Social Studies Career/Tech Education	Reading and Language Arts Foreign Language
2014-2015	Math	Art Music Phy Ed and Health	Social Studies Career/Tech Education

- C. Implementation of Graduation Requirements

1. The school board shall appoint a Graduation Standards Implementation

Committee which shall advise the school board on implementation of the state and local graduation requirements, including K-12 curriculum, assessment, student learning opportunities, and other related issues. Recommendations of this committee shall be published annually to the community. The school board shall receive public input and comment and shall adopt or update this policy at least annually. The Graduation Standards Implementation Committee will be comprised of the Advisory Committee for Comprehensive Continuous Improvement of Student Achievement.

2. The school board shall annually review and determine if student achievement levels at each school site meet federal expectations. If the school board determines that student achievement levels at a school site do not meet federal expectations and the site has not made adequate yearly progress for two consecutive school years, the Graduation Standards Implementation Committee shall work with the school site to adopt a plan to raise student achievement levels to meet federal expectations. The Graduation Standards Implementation Committee may seek assistance from the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) (the Commissioner) in developing a plan which must include parental involvement components.
3. The educational assessment system component utilized by the school board to measure individual students' educational progress must be based, to the extent annual tests are administered, on indicators of achievement growth that show an individual student's prior achievement. Indicators of achievement and prior achievement must be based on highly reliable statewide or district-wide assessments. The school board will utilize models developed by the Commissioner for measuring individual student progress. The school board must coordinate with MDE in evaluating school sites and continuous improvement plans, consistent with best practices.

D. Advisory Committee for Comprehensive Continuous Improvement of Student Achievement

1. By October 15th of each year, the Advisory Committee will meet to advise and assist the school district in the implementation of the school district system accountability and comprehensive continuous improvement process.
2. The Advisory Committee, working in cooperation with other committees of the school district [such as the Technology, Educational Effectiveness, Grade Level, Site Instruction, Curriculum and Assessment Committees, etc.], will provide active community participation in:

- a. Reviewing the school district instructional and curriculum plan, with emphasis on implementing the Minnesota Graduation Standards;
 - b. Identifying annual instruction and curriculum improvement goals for recommendation to the school board;
 - c. Making recommendations regarding the evaluation process that will be used to measure school district progress toward its goals;
 - d. Making recommendations regarding the development of the “Annual Report on Curriculum, Instruction, and Student Achievement.”
3. The Advisory Committee shall meet the following criteria:
- a. The Advisory Committee shall ensure active community participation in all planning for instruction and curriculum affecting Graduation Standards.
 - b. The Advisory Committee shall make recommendations to the school board on school district-wide standards, assessments, and program evaluation.
 - c. Building teams may be established as subcommittees to develop and implement an education effectiveness plan and to carry out methods to improve instruction, curriculum, and assessments as well as methods to use technology in meeting the school district improvement plan.
 - d. A local plan to evaluate student progress, using a local process, shall be used for developing a plan for assessment of student progress toward the Graduation Standards, as well as program evaluation data for use by the Jordan District Advisory Committee in the instruction and curriculum review process. This plan shall annually be approved by the school board.
4. The Jordan District Advisory Committee shall, when possible, be comprised of two-thirds community representatives and shall reflect the diversity of the community. Membership shall include: parents and community members, school board member(s), the Director of Curriculum and Instruction, and staff and district administrators (as needed).
5. The Jordan District Advisory Committee shall perform the following functions each year:

- a) Organizational meeting of the Committee to review the authorizing legislation and the roles and responsibilities of the Committee as determined by the school board.
 - b) Agree on the process to be used. Become familiar with the instruction and curriculum of the cycle content area.
 - c) Review evaluation results and prepare recommendations.
 - d) Present recommendations to the school board for its input and approval.
 - e) Provide direction to and review “Annual Report on Curriculum, Instruction and Student Achievement.”
- E. Evaluation of Student Progress Committee. A committee of professional staff shall develop a plan for assessment of student progress toward the Graduation Standards, as well as program evaluation data for use by the Jordan District Advisory Committee in the instruction and curriculum review process. This plan shall annually be approved by the school board.
- F. Educational Planning and Assessment System. The school district may elect to participate in the Educational Planning and Assessment System (EPAS) program offered by ACT, Inc., to provide a longitudinal, systematic approach to student educational and career planning, assessment, instructional support, and evaluation.
- G. Reporting. An “Annual Report on Curriculum, Instruction and Student Achievement” shall be approved by the school board by October 1 or as soon as the State releases the data of each year. The school board shall publish a summary of the report in the local newspaper with the largest circulation in the district, by mail, or by electronic means such as the school district website. If electronic means are used, the school district must publish notice of the report in a periodical of general circulation in the school district. The school district must make copies of the report available to the public on request. A copy shall be sent to the Commissioner by October 15 of each year. The public report shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
- 1. Student achievement goals for meeting the Minnesota Academic Standards;
 - 2. Result of local assessment data and any additional test data, including all data required by Minn. Rules Part 3501.0160;
 - 3. School district improvement plans including staff development goals;

4. Progress on previous improvement plans;
5. Amount and type of revenue attributed to each educational site as defined in Minn. Stat. § 123B.04;
6. Names of Jordan District Advisory Committee members, dates their terms expire, method of selection, and application dates;
7. Periodic reports on constituencies' satisfaction with schools;
8. Biennial evaluations of the school district testing programs according to the following:
 - a. written objectives of the assessment program;
 - b. names of tests and grade levels tested;
 - c. use of test results; and
 - d. student achievement results compared to previous years.

Legal References:

Minn. Stat. § 120B.02 (Educational Expectations for Minnesota's Students)
 Minn. Stat. § 120B.11 (School District Process)
 Minn. Stat. § 120B.35 (Student Achievement Levels)
 Minn. Stat. § 123B.04 (Site Decision Making Agreement)
 Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0010-3501.0180 (Graduation Standards - Mathematics and Reading)
 Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0200-3501.0290 (Graduation Standards - Written Composition)
 Minn. Rules Part 3501.0160 (District Reporting Requirements)
 Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0505-3501.0655 (Academic Standards for Language Arts)
 Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0700-3501.0745 (Academic Standards for Mathematics)
 Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0800-3501.0815 (Academic Standards for the Arts)
 Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0900-3501.0955 (Academic Standards in Science)
 Minn. Rules Parts 3501.1000-3501.1190 (Graduation-Required Assessment for Diploma)
 20 U.S.C. § 6301, *et seq.* (No Child Left Behind Act)

Cross References:

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 104 (School District Mission Statement)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 601 (School District Curriculum and Instruction Goals)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 613 (Graduation Requirements)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 614 (School District Testing Plan and Procedure)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 615 (Testing Accommodations, Modifications, and Exemptions for IEPs, Section 504 Plans, and LEP Students)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 617 (School District Ensurance of Preparatory and High School Standards)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 618 (Assessment of Student Achievement)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 619 (Staff Development for Standards)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 620 (Credit for Learning)

Adopted: _____

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 616

Orig. 1997

Revised: _____

Rev. ~~2009~~ 2013

616 SCHOOL DISTRICT SYSTEM ACCOUNTABILITY

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

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to focus public education strategies on a process which promotes higher academic achievement for all students and ensures broad-based community participation in decisions regarding the implementation of the Minnesota Academic Standards and the No Child Left Behind Act.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

Implementation of the Minnesota Academic Standards and No Child Left Behind Act will require a new level of accountability for the school district. The school district will establish a system to transition to the graduation requirements of the Minnesota Academic Standards. The school district also will establish a system to review and improve instruction, curriculum, and assessment which will include substantial input by students, parents or guardians, and local community members. The school district will be accountable to the public and the state through annual reporting.

III. DEFINITIONS

- A. ~~“Course credit Credit” is equivalent to~~ means a student’s ~~successfully completing successful completion of~~ an academic year of study or a student’s ~~mastering mastery of~~ the applicable subject matter, as determined by the school district.
- B. “Graduation Standards” means the ~~course~~ credit requirements and Profile of Learning content standards or Minnesota Academic Standards that school districts must offer and certify that students complete to be eligible for a high school diploma.
- C. “Profile of Learning” means content standards formerly required for a high school diploma.

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

IV. ESTABLISHMENT OF GOALS; IMPLEMENTATION; EVALUATION AND REPORTING

A. School District Goals

1. The school board has established school district-wide goals which provide broad direction for the school district. Incorporated in these goals are the graduation and education standards contained in the Minnesota Academic Standards and the No Child Left Behind Act. The broad goals shall be reviewed annually and approved by the school board. The school board shall adopt annual goals based on the recommendations of the Advisory Committee for Comprehensive Continuous Improvement of Student Achievement (Advisory Committee).
2. The improvement goals should address recommendations identified through the Advisory Committee process. The school district’s goal setting process will include consideration of individual site goals. School district goals may be developed through an education effectiveness program, an evaluation of student progress committee, or through some other locally determined process.

- B. System for Reviewing All Instruction and Curriculum.** Incorporated in the process will be analysis of the school district’s progress toward implementation of the Minnesota Academic Standards. Instruction and curriculum shall be reviewed and evaluated by taking into account strategies and best practices, student outcomes, principal evaluations under Minn. Stat. § 123B.147, Subd. 3, and teacher evaluations under Minn. Stat. § 122A.40, Subd. 8, or 122A.41, Subd. 5.

[Insert Local Cycle in this space]

C. Implementation of Graduation Requirements

1. The school board shall appoint a Graduation Standards Implementation Committee which shall advise the school board on implementation of the state and local graduation requirements, including K-12 curriculum, assessment, student learning opportunities, and other related issues. Recommendations of this committee shall be published annually to the community. The school board shall receive public input and comment and shall adopt or update this policy at least annually. The Graduation

Standards Implementation Committee *[will/will not]* be comprised of the Advisory Committee for Comprehensive Continuous Improvement of Student Achievement.

[Note: The Graduation Standards Implementation Committee may be comprised of an existing committee such as the Advisory Committee for Comprehensive Continuous Improvement of Student Achievements. Regardless of whether a new committee or an existing committee is utilized, the committee should be comprised of representatives of the community, including equal representation from school board members, students, parents, teachers, representatives of local businesses, and representatives of the community at large. Among these members should be individuals who are able to represent the needs of students throughout the district including students with special needs.]

2. The school board shall annually review and determine if student achievement levels at each school site meet federal expectations. If the school board determines that student achievement levels at a school site do not meet federal expectations and the site has not made adequate yearly progress for two consecutive school years, the Graduation Standards Implementation Committee shall work with the school site to adopt a plan to raise student achievement levels to meet federal expectations. The Graduation Standards Implementation Committee may seek assistance from the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) (Commissioner) in developing a plan which must include parental involvement components.
3. The educational assessment system component utilized by the school board to measure individual students' educational progress must be based, to the extent annual tests are administered, on indicators of achievement growth that show an individual student's prior achievement. Indicators of achievement and prior achievement must be based on highly reliable statewide or districtwide assessments. The school board will utilize models developed by the Commissioner for measuring individual student progress. The school board must coordinate with MDE in evaluating school sites and continuous improvement plans, consistent with best practices.

D. Advisory Committee for Comprehensive Continuous Improvement of Student Achievement

1. By [date] of each year, the Advisory Committee will meet to advise and assist the school district in the implementation of the school district system accountability and comprehensive continuous improvement process.

2. The Advisory Committee, working in cooperation with other committees of the school district [*such as the Technology, Educational Effectiveness, Grade Level, Site Instruction, Curriculum and Assessment Committees, etc.*], will provide active community participation in:
 - a. Reviewing the school district instructional and curriculum plan, with emphasis on implementing the Minnesota Graduation Standards;
 - b. Identifying annual instruction and curriculum improvement goals for recommendation to the school board;
 - c. Making recommendations regarding the evaluation process that will be used to measure school district progress toward its goals;
 - d. ~~Making recommendations regarding the development of the “Annual Report on Curriculum, Instruction, and Student Achievement.”~~ Advising the school board about development of the annual budget.

3. The Advisory Committee shall meet the following criteria:
 - a. The Advisory Committee shall ensure active community participation in all planning for instruction and curriculum affecting Graduation Standards.
 - b. The Advisory Committee shall make recommendations to the school board on school district-wide standards, assessments, and program evaluation.
 - c. Building teams may be established as subcommittees to develop and implement an education effectiveness plan and to carry out methods to improve instruction, curriculum, and assessments as well as methods to use technology in meeting the school district improvement plan.
 - d. A local plan to evaluate student progress, using a local process, shall be used for developing a plan for assessment of student progress toward the Graduation Standards, as well as program evaluation data for use by the Advisory Committee in the instruction and curriculum review process. This plan shall annually be approved by the school board.

4. The Advisory Committee shall, when possible, be comprised of two-thirds community representatives and shall reflect the diversity of the community. Included in its membership should be:

- a. The Director of Curriculum (or similar educational leader)
- b. Principal
- c. School Board Member
- d. Student Representative
- e. One teacher from each building or instructional level
- f. Two parents from each building or instructional level
- g. Two residents without school-aged children, non-representative of local business or industry
- h. Two residents representative of local business or industry
- i. School District Test Administrator (if different from “a.” above)

[Note: This Advisory Committee composition is a model only.]

- 5. The Advisory Committee shall meet the following timeline each year:

Month: Organizational meeting of the Committee to review the authorizing legislation and the roles and responsibilities of the Committee as determined by the school board.

Month(s): Agree on the process to be used. Become familiar with the instruction and curriculum of the cycle content area.

Month(s): Review evaluation results and prepare recommendations.

Month: Present recommendations to the school board for its input and approval.

~~Month: Provide direction to and review “Annual Report on Curriculum, Instruction and Student Achievement.”~~

- E. Evaluation of Student Progress Committee. A committee of professional staff shall develop a plan for assessment of student progress toward the Graduation Standards, as well as program evaluation data for use by the Advisory Committee in the instruction and curriculum review process. This plan shall annually be approved by the school board.

- F. Educational Planning and Assessment System. The school district may elect to

participate in the Educational Planning and Assessment System (EPAS) program offered by ACT, Inc., to provide a longitudinal, systematic approach to student educational and career planning, assessment, instructional support, and evaluation.

G. ~~Reporting. An “Annual Report on Curriculum, Instruction and Student Achievement” shall be approved by the school board by October 1 of each year. The~~ Consistent with Minn. Stat. § 120B.36, Subd. 1, the school board shall publish a ~~summary of the~~ report in the local newspaper with the largest circulation in the district, by mail, or by electronic means ~~such as~~ on the school district website. The school board shall hold an annual public meeting to review and revise, where appropriate, student achievement goals, local assessment outcomes, plans, strategies, and practices for improving curriculum and instruction, and to review school district success in realizing the previously adopted student achievement goals and related benchmarks and the improvement plans leading to the world’s best workforce. The school board must transmit an electronic summary of its report to the Commissioner in the form and manner the Commissioner determines. The school district shall periodically survey affected constituencies about their connection to and level of satisfaction with school. The school district shall include the results of this evaluation in its summary report to the Commissioner. If electronic means are used, the school district must publish notice of the report in a periodical of general circulation in the school district. The school district must make copies of the report available to the public on request. A copy shall be sent to the Commissioner by October 15 of each year. The public report shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- ~~1. Student achievement goals for meeting the Minnesota Academic Standards;~~
- ~~2. Result of local assessment data and any additional test data, including all data required by Minn. Rules Part 3501.0160;~~
- ~~3. School district improvement plans including staff development goals;~~
- ~~4. Progress on previous improvement plans;~~
- ~~5. Amount and type of revenue attributed to each educational site as defined in Minn. Stat. § 123B.04;~~
- ~~6. Names of Advisory Committee members, dates their terms expire, method of selection, and application dates;~~
- ~~7. Periodic reports on constituencies’ satisfaction with schools;~~
- ~~8. Biennial evaluations of the school district testing programs according to the following:~~

- a. ~~written objectives of the assessment program;~~
- b. ~~names of tests and grade levels tested;~~
- c. ~~use of test results; and~~
- d. ~~student achievement results compared to previous years.~~

Legal References:

Minn. Stat. § 120B.02 (Educational Expectations for Minnesota’s Students)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.018 (Definitions)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.11 (School District Process)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.128 (Educational Planning and Assessment System (EPAS) Program)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.35 (Student Achievement Levels)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.36 (School Accountability; Appeals Process)
Minn. Stat. § 122A.40, Subd. 8 (Employment; Contracts; Termination)
Minn. Stat. § 122A.41, Subd. 5 (Teacher Tenure Act; Cities of the First Class; Definitions)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.04 (Site Decision Making Agreement)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.147, Subd. 3 (Principals)
~~Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0010-3501.0180 (Graduation Standards—Mathematics and Reading)~~
~~Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0200-3501.0290 (Graduation Standards—Written Composition)~~
~~Minn. Rules Part 3501.0160 (District Reporting Requirements)~~
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.05050640-3501.0655 (Academic Standards for Language Arts)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0700-3501.0745 (Academic Standards for Mathematics)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0800-3501.0815 (Academic Standards for the Arts)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0900-3501.0955 (Academic Standards in Science)
~~Minn. Rules Parts 3501.1000-3501.1190 (Graduation Required Assessment for Diploma)~~
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.1300-3501.1345 (Academic Standards for Social Studies)
20 U.S.C. § 6301, *et seq.* (No Child Left Behind Act)

Cross References:

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 104 (School District Mission Statement)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 601 (School District Curriculum and Instruction Goals)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 613 (Graduation Requirements)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 614 (School District Testing Plan and

Procedure)

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 615 (Testing Accommodations, Modifications, and Exemptions for IEPs, Section 504 Plans, and LEP Students)

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 617 (School District Ensurance of Preparatory and High School Standards)

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 618 (Assessment of Student Achievement)

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 619 (Staff Development for Standards)

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 620 (Credit for Learning)

JORDAN DISTRICT SCHOOLS POLICY

Adopted: July 9, 2012

Reviewed: November 19, 2012

506 STUDENT DISCIPLINE

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that students are aware of and comply with the school district's expectations for student conduct. Such compliance will enhance the school district's ability to maintain discipline and ensure that there is no interference with the educational process. The school district will take appropriate disciplinary action when students fail to adhere to the Code of Student Conduct established by this policy.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The school board recognizes that individual responsibility and mutual respect are essential components of the educational process. The school board further recognizes that nurturing the maturity of each student is of primary importance and is closely linked with the balance that must be maintained between authority and self-discipline as the individual progresses from a child's dependence on authority to the more mature behavior of self-control.

All students are entitled to learn and develop in a setting which promotes respect of self, others, and property. Proper positive discipline can only result from an environment which provides options and stresses student self-direction, decision-making, and responsibility. Schools can function effectively only with internal discipline based on mutual understanding of rights and responsibilities.

Students must conduct themselves in an appropriate manner that maintains a climate in which learning can take place. Overall decorum affects student attitudes and influences student behavior. Proper student conduct is necessary to facilitate the education process and to create an atmosphere conducive to high student achievement.

Although this policy emphasizes the development of self-discipline, it is recognized that there are instances when it will be necessary to administer disciplinary measures. The position of the school district is that a fair and equitable district-wide student discipline policy will contribute to the quality of the student's educational experience. This discipline policy is adopted in accordance with and subject to the Minnesota Pupil Fair Dismissal Act, Minn. Stat. §§ 121A.40-121A.56.

In view of the foregoing and in accordance with Minn. Stat. § 121A.55, the school board, with the participation of school district administrators, teachers, employees, students,

parents, community members, and such other individuals and organizations as appropriate, has developed this policy which governs student conduct and applies to all students of the school district.

III. AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

- A. The School Board. The school board holds all school personnel responsible for the maintenance of order within the school district and supports all personnel acting within the framework of this discipline policy.
- B. Superintendent. The superintendent shall establish guidelines and directives to carry out this policy, hold all school personnel, students, and parents responsible for conforming to this policy, and support all school personnel performing their duties within the framework of this policy. The superintendent shall also establish guidelines and directives for using the services of appropriate agencies for assisting students and parents. Any guidelines or directives established to implement this policy shall be submitted to the school board for approval and shall be attached as an addendum to this policy.
- C. Principal. The school principal is given the responsibility and authority to formulate building rules and regulations necessary to enforce this policy, subject to final school board approval. The principal shall give direction and support to all school personnel performing their duties within the framework of this policy. The principal shall consult with parents of students conducting themselves in a manner contrary to the policy. The principal shall also involve other professional employees in the disposition of behavior referrals and shall make use of those agencies appropriate for assisting students and parents. A principal, in exercising his or her lawful authority, may use reasonable force when it is necessary under the circumstances to correct or restrain a student or prevent bodily harm or death to another.
- D. Teachers. All teachers shall be responsible for providing a well-planned teaching/learning environment and shall have primary responsibility for student conduct, with appropriate assistance from the administration. All teachers shall enforce the Code of Student Conduct. In exercising the teacher's lawful authority, a teacher may use reasonable force when it is necessary under the circumstances to correct or restrain a student or prevent bodily harm or death to another.
- E. Other School District Personnel. All school district personnel shall be responsible for contributing to the atmosphere of mutual respect within the school. Their responsibilities relating to student behavior shall be as authorized and directed by the superintendent. A school employee, school bus driver, or other agent of a school district, in exercising his or her lawful authority, may use reasonable force when it is necessary under the circumstances to restrain a student or prevent bodily harm or death to another.
- F. Parents or Legal Guardians. Parents and guardians shall be held responsible for

the behavior of their children as determined by law and community practice. They are expected to cooperate with school authorities and to participate regarding the behavior of their children.

- G. Students. All students shall be held individually responsible for their behavior and for knowing and obeying the Code of Student Conduct and this policy.
- H. Community Members. Members of the community are expected to contribute to the establishment of an atmosphere in which rights and duties are effectively acknowledged and fulfilled.

IV. STUDENT RIGHTS

All students have the right to an education and the right to learn.

V. STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

All students have the responsibility:

- A. For their behavior and for knowing and obeying all school rules, regulations, policies, and procedures;
- B. To attend school daily, except when excused, and to be on time to all classes and other school functions;
- C. To pursue and attempt to complete the courses of study prescribed by the state and local school authorities;
- D. To make necessary arrangements for making up work when absent from school;
- E. To assist the school staff in maintaining a safe school for all students;
- F. To be aware of all school rules, regulations, policies, and procedures, including those in this policy, and to conduct themselves in accord with them;
- G. To assume that until a rule or policy is waived, altered, or repealed, it is in full force and effect;
- H. To be aware of and comply with federal, state, and local laws;
- I. To volunteer information in disciplinary cases should they have any knowledge relating to such cases and to cooperate with school staff as appropriate;
- J. To respect and maintain the school's property and the property of others;
- K. To dress and groom in a manner which meets standards of safety and health and common standards of decency and which is consistent with applicable school district policy;

- L. To avoid inaccuracies in student newspapers or publications and refrain from indecent or obscene language;
- M. To conduct themselves in an appropriate physical or verbal manner; and
- N. To recognize and respect the rights of others.

VI. CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT

- A. The following are examples of unacceptable behavior subject to disciplinary action by the school district. These examples are not intended to be an exclusive list. Any student who engages in any of these activities shall be disciplined in accordance with this policy. This policy applies to all school buildings, school grounds, and school property; school-sponsored activities or trips; school bus stops; school buses, school vehicles, school contracted vehicles, or any other vehicles approved for school district purposes; the area of entrance or departure from school premises or events; and all school-related functions. This policy also applies to any student whose conduct at any time or in any place interferes with or obstructs the mission or operations of the school district or the safety or welfare of the student, other students, or employees.
 - 1. Violations against property including, but not limited to, damage to or destruction of school property or the property of others, failure to compensate for damage or destruction of such property, arson, breaking and entering, theft, robbery, possession of stolen property, extortion, trespassing, unauthorized usage, or vandalism;
 - 2. The use of profanity or obscene language, or the possession of obscene materials;
 - 3. Gambling, including, but not limited to, playing a game of chance for stakes;
 - 4. Violation of the school district's Hazing Prohibition Policy;
 - 5. Attendance problems including, but not limited to, truancy, absenteeism, tardiness, skipping classes, or leaving school grounds without permission;
 - 6. Violation of the school district's Student Attendance Policy;
 - 7. Opposition to authority using physical force or violence;
 - 8. Using, possessing, or distributing tobacco or tobacco paraphernalia;
 - 9. Using, possessing, distributing, intending to distribute, making a request to another person for (solicitation), or being under the influence of alcohol or other intoxicating substances or look-alike substances;

10. Using, possessing, distributing, intending to distribute, making a request to another person for (solicitation), or being under the influence of narcotics, drugs, or other controlled substances, or look-alike substances, except as prescribed by a physician, including one student sharing prescription medication with another student;
11. Using, possessing, or distributing items or articles that are illegal or harmful to persons or property including, but not limited to, drug paraphernalia;
12. Using, possessing, or distributing weapons, or look-alike weapons or other dangerous objects;
13. Violation of the school district's Weapons Policy;
14. Violation of the school district's Violence Prevention Policy;
15. Possession of ammunition including, but not limited to, bullets or other projectiles designed to be used in or as a weapon;
16. Possession, use, or distribution of explosives or any compound or mixture, the primary or common purpose or intended use of which is to function as an explosive;
17. Possession, use, or distribution of fireworks or any substance or combination of substances or article prepared for the purpose of producing a visible or an audible effect by combustion, explosion, deflagration or detonation;
18. Using an ignition device, including a butane or disposable lighter or matches, inside an educational building and under circumstances where there is a risk of fire, except where the device is used in a manner authorized by the school;
19. Violation of any local, state, or federal law as appropriate;
20. Acts disruptive of the educational process, including, but not limited to, disobedience, disruptive or disrespectful behavior, defiance of authority, cheating, insolence, insubordination, failure to identify oneself, improper activation of fire alarms, or bomb threats;
21. Violation of the school district's Internet Acceptable Use and Safety Policy;
22. Possession of nuisance devices or objects which cause distractions and may facilitate cheating including, but not limited to, pagers, radios, and phones, including picture phones;

23. Violation of school bus or transportation rules or the school district's Student Transportation Safety Policy;
24. Violation of parking or school traffic rules and regulations, including, but not limited to, driving on school property in such a manner as to endanger persons or property;
25. Violation of directives or guidelines relating to lockers or improperly gaining access to a school locker;
26. Violation of the school district's Search of Student Lockers, Desks, Personal Possessions, and Student's Person Policy;
27. Violation of the school district's Student Use and Parking of Motor Vehicles; Patrols, Inspections, and Searches Policy;
28. Possession or distribution of slanderous, libelous, or pornographic materials;
29. Violation of the school district' Bullying Prohibition Policy;
30. Student attire or personal grooming which creates a danger to health or safety or creates a disruption to the educational process, including clothing which bears a message which is lewd, vulgar, or obscene, apparel promoting products or activities that are illegal for use by minors, or clothing containing objectionable emblems, signs, words, objects, or pictures communicating a message that is racist, sexist, or otherwise derogatory to a protected minority group or which connotes gang membership;
31. Criminal activity;
32. Falsification of any records, documents, notes, or signatures;
33. Tampering with, changing, or altering records or documents of the school district by any method including, but not limited to, computer access or other electronic means;
34. Scholastic dishonesty which includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a school assignment or test, plagiarism, or collusion, including the use of picture phones or other technology to accomplish this end;
35. Impertinent or disrespectful language toward teachers or other school district personnel;
36. Violation of the school district's Harassment and Violence Policy;

37. Actions, including fighting or any other assaultive behavior, which causes or could cause injury to the student or other persons or which otherwise endangers the health, safety, or welfare of teachers, students, other school district personnel, or other persons;
38. Committing an act which inflicts great bodily harm upon another person, even though accidental or a result of poor judgment;
39. Violations against persons, including, but not limited to, assault or threatened assault, fighting, harassment, interference or obstruction, attack with a weapon, or look-alike weapon, sexual assault, illegal or inappropriate sexual conduct, or indecent exposure;
40. Verbal assaults or verbally abusive behavior including, but not limited to, use of language that is discriminatory, abusive, obscene, threatening, intimidating, or that degrades other people;
41. Physical or verbal threats including, but not limited to, the staging or reporting of dangerous or hazardous situations that do not exist;
42. Inappropriate, abusive, threatening, or demeaning actions based on race, color, creed, religion, sex, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, disability, national origin, or sexual orientation;
43. Violation of the school district's Distribution of Nonschool-Sponsored Materials on School Premises by Students and Employees Policy;
44. Violation of school rules, regulations, policies, or procedures, including, but not limited to, those policies specifically enumerated in this policy;
45. Other acts, as determined by the school district, which are disruptive of the educational process or dangerous or detrimental to the student or other students, school district personnel or surrounding persons, or which violate the rights of others or which damage or endanger the property of the school, or which otherwise interferes with or obstruct the mission or operations of the school district or the safety or welfare of students or employees.

VII. DISCIPLINARY ACTION OPTIONS

The general policy of the school district is to utilize progressive discipline to the extent reasonable and appropriate based upon the specific facts and circumstances of student misconduct. The specific form of discipline chosen in a particular case is solely within the discretion of the school district. At a minimum, violation of school district rules, regulations, policies, or procedures will result in discussion of the violation and a verbal warning. The school district shall, however, impose more severe disciplinary sanctions for any violation, including exclusion or expulsion, if warranted by the student's misconduct, as determined by the school district. Disciplinary action may include, but is

not limited to, one or more of the following:

- A. Student conference with teacher, principal, counselor, or other school district personnel, and verbal warning;
- B. Confiscation by school district personnel and/or by law enforcement of any item, article, object, or thing, prohibited by, or used in the violation of, any school district policy, rule, regulation, procedure, or state or federal law. If confiscated by the school district, the confiscated item, article, object, or thing will be released only to the parent/guardian following the completion of any investigation or disciplinary action instituted or taken related to the violation.
- C. Parent contact;
- D. Parent conference;
- E. Removal from class;
- F. In-school suspension;
- G. Suspension from extracurricular activities;
- H. Detention or restriction of privileges;
- I. Loss of school privileges;
- J. In-school monitoring or revised class schedule;
- K. Referral to in-school support services;
- L. Referral to community resources or outside agency services;
- M. Financial restitution;
- N. Referral to police, other law enforcement agencies, or other appropriate authorities;
- O. A request for a petition to be filed in district court for juvenile delinquency adjudication;
- P. Out-of-school suspension under the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act;
- Q. Preparation of an admission or readmission plan;
- R. Saturday school;
- S. Expulsion under the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act;

- T. Exclusion under the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act; and/or
- U. Other disciplinary action as deemed appropriate by the school district.

VIII. REMOVAL OF STUDENTS FROM CLASS

- A. Teachers have the responsibility of attempting to modify disruptive student behavior by such means as conferring with the student, using positive reinforcement, assigning detention or other consequences, or contacting the student's parents. When such measures fail, or when the teacher determines it is otherwise appropriate based upon the student's conduct, the teacher shall have the authority to remove the student from class pursuant to the procedures established by this discipline policy. "Removal from class" and "removal" mean any actions taken by a teacher, principal, or other school district employee to prohibit a student from attending a class or activity period for a period of time not to exceed five (5) days, pursuant to this discipline policy.

Grounds for removal from class shall include any of the following:

1. Willful conduct that significantly disrupts the rights of others to an education, including conduct that interferes with a teacher's ability to teach or communicate effectively with students in a class or with the ability of other students to learn;
2. Willful conduct that endangers surrounding persons, including school district employees, the student or other students, or the property of the school;
3. Willful violation of any school rules, regulations, policies or procedures, including the Code of Student Conduct in this policy; or
4. Other conduct, which in the discretion of the teacher or administration, requires removal of the student from class.

Such removal shall be for at least one (1) activity period or class period of instruction for a given course of study and shall not exceed five (5) such periods.

- B. If a student is removed from class more than ten (10) times in a school year, the school district shall notify the parent or guardian of the student's tenth removal from class and make reasonable attempts to convene a meeting with the student's parent or guardian to discuss the problem that is causing the student to be removed from class.
- C. Procedures for Removal of a Student From a Class.
 1. Each teacher has the discretion to remove a student for inappropriate behavior as determined by the teacher. Upon asking the student to leave the classroom

and report to the office, the teacher will notify the main office of the name of the student removed.

2. Disciplinary action may be taken as a result of any behavior which is disruptive of good order or which violates the rights of others. The acts set forth in the disciplinary policy are unacceptable and subject to disciplinary action in school buildings, on the school buses, school grounds and at school sponsored activities.
3. Teachers will contact the administration and/or complete appropriate behavior referral form in a timely manner.

D. Responsibility for and Custody of a Student Removed From Class.

1. Each teacher has the discretion to determine how to deal with inappropriate behavior by a student. The teacher may instruct the student to the hallway or the office. If they are sent to the office, the teacher will notify the office staff of the name of the student reporting to the office. When appropriate or necessary, the teacher will contact the office to request an escort.
2. Administrators have broad discretion to determine the consequences based on the minimum and maximum consequences established in the student handbooks. In unusual situations administrators may impose discipline less than the minimum. In the event the student has engaged in the same or similar behavior in the past or has engaged in persistent violation of school rules, the maximum penalties may be increased.

E. Procedures for Return of a Student to a Class From Which the Student Was Removed.

Administrators will take appropriate action for each student removed from class on a case-by-case basis. Such action may include, but is not limited to, warning, student conference, parent conference, detention, or suspension.

F. Procedures for Notification.

Parents will be notified of consequences when students are dismissed from class. Notification may be in the form of a phone call, written communication, or conference.

G. Disabled Students; Special Provisions.

1. Consideration of whether there is a need for further assessment will be determined by the Individual Education Plan (IEP) team members.
2. Consideration of whether there is a need for a review of the adequacy of the current Individual Education Plan (IEP) of a disabled student who is removed from class or disciplined will be determined by the IEP team members.

H. Procedures for Detecting and Addressing Chemical Abuse Problems of Students While on School Premises.

1. A chemical abuse pre-assessment team will be established pursuant to Minn. Stat. 121A.26;
2. A school and community advisory team to address chemical abuse problems in the district will be established pursuant to Minn. Stat. 121A.27;
3. Any teacher or school district employee who knows or has reason to believe that a student is using, possessing, or transferring alcohol or a controlled-substance while on school premises or involved in school, shall immediately notify the building principal.

I. Procedures for Immediate and Appropriate Interventions Tied to Violations of the Code of Student Conduct.

Nothing in this policy shall prohibit the School District from taking immediate action to protect individuals and property from harm. Nor shall this policy be construed to prohibit the School District from expelling students from behavior not specifically set forth if such conduct:

1. Materially and substantially disrupts the rights of others to an education; or
 2. Endangers the student, other students or individuals or property of the school.
- All violations of the Code of Student Conduct will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

J. Any Procedures Determined Appropriate for Encouraging Early Involvement of Parents or Guardians in Attempts to Improve a Student's Behavior.

School district personnel may respond to student misbehavior in a variety of ways in which to involve parents or guardians. They include, but are not limited to, communication of concerns, parent conferences, and mediation.

K. Any Procedures Determined Appropriate for Encouraging Early Detection of Behavioral Problems.

School district personnel may respond to behavioral problems in a variety of ways in attempts to modify the behavior. They include, but are not limited to, verbal warning, one-to-one interaction, written communication to parent, parent conference, detention, referral to administrator, and suspension.

IX. DISMISSAL

- A. "Dismissal" means the denial of the current educational program to any student, including exclusion, expulsion and suspension. Dismissal does not include removal from class.

The school district shall not deny due process or equal protection of the law to any student involved in a dismissal proceeding which may result in suspension, exclusion or expulsion.

The school district shall not dismiss any student without attempting to provide alternative educational services before dismissal proceedings, except where it appears that the student will create an immediate and substantial danger to self or

to surrounding persons or property.

B. Violations leading to suspension, based upon severity, may also be grounds for actions leading to expulsion, and/or exclusion. A student may be dismissed on any of the following grounds:

1. Willful violation of any reasonable school board regulation, including those found in this policy;
2. Willful conduct that significantly disrupts the rights of others to an education, or the ability of school personnel to perform their duties, or school sponsored extracurricular activities; or
3. Willful conduct that endangers the student or other students, or surrounding persons, including school district employees, or property of the school.

C. Suspension Procedures

1. “Suspension” means an action by the school administration, under rules promulgated by the School Board, prohibiting a student from attending school for a period of no more than ten (10) school days; provided, however, if a suspension is longer than five (5) school days, the suspending administrator shall provide the superintendent with a reason for the longer term of suspension. This definition does not apply to dismissal for one (1) school day or less where a student with a disability does not receive regular or special education instruction during that dismissal period.
2. If a student’s total days of removal from school exceed ten (10) cumulative days in a school year, the school district shall make reasonable attempts to convene a meeting with the student and the student’s parent or guardian before subsequently removing the student from school and, with the permission of the parent or guardian, arrange for a mental health screening for the student at the parent or guardian’s expense. The purpose of this meeting is to attempt to determine the pupil’s need for assessment or other services or whether the parent or guardian should have the student assessed or diagnosed to determine whether the student needs treatment for a mental health disorder.
3. Each suspension action may include a readmission plan. The plan shall include, where appropriate, a provision for implementing alternative educational services upon readmission which must not be used to extend the current suspension. A readmission plan must not obligate a parent or guardian to provide psychotropic drugs to their student as a condition of readmission. School administration must not use the refusal of a parent or guardian to consent to the administration of psychotropic drugs to their student or to consent to a psychiatric evaluation, screening, or examination

of the student as a ground, by itself, to prohibit the student from attending class or participating in a school-related activity, or as a basis of a charge of child abuse, child neglect, or medical or educational neglect. The school administration may not impose consecutive suspensions against the same student for the same course of conduct, or incident of misconduct, except where the student will create an immediate and substantial danger to self or to surrounding persons or property or where the school district is in the process of initiating an expulsion, in which case the school administration may extend the suspension to a total of fifteen (15) days.

4. A child with a disability may be suspended. When a child with a disability has been suspended for more than five (5) consecutive days or ten (10) cumulative school days in the same year, and that suspension does not involve a recommendation for expulsion or exclusion or other change in placement under federal law, relevant members of the child's IEP team, including at least one of the child's teachers, shall meet and determine the extent to which the child needs services in order to continue to participate in the general education curriculum, although in another setting, and to progress toward meeting the goals in the child's IEP. That meeting must occur as soon as possible, but no more than ten (10) days after the sixth (6th) consecutive day of suspension or the tenth (10th) cumulative day of suspension has elapsed.
5. The school administration shall implement alternative educational services when the suspension exceeds five (5) days. Alternative educational services may include, but are not limited to, special tutoring, modified curriculum, modified instruction, other modifications or adaptations, instruction through electronic media, special education services as indicated by appropriate assessments, homebound instruction, supervised homework, or enrollment in another district or in an alternative learning center under Minn. Stat. § 123A.05 selected to allow the pupil to progress toward meeting graduation standards under Minn. Stat. § 120B.02, although in a different setting.
6. The school administration shall not suspend a student from school without an informal administrative conference with the student. The informal administrative conference shall take place before the suspension, except where it appears that the student will create an immediate and substantial danger to self or to surrounding persons or property, in which case the conference shall take place as soon as practicable following the suspension. At the informal administrative conference, a school administrator shall notify the student of the grounds for the suspension, provide an explanation of the evidence the authorities have, and the student may present the student's version of the facts. A separate administrative conference is required for each period of suspension.
7. After school administration notifies a student of the grounds for suspension, school administration may, instead of imposing the

suspension, do one or more of the following:

- a. strongly encourage a parent or guardian of the student to attend school with the student for one day;
 - b. assign the student to attend school on Saturday as supervised by the principal or the principal's designee; and
 - c. petition the juvenile court that the student is in need of services under Minn. Stat. Ch. 260C.
8. A written notice containing the grounds for suspension, a brief statement of the facts, a description of the testimony, a readmission plan, and a copy of the Minnesota Pupil Fair Dismissal Act, Minn. Stat. §§ 121A.40-121A.56, shall be personally served upon the student at or before the time the suspension is to take effect, and upon the student's parent or guardian by mail within forty-eight (48) hours of the conference. (See attached sample Notice of Suspension.)
 9. The school administration shall make reasonable efforts to notify the student's parent or guardian of the suspension by telephone as soon as possible following suspension.
 10. In the event a student is suspended without an informal administrative conference on the grounds that the student will create an immediate and substantial danger to surrounding persons or property, the written notice shall be served upon the student and the student's parent or guardian within forty-eight (48) hours of the suspension. Service by mail shall be complete upon mailing.
 11. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, the student may be suspended pending the school board's decision in an expulsion or exclusion proceeding, provided that alternative educational services are implemented to the extent that suspension exceeds five (5) days.

D. Expulsion and Exclusion Procedures

1. "Expulsion" means a school board action to prohibit an enrolled student from further attendance for up to twelve (12) months from the date the student is expelled. The authority to expel rests with the school board.
2. "Exclusion" means an action taken by the school board to prevent enrollment or re-enrollment of a student for a period that shall not extend beyond the school year. The authority to exclude rests with the school board.
3. All expulsion and exclusion proceedings will be held pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of the Minnesota Pupil Fair Dismissal Act,

Minn. Stat. §§121A.40-121A.56.

4. No expulsion or exclusion shall be imposed without a hearing, unless the right to a hearing is waived in writing by the student and parent or guardian.
5. The student and parent or guardian shall be provided written notice of the school district's intent to initiate expulsion or exclusion proceedings. This notice shall be served upon the student and his or her parent or guardian personally or by mail, and shall contain a complete statement of the facts; a list of the witnesses and a description of their testimony; state the date, time and place of hearing; be accompanied by a copy of the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act, Minn. Stat. §§ 121A.40-121A.56; describe alternative educational services accorded the student in an attempt to avoid the expulsion proceedings; and inform the student and parent or guardian of their right to: (1) have a representative of the student's own choosing, including legal counsel at the hearing; (2) examine the student's records before the hearing; (3) present evidence; and (4) confront and cross-examine witnesses. The school district shall advise the student's parent or guardian that free or low-cost legal assistance may be available and that a legal assistance resource list is available from the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE).
6. The hearing shall be scheduled within ten (10) days of the service of the written notice unless an extension, not to exceed five (5) days, is requested for good cause by the school district, student, parent, or guardian.
7. All hearings shall be held at a time and place reasonably convenient to the student, parent, or guardian and shall be closed, unless the student, parent, or guardian requests an open hearing.
8. The school district shall record the hearing proceedings at district expense, and a party may obtain a transcript at its own expense.
9. The student shall have a right to a representative of the student's own choosing, including legal counsel, at the student's sole expense. The school district shall advise the student's parent or guardian that free or low-cost legal assistance may be available and that a legal assistance resource list is available from MDE. The school board may appoint an attorney to represent the school district in any proceeding.
10. If the student designates a representative other than the parent or guardian, the representative must have a written authorization from the student and the parent or guardian providing them with access to and/or copies of the student's records.
11. All expulsion or exclusion hearings shall take place before and be conducted by an independent hearing officer designated by the school

district. The hearing shall be conducted in a fair and impartial manner. Testimony shall be given under oath and the hearing officer shall have the power to issue subpoenas and administer oaths.

12. At a reasonable time prior to the hearing, the student, parent or guardian, or authorized representative shall be given access to all school district records pertaining to the student, including any tests or reports upon which the proposed dismissal action may be based.
13. The student, parent or guardian, or authorized representative, shall have the right to compel the presence of any school district employee or agent or any other person who may have evidence upon which the proposed dismissal action may be based, and to confront and cross-examine any witnesses testifying for the school district.
14. The student, parent or guardian, or authorized representative, shall have the right to present evidence and testimony, including expert psychological or educational testimony.
15. The student cannot be compelled to testify in the dismissal proceedings.
16. The hearing officer shall prepare findings and a recommendation based solely upon substantial evidence presented at the hearing, which must be made to the school board and served upon the parties within two (2) days after the close of the hearing.
17. The school board shall base its decision upon the findings and recommendation of the hearing officer and shall render its decision at a meeting held within five (5) days after receiving the findings and recommendation. The school board may provide the parties with the opportunity to present exceptions and comments to the hearing officer's findings and recommendation provided that neither party presents any evidence not admitted at the hearing. The decision by the school board must be based on the record, must be in writing, and must state the controlling facts on which the decision is made in sufficient detail to apprise the parties and the Commissioner of Education (Commissioner) of the basis and reason for the decision.
18. A party to an expulsion or exclusion decision made by the school board may appeal the decision to the Commissioner within twenty-one (21) calendar days of school board action pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 121A.49. The decision of the school board shall be implemented during the appeal to the Commissioner.
19. The school district shall report any suspension, expulsion or exclusion action taken to the appropriate public service agency, when the student is under the supervision of such agency.

20. The school district must report, through the MDE electronic reporting system, each expulsion or exclusion within thirty (30) days of the effective date of the action to the Commissioner. This report must include a statement of alternative educational services given the student and the reason for, the effective date, and the duration of the exclusion or expulsion. The report must also include the student's age, grade, gender, race, and special education status. The dismissal report must include state student identification numbers of affected students.
21. Whenever a student fails to return to school within ten (10) school days of the termination of dismissal, a school administrator shall inform the student and his/her parent or guardian by mail of the student's right to attend and to be reinstated in the school district.

X. ADMISSION OR READMISSION PLAN

A school administrator shall prepare and enforce an admission or readmission plan for any student who is excluded or expelled from school. The plan may include measures to improve the student's behavior, including completing a character education program consistent with Minn. Stat. § 120B.232, Subd. 1, and require parental involvement in the admission or readmission process, and may indicate the consequences to the student of not improving the student's behavior. The readmission plan must not obligate parents to provide a sympathomimetic medication for their child as a condition of readmission.

XI. NOTIFICATION OF POLICY VIOLATIONS

Notification of any violation of this policy and resulting disciplinary action shall be as provided herein, or as otherwise provided by the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act or other applicable law. The teacher, principal or other school district official may provide additional notification as deemed appropriate.

XII. STUDENT DISCIPLINE RECORDS

The policy of the school district is that complete and accurate student discipline records be maintained. The collection, dissemination, and maintenance of student discipline records shall be consistent with applicable school district policies and federal and state law, including the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minn. Stat. Ch. 13.

XIII. DISABLED STUDENTS

Students who are currently identified as eligible under the IDEA or Section 504 will be subject to the provisions of this policy, unless the student's IEP or 504 plan specifies a necessary modification.

Before initiating an expulsion or exclusion of a student with a disability, relevant members of the child's IEP team and the child's parent shall, consistent with federal law, conduct a manifestation determination and determine whether the child's behavior was (i) caused by or had a direct and substantial relationship to the child's disability and (ii)

whether the child's conduct was a direct result of a failure to implement the child's IEP. If the student's educational program is appropriate and the behavior is not a manifestation of the student's disability, the school district will proceed with discipline – up to and including expulsion – as if the student did not have a disability, unless the student's educational program provides otherwise. If the team determines that the behavior subject to discipline is a manifestation of the student's disability, the team shall conduct a functional behavioral assessment and implement a behavioral intervention plan for such student provided that the school district had not conducted such assessment prior to the manifestation determination before the behavior that resulted in a change of placement. Where a behavioral intervention plan previously has been developed, the team will review the behavioral intervention plan and modify it as necessary to address the behavior.

When a student who has an IEP is excluded or expelled for misbehavior that is not a manifestation of the student's disability, the school district shall continue to provide special education and related services during the period of expulsion or exclusion.

XIV. OPEN ENROLLED STUDENTS

The school district may terminate the enrollment of a nonresident student enrolled under an Enrollment Option Program (Minn. Stat. § 124D.03) or Enrollment in Nonresident District (Minn. Stat. § 124D.08) at the end of a school year if the student meets the definition of a habitual truant, the student has been provided appropriate services for truancy (Minn. Stat. Ch. 260A), and the student's case has been referred to juvenile court. The school district may also terminate the enrollment of a nonresident student over the age of sixteen (16) enrolled under an Enrollment Options Program if the student is absent without lawful excuse for one or more periods on fifteen (15) school days and has not lawfully withdrawn from school.

XV. DISTRIBUTION OF POLICY

The school district will notify students and parents of the existence and contents of this policy in such manner as it deems appropriate. Copies of this discipline policy shall be made available to all students and parents at the commencement of each school year and to all new students and parents upon enrollment. This policy shall also be available upon request in each principal's office.

XVI. REVIEW OF POLICY

The principal and representatives of parents, students and staff in each school building shall confer at least annually to review this discipline policy, determine if the policy is working as intended, and to assess whether the discipline policy has been enforced. Any recommended changes shall be submitted to the superintendent for consideration by the school board, which shall conduct an annual review of this policy.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. Ch. 13 (Minnesota Government Data Practices Act)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.02 (Educational Expectations for Minnesota Students)

Minn. Stat. § 120B.232 (Character Development Education)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.26 (School Preassessment Teams)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.27 (School and Community Advisory Team)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.29 (Reporting; Chemical Abuse)
Minn. Stat. §§ 121A.40-121A.56 (Pupil Fair Dismissal Act)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.575 (Alternatives to Pupil Suspension)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.582 (Reasonable Force)
Minn. Stat. §§ 121A.60-121A.61 (Removal From Class)
Minn. Stat. § 123A.05 (Area Learning Center Organization)
Minn. Stat. § 124D.03 (Enrollment Options Program)
Minn. Stat. § 124D.08 (Enrollment in Nonresident District)
Minn. Stat. Ch.125A (Students With Disabilities)
Minn. Stat. Ch. 260A (Truancy)
Minn. Stat. Ch. 260C (Juvenile Court Act)
20 U.S.C. §§ 1400-1487 (Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004)
29 U.S.C. § 794 *et seq.* (Rehabilitation Act of 1973, § 504)
34 C.F.R. § 300.530(e)(1) (Manifestation Determination)

Cross References:

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 413 (Harassment and Violence)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 501 (School Weapons)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 502 (Search of Student Lockers, Desks, Personal Possessions, and Student's Person)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 503 (Student Attendance)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 505 (Distribution of Nonschool-Sponsored Materials on School Premises by Students and Employees)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 514 (Bullying Prohibition Policy)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 524 (Internet Acceptable Use and Safety Policy)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 525 (Violence Prevention)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 526 (Hazing Prohibition)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 527 (Student Use and Parking of Motor Vehicles; Patrols, Inspections, and Searches)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 610 (Field Trips)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 709 (Student Transportation Safety Policy)

(Sample Form)
NOTICE OF SUSPENSION
(Date)

(Name of Parent or Guardian)
(Address)
(City, State, Zip)

Dear (Parent or Guardian)

(Name of Student) has been suspended from (name of school) for (number of days) commencing on (date).

The grounds for suspension are:

Briefly, the facts that have been determined are:

The testimony received was:

An administrative conference to determine the above was conducted before

_____, at _____ on _____
(Name of Administrator) (Time) (Date)

pursuant to Minn. Stat. §§ 121A.40-121A.56, a copy of which is enclosed.

The plan of readmission is:

Alternative educational services in the form of homework will be available to be picked up at the school after _____ [date] _____.

While suspended, the student may not come on any school campus except with you for the purpose of discussing conduct.

If you have any questions, please call.

Sincerely,

Administrator

Enc: Minn. Stat. §§ 121A.40-121A.56

Adopted: _____

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 506

Orig. 1995

Revised: _____

Rev. 2009

506 STUDENT DISCIPLINE

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

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that students are aware of and comply with the school district's expectations for student conduct. Such compliance will enhance the school district's ability to maintain discipline and ensure that there is no interference with the educational process. The school district will take appropriate disciplinary action when students fail to adhere to the Code of Student Conduct established by this policy.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The school board recognizes that individual responsibility and mutual respect are essential components of the educational process. The school board further recognizes that nurturing the maturity of each student is of primary importance and is closely linked with the balance that must be maintained between authority and self-discipline as the individual progresses from a child's dependence on authority to the more mature behavior of self-control.

All students are entitled to learn and develop in a setting which promotes respect of self, others, and property. Proper positive discipline can only result from an environment which provides options and stresses student self-direction, decision-making, and responsibility. Schools can function effectively only with internal discipline based on mutual understanding of rights and responsibilities.

Students must conduct themselves in an appropriate manner that maintains a climate in which learning can take place. Overall decorum affects student attitudes and influences student behavior. Proper student conduct is necessary to facilitate the education process and to create an atmosphere conducive to high student achievement.

Although this policy emphasizes the development of self-discipline, it is recognized that there are instances when it will be necessary to administer disciplinary measures. The position of the school district is that a fair and equitable district-wide student discipline policy will contribute to the quality of the student's educational experience. This discipline policy is adopted in accordance with and subject to the Minnesota Pupil Fair Dismissal Act, Minn. Stat. §§ 121A.40-121A.56.

In view of the foregoing and in accordance with Minn. Stat. § 121A.55, the school board, with the participation of school district administrators, teachers, employees, students, parents, community members, and such other individuals and organizations as appropriate, has developed this policy which governs student conduct and applies to all

students of the school district.

III. AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

- A. The School Board. The school board holds all school personnel responsible for the maintenance of order within the school district and supports all personnel acting within the framework of this discipline policy.
- B. Superintendent. The superintendent shall establish guidelines and directives to carry out this policy, hold all school personnel, students, and parents responsible for conforming to this policy, and support all school personnel performing their duties within the framework of this policy. The superintendent shall also establish guidelines and directives for using the services of appropriate agencies for assisting students and parents. Any guidelines or directives established to implement this policy shall be submitted to the school board for approval and shall be attached as an addendum to this policy.
- C. Principal. The school principal is given the responsibility and authority to formulate building rules and regulations necessary to enforce this policy, subject to final school board approval. The principal shall give direction and support to all school personnel performing their duties within the framework of this policy. The principal shall consult with parents of students conducting themselves in a manner contrary to the policy. The principal shall also involve other professional employees in the disposition of behavior referrals and shall make use of those agencies appropriate for assisting students and parents. A principal, in exercising his or her lawful authority, may use reasonable force when it is necessary under the circumstances to correct or restrain a student or prevent bodily harm or death to another.
- D. Teachers. All teachers shall be responsible for providing a well-planned teaching/learning environment and shall have primary responsibility for student conduct, with appropriate assistance from the administration. All teachers shall enforce the Code of Student Conduct. In exercising the teacher's lawful authority, a teacher may use reasonable force when it is necessary under the circumstances to correct or restrain a student or prevent bodily harm or death to another.
- E. Other School District Personnel. All school district personnel shall be responsible for contributing to the atmosphere of mutual respect within the school. Their responsibilities relating to student behavior shall be as authorized and directed by the superintendent. A school employee, school bus driver, or other agent of a school district, in exercising his or her lawful authority, may use reasonable force when it is necessary under the circumstances to restrain a student or prevent bodily harm or death to another.
- F. Parents or Legal Guardians. Parents and guardians shall be held responsible for the behavior of their children as determined by law and community practice. They are expected to cooperate with school authorities and to participate

regarding the behavior of their children.

- G. Students. All students shall be held individually responsible for their behavior and for knowing and obeying the Code of Student Conduct and this policy.
- H. Community Members. Members of the community are expected to contribute to the establishment of an atmosphere in which rights and duties are effectively acknowledged and fulfilled.

IV. STUDENT RIGHTS

All students have the right to an education and the right to learn.

V. STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

All students have the responsibility:

- A. For their behavior and for knowing and obeying all school rules, regulations, policies, and procedures;
- B. To attend school daily, except when excused, and to be on time to all classes and other school functions;
- C. To pursue and attempt to complete the courses of study prescribed by the state and local school authorities;
- D. To make necessary arrangements for making up work when absent from school;
- E. To assist the school staff in maintaining a safe school for all students;
- F. To be aware of all school rules, regulations, policies, and procedures, including those in this policy, and to conduct themselves in accord with them;
- G. To assume that until a rule or policy is waived, altered, or repealed, it is in full force and effect;
- H. To be aware of and comply with federal, state, and local laws;
- I. To volunteer information in disciplinary cases should they have any knowledge relating to such cases and to cooperate with school staff as appropriate;
- J. To respect and maintain the school's property and the property of others;
- K. To dress and groom in a manner which meets standards of safety and health and common standards of decency and which is consistent with applicable school district policy;
- L. To avoid inaccuracies in student newspapers or publications and refrain from

indecent or obscene language;

M. To conduct themselves in an appropriate physical or verbal manner; and

N. To recognize and respect the rights of others.

VI. CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT

A. The following are examples of unacceptable behavior subject to disciplinary action by the school district. These examples are not intended to be an exclusive list. Any student who engages in any of these activities shall be disciplined in accordance with this policy. This policy applies to all school buildings, school grounds, and school property; school-sponsored activities or trips; school bus stops; school buses, school vehicles, school contracted vehicles, or any other vehicles approved for school district purposes; the area of entrance or departure from school premises or events; and all school-related functions. This policy also applies to any student whose conduct at any time or in any place interferes with or obstructs the mission or operations of the school district or the safety or welfare of the student, other students, or employees.

1. Violations against property including, but not limited to, damage to or destruction of school property or the property of others, failure to compensate for damage or destruction of such property, arson, breaking and entering, theft, robbery, possession of stolen property, extortion, trespassing, unauthorized usage, or vandalism;
2. The use of profanity or obscene language, or the possession of obscene materials;
3. Gambling, including, but not limited to, playing a game of chance for stakes;
4. Violation of the school district's Hazing Prohibition Policy;
5. Attendance problems including, but not limited to, truancy, absenteeism, tardiness, skipping classes, or leaving school grounds without permission;
6. Violation of the school district's Student Attendance Policy;
7. Opposition to authority using physical force or violence;
8. Using, possessing, or distributing tobacco or tobacco paraphernalia;
9. Using, possessing, distributing, intending to distribute, making a request to another person for (solicitation), or being under the influence of alcohol or other intoxicating substances or look-alike substances;
10. Using, possessing, distributing, intending to distribute, making a request to

another person for (solicitation), or being under the influence of narcotics, drugs, or other controlled substances, or look-alike substances, except as prescribed by a physician, including one student sharing prescription medication with another student;

11. Using, possessing, or distributing items or articles that are illegal or harmful to persons or property including, but not limited to, drug paraphernalia;
12. Using, possessing, or distributing weapons, or look-alike weapons or other dangerous objects;
13. Violation of the school district's Weapons Policy;
14. Violation of the school district's Violence Prevention Policy;
15. Possession of ammunition including, but not limited to, bullets or other projectiles designed to be used in or as a weapon;
16. Possession, use, or distribution of explosives or any compound or mixture, the primary or common purpose or intended use of which is to function as an explosive;
17. Possession, use, or distribution of fireworks or any substance or combination of substances or article prepared for the purpose of producing a visible or an audible effect by combustion, explosion, deflagration or detonation;
18. Using an ignition device, including a butane or disposable lighter or matches, inside an educational building and under circumstances where there is a risk of fire, except where the device is used in a manner authorized by the school;
19. Violation of any local, state, or federal law as appropriate;
20. Acts disruptive of the educational process, including, but not limited to, disobedience, disruptive or disrespectful behavior, defiance of authority, cheating, insolence, insubordination, failure to identify oneself, improper activation of fire alarms, or bomb threats;
21. Violation of the school district's Internet Acceptable Use and Safety Policy;
22. Possession of nuisance devices or objects which cause distractions and may facilitate cheating including, but not limited to, pagers, radios, and phones, including picture phones;
23. Violation of school bus or transportation rules or the school district's

Student Transportation Safety Policy;

24. Violation of parking or school traffic rules and regulations, including, but not limited to, driving on school property in such a manner as to endanger persons or property;
25. Violation of directives or guidelines relating to lockers or improperly gaining access to a school locker;
26. Violation of the school district's Search of Student Lockers, Desks, Personal Possessions, and Student's Person Policy;
27. Violation of the school district's Student Use and Parking of Motor Vehicles; Patrols, Inspections, and Searches Policy;
28. Possession or distribution of slanderous, libelous, or pornographic materials;
29. Violation of the school district' Bullying Prohibition Policy;
30. Student attire or personal grooming which creates a danger to health or safety or creates a disruption to the educational process, including clothing which bears a message which is lewd, vulgar, or obscene, apparel promoting products or activities that are illegal for use by minors, or clothing containing objectionable emblems, signs, words, objects, or pictures communicating a message that is racist, sexist, or otherwise derogatory to a protected minority group or which connotes gang membership;
31. Criminal activity;
32. Falsification of any records, documents, notes, or signatures;
33. Tampering with, changing, or altering records or documents of the school district by any method including, but not limited to, computer access or other electronic means;
34. Scholastic dishonesty which includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a school assignment or test, plagiarism, or collusion, including the use of picture phones or other technology to accomplish this end;
35. Impertinent or disrespectful language toward teachers or other school district personnel;
36. Violation of the school district's Harassment and Violence Policy;
37. Actions, including fighting or any other assaultive behavior, which causes or could cause injury to the student or other persons or which otherwise

endangers the health, safety, or welfare of teachers, students, other school district personnel, or other persons;

38. Committing an act which inflicts great bodily harm upon another person, even though accidental or a result of poor judgment;
39. Violations against persons, including, but not limited to, assault or threatened assault, fighting, harassment, interference or obstruction, attack with a weapon, or look-alike weapon, sexual assault, illegal or inappropriate sexual conduct, or indecent exposure;
40. Verbal assaults or verbally abusive behavior including, but not limited to, use of language that is discriminatory, abusive, obscene, threatening, intimidating, or that degrades other people;
41. Physical or verbal threats including, but not limited to, the staging or reporting of dangerous or hazardous situations that do not exist;
42. Inappropriate, abusive, threatening, or demeaning actions based on race, color, creed, religion, sex, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, disability, national origin, or sexual orientation;
43. Violation of the school district's Distribution of Nonschool-Sponsored Materials on School Premises by Students and Employees Policy;
44. Violation of school rules, regulations, policies, or procedures, including, but not limited to, those policies specifically enumerated in this policy;
45. Other acts, as determined by the school district, which are disruptive of the educational process or dangerous or detrimental to the student or other students, school district personnel or surrounding persons, or which violate the rights of others or which damage or endanger the property of the school, or which otherwise interferes with or obstruct the mission or operations of the school district or the safety or welfare of students or employees.

VII. DISCIPLINARY ACTION OPTIONS

The general policy of the school district is to utilize progressive discipline to the extent reasonable and appropriate based upon the specific facts and circumstances of student misconduct. The specific form of discipline chosen in a particular case is solely within the discretion of the school district. At a minimum, violation of school district rules, regulations, policies, or procedures will result in discussion of the violation and a verbal warning. The school district shall, however, impose more severe disciplinary sanctions for any violation, including exclusion or expulsion, if warranted by the student's misconduct, as determined by the school district. Disciplinary action may include, but is not limited to, one or more of the following:

- A. Student conference with teacher, principal, counselor, or other school district personnel, and verbal warning;
- B. Confiscation by school district personnel and/or by law enforcement of any item, article, object, or thing, prohibited by, or used in the violation of, any school district policy, rule, regulation, procedure, or state or federal law. If confiscated by the school district, the confiscated item, article, object, or thing will be released only to the parent/guardian following the completion of any investigation or disciplinary action instituted or taken related to the violation.
- C. Parent contact;
- D. Parent conference;
- E. Removal from class;
- F. In-school suspension;
- G. Suspension from extracurricular activities;
- H. Detention or restriction of privileges;
- I. Loss of school privileges;
- J. In-school monitoring or revised class schedule;
- K. Referral to in-school support services;
- L. Referral to community resources or outside agency services;
- M. Financial restitution;
- N. Referral to police, other law enforcement agencies, or other appropriate authorities;
- O. A request for a petition to be filed in district court for juvenile delinquency adjudication;
- P. Out-of-school suspension under the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act;
- Q. Preparation of an admission or readmission plan;
- R. Saturday school;
- S. Expulsion under the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act;
- T. Exclusion under the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act; and/or

- U. Other disciplinary action as deemed appropriate by the school district.

VIII. REMOVAL OF STUDENTS FROM CLASS

- A. Teachers have the responsibility of attempting to modify disruptive student behavior by such means as conferring with the student, using positive reinforcement, assigning detention or other consequences, or contacting the student's parents. When such measures fail, or when the teacher determines it is otherwise appropriate based upon the student's conduct, the teacher shall have the authority to remove the student from class pursuant to the procedures established by this discipline policy. "Removal from class" and "removal" mean any actions taken by a teacher, principal, or other school district employee to prohibit a student from attending a class or activity period for a period of time not to exceed five (5) days, pursuant to this discipline policy.

Grounds for removal from class shall include any of the following:

1. Willful conduct that significantly disrupts the rights of others to an education, including conduct that interferes with a teacher's ability to teach or communicate effectively with students in a class or with the ability of other students to learn;
2. Willful conduct that endangers surrounding persons, including school district employees, the student or other students, or the property of the school;
3. Willful violation of any school rules, regulations, policies or procedures, including the Code of Student Conduct in this policy; or
4. Other conduct, which in the discretion of the teacher or administration, requires removal of the student from class.

Such removal shall be for at least one (1) activity period or class period of instruction for a given course of study and shall not exceed five (5) such periods.

- B. If a student is removed from class more than ten (10) times in a school year, the school district shall notify the parent or guardian of the student's tenth removal from class and make reasonable attempts to convene a meeting with the student's parent or guardian to discuss the problem that is causing the student to be removed from class.

[Note: The following Sections C. - K. must be developed and inserted by each school district based upon individual district practices, procedures, and preferences.]

C. Procedures for Removal of a Student From a Class.

1. *Specify procedures to be followed by a teacher, administrator or other school district employee to remove a student from a class;*

2. *Specify required approvals necessary;*

3. *Specify paperwork and reporting procedures.*

D. *Responsibility for and Custody of a Student Removed From Class.*

1. *Designation of where student is to go when removed;*

2. *Designation of how student is to get to designated destination;*

3. *Whether student must be accompanied;*

4. *Statement of what student is to do when and while removed;*

5. *Designation of who has control over and responsibility for student after removal from class.*

E. *Procedures for Return of a Student to a Class From Which the Student Was Removed.*

1. *Specification of procedures;*

2. *Actions or approvals required such as notes, conferences, readmission plans.*

F. *Procedures for Notification.*

1. *Specify procedures for notifying students and parents/guardians of violations of the rules of conduct and resulting disciplinary action;*

2. *Actions or approvals required, such as notes, conferences, readmission plans.*

G. *Disabled Students; Special Provisions.*

1. *Procedures for consideration of whether there is a need for further assessment;*

2. *Procedures for consideration of whether there is a need for a review of the adequacy of the current Individualized Education Program (IEP) of a disabled student who is removed from class or disciplined; and*

3. *Any procedures determined appropriate for referring students in need of special education services to those services.*

H. *Procedures for Detecting and Addressing Chemical Abuse Problems of Students While on School Premises.*

1. *Establishment of a chemical abuse preassessment team pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 121A.26;*
2. *Establishment of a school and community advisory team to address chemical abuse problems in the district pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 121A.27; and*
3. *Establishment of teacher reporting procedures to the chemical abuse preassessment team pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 121A.29.*

I. Procedures for Immediate and Appropriate Interventions Tied to Violations of the Code of Student Conduct.

J. Any Procedures Determined Appropriate for Encouraging Early Involvement of Parents or Guardians in Attempts to Improve a Student's Behavior.

K. Any Procedures Determined Appropriate for Encouraging Early Detection of Behavioral Problems.

IX. DISMISSAL

A. “Dismissal” means the denial of the current educational program to any student, including exclusion, expulsion and suspension. Dismissal does not include removal from class.

The school district shall not deny due process or equal protection of the law to any student involved in a dismissal proceeding which may result in suspension, exclusion or expulsion.

The school district shall not dismiss any student without attempting to provide alternative educational services before dismissal proceedings, except where it appears that the student will create an immediate and substantial danger to self or to surrounding persons or property.

B. Violations leading to suspension, based upon severity, may also be grounds for actions leading to expulsion, and/or exclusion. A student may be dismissed on any of the following grounds:

1. Willful violation of any reasonable school board regulation, including those found in this policy;
2. Willful conduct that significantly disrupts the rights of others to an education, or the ability of school personnel to perform their duties, or school sponsored extracurricular activities; or
3. Willful conduct that endangers the student or other students, or surrounding persons, including school district employees, or property of

the school.

C. Suspension Procedures

1. “Suspension” means an action by the school administration, under rules promulgated by the School Board, prohibiting a student from attending school for a period of no more than ten (10) school days; provided, however, if a suspension is longer than five (5) school days, the suspending administrator shall provide the superintendent with a reason for the longer term of suspension. This definition does not apply to dismissal for one (1) school day or less where a student with a disability does not receive regular or special education instruction during that dismissal period.
2. If a student’s total days of removal from school exceed ten (10) cumulative days in a school year, the school district shall make reasonable attempts to convene a meeting with the student and the student’s parent or guardian before subsequently removing the student from school and, with the permission of the parent or guardian, arrange for a mental health screening for the student at the parent or guardian’s expense. The purpose of this meeting is to attempt to determine the pupil’s need for assessment or other services or whether the parent or guardian should have the student assessed or diagnosed to determine whether the student needs treatment for a mental health disorder.
3. Each suspension action may include a readmission plan. The plan shall include, where appropriate, a provision for implementing alternative educational services upon readmission which must not be used to extend the current suspension. A readmission plan must not obligate a parent or guardian to provide psychotropic drugs to their student as a condition of readmission. School administration must not use the refusal of a parent or guardian to consent to the administration of psychotropic drugs to their student or to consent to a psychiatric evaluation, screening, or examination of the student as a ground, by itself, to prohibit the student from attending class or participating in a school-related activity, or as a basis of a charge of child abuse, child neglect, or medical or educational neglect. The school administration may not impose consecutive suspensions against the same student for the same course of conduct, or incident of misconduct, except where the student will create an immediate and substantial danger to self or to surrounding persons or property or where the school district is in the process of initiating an expulsion, in which case the school administration may extend the suspension to a total of fifteen (15) days.
4. A child with a disability may be suspended. When a child with a disability has been suspended for more than five (5) consecutive days or ten (10) cumulative school days in the same year, and that suspension does not involve a recommendation for expulsion or exclusion or other change in placement under federal law, relevant members of the child’s IEP team,

including at least one of the child's teachers, shall meet and determine the extent to which the child needs services in order to continue to participate in the general education curriculum, although in another setting, and to progress toward meeting the goals in the child's IEP. That meeting must occur as soon as possible, but no more than ten (10) days after the sixth (6th) consecutive day of suspension or the tenth (10th) cumulative day of suspension has elapsed.

5. The school administration shall implement alternative educational services when the suspension exceeds five (5) days. Alternative educational services may include, but are not limited to, special tutoring, modified curriculum, modified instruction, other modifications or adaptations, instruction through electronic media, special education services as indicated by appropriate assessments, homebound instruction, supervised homework, or enrollment in another district or in an alternative learning center under Minn. Stat. § 123A.05 selected to allow the pupil to progress toward meeting graduation standards under Minn. Stat. § 120B.02, although in a different setting.
6. The school administration shall not suspend a student from school without an informal administrative conference with the student. The informal administrative conference shall take place before the suspension, except where it appears that the student will create an immediate and substantial danger to self or to surrounding persons or property, in which case the conference shall take place as soon as practicable following the suspension. At the informal administrative conference, a school administrator shall notify the student of the grounds for the suspension, provide an explanation of the evidence the authorities have, and the student may present the student's version of the facts. A separate administrative conference is required for each period of suspension.
7. After school administration notifies a student of the grounds for suspension, school administration may, instead of imposing the suspension, do one or more of the following:
 - a. strongly encourage a parent or guardian of the student to attend school with the student for one day;
 - b. assign the student to attend school on Saturday as supervised by the principal or the principal's designee; and
 - c. petition the juvenile court that the student is in need of services under Minn. Stat. Ch. 260C.
8. A written notice containing the grounds for suspension, a brief statement of the facts, a description of the testimony, a readmission plan, and a copy of the Minnesota Pupil Fair Dismissal Act, Minn. Stat. §§ 121A.40-121A.56, shall be personally served upon the student at or before the time

the suspension is to take effect, and upon the student's parent or guardian by mail within forty-eight (48) hours of the conference. (See attached sample Notice of Suspension.)

9. The school administration shall make reasonable efforts to notify the student's parent or guardian of the suspension by telephone as soon as possible following suspension.
10. In the event a student is suspended without an informal administrative conference on the grounds that the student will create an immediate and substantial danger to surrounding persons or property, the written notice shall be served upon the student and the student's parent or guardian within forty-eight (48) hours of the suspension. Service by mail shall be complete upon mailing.
11. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, the student may be suspended pending the school board's decision in an expulsion or exclusion proceeding, provided that alternative educational services are implemented to the extent that suspension exceeds five (5) days.

D. Expulsion and Exclusion Procedures

1. "Expulsion" means a school board action to prohibit an enrolled student from further attendance for up to twelve (12) months from the date the student is expelled. The authority to expel rests with the school board.
2. "Exclusion" means an action taken by the school board to prevent enrollment or re-enrollment of a student for a period that shall not extend beyond the school year. The authority to exclude rests with the school board.
3. All expulsion and exclusion proceedings will be held pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of the Minnesota Pupil Fair Dismissal Act, Minn. Stat. §§121A.40-121A.56.
4. No expulsion or exclusion shall be imposed without a hearing, unless the right to a hearing is waived in writing by the student and parent or guardian.
5. The student and parent or guardian shall be provided written notice of the school district's intent to initiate expulsion or exclusion proceedings. This notice shall be served upon the student and his or her parent or guardian personally or by mail, and shall contain a complete statement of the facts; a list of the witnesses and a description of their testimony; state the date, time and place of hearing; be accompanied by a copy of the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act, Minn. Stat. §§ 121A.40-121A.56; describe alternative educational services accorded the student in an attempt to avoid the expulsion proceedings; and inform the student and parent or guardian of

their right to: (1) have a representative of the student's own choosing, including legal counsel at the hearing; (2) examine the student's records before the hearing; (3) present evidence; and (4) confront and cross-examine witnesses. The school district shall advise the student's parent or guardian that free or low-cost legal assistance may be available and that a legal assistance resource list is available from the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE).

6. The hearing shall be scheduled within ten (10) days of the service of the written notice unless an extension, not to exceed five (5) days, is requested for good cause by the school district, student, parent, or guardian.
7. All hearings shall be held at a time and place reasonably convenient to the student, parent, or guardian and shall be closed, unless the student, parent, or guardian requests an open hearing.
8. The school district shall record the hearing proceedings at district expense, and a party may obtain a transcript at its own expense.
9. The student shall have a right to a representative of the student's own choosing, including legal counsel, at the student's sole expense. The school district shall advise the student's parent or guardian that free or low-cost legal assistance may be available and that a legal assistance resource list is available from MDE. The school board may appoint an attorney to represent the school district in any proceeding.
10. If the student designates a representative other than the parent or guardian, the representative must have a written authorization from the student and the parent or guardian providing them with access to and/or copies of the student's records.
11. All expulsion or exclusion hearings shall take place before and be conducted by an independent hearing officer designated by the school district. The hearing shall be conducted in a fair and impartial manner. Testimony shall be given under oath and the hearing officer shall have the power to issue subpoenas and administer oaths.
12. At a reasonable time prior to the hearing, the student, parent or guardian, or authorized representative shall be given access to all school district records pertaining to the student, including any tests or reports upon which the proposed dismissal action may be based.
13. The student, parent or guardian, or authorized representative, shall have the right to compel the presence of any school district employee or agent or any other person who may have evidence upon which the proposed dismissal action may be based, and to confront and cross-examine any witnesses testifying for the school district.

14. The student, parent or guardian, or authorized representative, shall have the right to present evidence and testimony, including expert psychological or educational testimony.
15. The student cannot be compelled to testify in the dismissal proceedings.
16. The hearing officer shall prepare findings and a recommendation based solely upon substantial evidence presented at the hearing, which must be made to the school board and served upon the parties within two (2) days after the close of the hearing.
17. The school board shall base its decision upon the findings and recommendation of the hearing officer and shall render its decision at a meeting held within five (5) days after receiving the findings and recommendation. The school board may provide the parties with the opportunity to present exceptions and comments to the hearing officer's findings and recommendation provided that neither party presents any evidence not admitted at the hearing. The decision by the school board must be based on the record, must be in writing, and must state the controlling facts on which the decision is made in sufficient detail to apprise the parties and the Commissioner of Education (Commissioner) of the basis and reason for the decision.
18. A party to an expulsion or exclusion decision made by the school board may appeal the decision to the Commissioner within twenty-one (21) calendar days of school board action pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 121A.49. The decision of the school board shall be implemented during the appeal to the Commissioner.
19. The school district shall report any suspension, expulsion or exclusion action taken to the appropriate public service agency, when the student is under the supervision of such agency.
20. The school district must report, through the MDE electronic reporting system, each expulsion or exclusion within thirty (30) days of the effective date of the action to the Commissioner. This report must include a statement of alternative educational services given the student and the reason for, the effective date, and the duration of the exclusion or expulsion. The report must also include the student's age, grade, gender, race, and special education status. The dismissal report must include state student identification numbers of affected students.
21. Whenever a student fails to return to school within ten (10) school days of the termination of dismissal, a school administrator shall inform the student and his/her parent or guardian by mail of the student's right to attend and to be reinstated in the school district.

X. ADMISSION OR READMISSION PLAN

A school administrator shall prepare and enforce an admission or readmission plan for any student who is excluded or expelled from school. The plan may include measures to improve the student's behavior, including completing a character education program consistent with Minn. Stat. § 120B.232, Subd. 1, and require parental involvement in the admission or readmission process, and may indicate the consequences to the student of not improving the student's behavior. The readmission plan must not obligate parents to provide a sympathomimetic medication for their child as a condition of readmission.

XI. NOTIFICATION OF POLICY VIOLATIONS

Notification of any violation of this policy and resulting disciplinary action shall be as provided herein, or as otherwise provided by the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act or other applicable law. The teacher, principal or other school district official may provide additional notification as deemed appropriate.

XII. STUDENT DISCIPLINE RECORDS

The policy of the school district is that complete and accurate student discipline records be maintained. The collection, dissemination, and maintenance of student discipline records shall be consistent with applicable school district policies and federal and state law, including the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minn. Stat. Ch. 13.

XIII. DISABLED STUDENTS

Students who are currently identified as eligible under the IDEA or Section 504 will be subject to the provisions of this policy, unless the student's IEP or 504 plan specifies a necessary modification.

Before initiating an expulsion or exclusion of a student with a disability, relevant members of the child's IEP team and the child's parent shall, consistent with federal law, conduct a manifestation determination and determine whether the child's behavior was (i) caused by or had a direct and substantial relationship to the child's disability and (ii) whether the child's conduct was a direct result of a failure to implement the child's IEP. If the student's educational program is appropriate and the behavior is not a manifestation of the student's disability, the school district will proceed with discipline – up to and including expulsion – as if the student did not have a disability, unless the student's educational program provides otherwise. If the team determines that the behavior subject to discipline is a manifestation of the student's disability, the team shall conduct a functional behavioral assessment and implement a behavioral intervention plan for such student provided that the school district had not conducted such assessment prior to the manifestation determination before the behavior that resulted in a change of placement. Where a behavioral intervention plan previously has been developed, the team will review the behavioral intervention plan and modify it as necessary to address the behavior.

When a student who has an IEP is excluded or expelled for misbehavior that is not a manifestation of the student's disability, the school district shall continue to provide

special education and related services during the period of expulsion or exclusion.

XIV. OPEN ENROLLED STUDENTS

The school district may terminate the enrollment of a nonresident student enrolled under an Enrollment Option Program (Minn. Stat. § 124D.03) or Enrollment in Nonresident District (Minn. Stat. § 124D.08) at the end of a school year if the student meets the definition of a habitual truant, the student has been provided appropriate services for truancy (Minn. Stat. Ch. 260A), and the student's case has been referred to juvenile court. The school district may also terminate the enrollment of a nonresident student over the age of sixteen (16) enrolled under an Enrollment Options Program if the student is absent without lawful excuse for one or more periods on fifteen (15) school days and has not lawfully withdrawn from school.

XV. DISTRIBUTION OF POLICY

The school district will notify students and parents of the existence and contents of this policy in such manner as it deems appropriate. Copies of this discipline policy shall be made available to all students and parents at the commencement of each school year and to all new students and parents upon enrollment. This policy shall also be available upon request in each principal's office.

XVI. REVIEW OF POLICY

The principal and representatives of parents, students and staff in each school building shall confer at least annually to review this discipline policy, determine if the policy is working as intended, and to assess whether the discipline policy has been enforced. Any recommended changes shall be submitted to the superintendent for consideration by the school board, which shall conduct an annual review of this policy.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. Ch. 13 (Minnesota Government Data Practices Act)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.02 (Educational Expectations for Minnesota Students)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.232 (Character Development Education)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.26 (School Preassessment Teams)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.27 (School and Community Advisory Team)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.29 (Reporting; Chemical Abuse)
Minn. Stat. §§ 121A.40-121A.56 (Pupil Fair Dismissal Act)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.575 (Alternatives to Pupil Suspension)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.582 (Reasonable Force)
Minn. Stat. §§ 121A.60-121A.61 (Removal From Class)
Minn. Stat. § 123A.05 (Area Learning Center Organization)
Minn. Stat. § 124D.03 (Enrollment Options Program)
Minn. Stat. § 124D.08 (Enrollment in Nonresident District)
Minn. Stat. Ch.125A (Students With Disabilities)
Minn. Stat. Ch. 260A (Truancy)
Minn. Stat. Ch. 260C (Juvenile Court Act)
20 U.S.C. §§ 1400-1487 (Individuals with Disabilities Education

Improvement Act of 2004)
29 U.S.C. § 794 *et seq.* (Rehabilitation Act of 1973, § 504)
34 C.F.R. § 300.530(e)(1) (Manifestation Determination)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 413 (Harassment and Violence)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 501 (School Weapons)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 502 (Search of Student Lockers, Desks, Personal Possessions, and Student's Person)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 503 (Student Attendance)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 505 (Distribution of Nonschool-Sponsored Materials on School Premises by Students and Employees)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 514 (Bullying Prohibition Policy)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 524 (Internet Acceptable Use and Safety Policy)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 525 (Violence Prevention)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 526 (Hazing Prohibition)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 527 (Student Use and Parking of Motor Vehicles; Patrols, Inspections, and Searches)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 610 (Field Trips)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 709 (Student Transportation Safety Policy)
[MSBA/MASA Model Policy 711 \(Video Recording on School Buses\)](#)
[MSBA/MASA Model Policy 712 \(Video Surveillance Other Than on Buses\)](#)

(Sample Form)
NOTICE OF SUSPENSION
(Date)

(Name of Parent or Guardian)
(Address)
(City, State, Zip)

Dear (Parent or Guardian)

(Name of Student) has been suspended from (name of school) for (number of days) commencing on (date).

The grounds for suspension are:

Briefly, the facts that have been determined are:

The testimony received was:

An administrative conference to determine the above was conducted before _____, at _____ on _____
(Name of Administrator) (Time) (Date)

pursuant to Minn. Stat. §§ 121A.40-121A.56, a copy of which is enclosed.

The plan of readmission is:

Alternative educational services in the form of homework will be available to be picked up at the school after _____ [date].

While suspended, the student may not come on any school campus except with you for the purpose of discussing conduct.

If you have any questions, please call.

Sincerely,

Administrator

Enc: Minn. Stat. §§ 121A.40-121A.56

JORDAN DISTRICT SCHOOLS POLICY

Adopted:

Revised:

534 MEMORIALS FOR DECEASED STUDENTS OR STAFF

PURPOSE

It is recognized that the loss of a member of the school community is deeply felt by students, staff and families. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that the Jordan Public Schools will support staff, students and families impacted from a death through assisting them with connections to appropriate school and community resources. Because it is recognized that memorial decisions made immediately in the aftermath of a crisis or death may be made without full consideration of the potential implications for students, staff, families and the community, the Jordan Public Schools will provide a process for memorial decision-making.

DEFINITION

Memorials: Objects or activities to remember an event or deceased person(s).

District Recovery Team: A designated group of staff members and resources for the district who plan and implement mental health support for grief recovery.

Crisis: Any natural disaster or unexpected event that negatively affects a student, a staff member or a significant group of the school population and usually involves serious emotional, psychological and/or physical injury or death.

Significant Impact: The magnitude of the potential loss or seriousness of the crisis.

GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

Memorial activities expressed at school need to be coordinated and approved through the school's District Recovery Team (DRT). The DRT will assist families and students in selecting memorial activities that are appropriate for school and assist students in healthy bereavement.

In recognition that schools are designed primarily to support learning, school sites should not serve as the main venue for the memorializing of students or staff. In the event a request is made, the school district will consider the request on a case-to-case basis. Only in the case of a significant impact will exceptions be considered.

Memorials following a death from suicide must not glamorize, romanticize or stigmatize the act of suicide.

Temporary school memorials, in common areas, as approved by school administration, may be displayed until the day of the funeral and will then be given to the family. Any selling of memorial items must receive prior approval from administration. Allowable temporary school memorials are banners, pictures, and locker and student desk displays. Memorial symbols on clothing or lockers displayed by individual students or staff on school grounds will be limited to two weeks past the funeral.

Permanent memorials for deceased students and staff must come from donations and be initiated by a donor or family member. Donations must be cleared by the donor with the family. These memorials will be limited to endowments, scholarships, plantings and books or items with educational significance. Scholarship and endowment memorials may be established one time, or in the form of a perpetual award, with a description of the purpose of the endowment or scholarship and may include the name of the individual. Plantings may be made in a designated location based on the discretion of the Facilities Manager and Superintendent. All trees or shrubbery can be designated with a stake or plaque. This practice allows for the memorial while respecting the well-being of all students and staff. Permanent memorials may not include the retirement, alteration, or discontinued use of school property. Existing memorials established prior to the implementation of this policy will not be affected.

JORDAN DISTRICT SCHOOLS POLICY

Adopted: September 12, 2007

Revised:

602 ORGANIZATION OF SCHOOL CALENDAR AND SCHOOL DAY

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide for a timely determination of the school calendar and school day.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The school calendar and schedule of the school day are important to parents, students, employees, and the general public for advance, effective planning of the school year.

III. CALENDAR RESPONSIBILITY

- A. The school calendar shall be adopted annually by the school board. It shall meet all provisions of Minnesota statutes pertaining to minimum number of school days and other provisions of law. The school calendar shall establish student days, workshop days for staff, provide for emergency closings and other information related to students, staff and parents.

[Note: The annual school calendar must include at least 425 hours of instruction for a kindergarten student without a disability, 935 hours of instruction for a student in grades 1 through 6, and 1,020 hours of instruction for a student in grades 7 through 12, not including summer school commencing with the 2012-2013 school year. Also commencing with the 2013-2014 school year, the school calendar for all-day kindergarten must include at least 850 hours of instruction for the school year. A school board's annual calendar must include at least 165 days of instruction for a student in grades 1 through 11 unless a four-day week schedule has been approved by the Commissioner of Education under Minn. Stat. § 124D.126.]

- B. Except for learning programs during summer and flexible learning year programs, the school district will not commence an elementary or secondary school year before Labor Day, except as provided in Section III.B.1. or III.B.2. Days devoted to teacher's workshops may be held before Labor Day.
1. The school district may begin the school year on any day before Labor Day to accommodate a construction or remodeling project of \$400,000 or more affecting a school district school facility.

- C. The Education Minnesota-Jordan teachers union shall be provided an opportunity to participate in school calendar considerations through a meet and confer process.

[Note: The provisions of the prior law requiring the school board to adopt the calendar for the next school year by April 1 have been repealed. The school board should still attempt to establish the calendar as early as possible so proper planning can take place by all members of the school community.]

IV. SCHOOL DAY RESPONSIBILITY

- A. The superintendent shall be responsible for developing a schedule for the student day, subject to review by the school board. All requirements and provisions of Minnesota Statutes and Minnesota Department of Education Rules shall be met.
- B. In developing the student day schedule, the superintendent shall consider such factors as school bus schedules, cooperative programs, differences in time requirements at various grade levels, effective utilization of facilities, cost effectiveness, and other concerns deserving of attention.
- C. Proposed changes in the school day shall be subject to review and approval by the school board.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 120A.40 (School Calendar)
Minn. Stat. § 120A.41 (Length of School Year; Days of Instruction)
Minn. Stat. § 120A.415 (Extended School Calendar)
Minn. Stat. § 120A.42 (Holidays)
Minn. Stat. § 122A.40, Subds. 7 and 7a (Employment; Contracts; Termination)
Minn. Stat. § 122A.41, Subds. 4 and 4a (Teacher Tenure Act; Cities of the First Class; Definitions)
Minn. Stat. § 123A.30 (Agreements for Secondary Education)
Minn. Stat. § 123A.32 (Interdistrict Cooperation)
Minn. Stat. § 123A.35 (Cooperation and Combination)
Minn. Stat. § 124D.11, Subd. 9 (Revenue for Results-Oriented Charter School)
Minn. Stat. § 124D.126 (Powers and Duties of Commissioner; Flexible Learning Year Programs)
Minn. Stat. § 127A.41, Subd. 7 (Distribution of School Aids; Appropriation)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 425 (Staff Development)

**JORDAN DISTRICT SCHOOLS
POLICY**

Adopted: 2013

Revised:

626 EARLY ENTRANCE TO KINDERGARTEN PROCESS

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide direction for parents/guardians interested in early admission to kindergarten.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The Jordan School District and the State (Statute M.S. 120A.20A) guidelines require that a person shall not be admitted to a public school as a kindergarten pupil, unless the pupil is at least five years of age on September 1 of the calendar year in which the school year for which the pupil seeks admission commences; however, a child whose birth date falls on or between September 1st and October 31st may enter kindergarten if he or she meets the early entrance requirements as listed in this policy and approved by the school board.

III. REQUEST FOR EARLY ENTRANCE TO KINDERGARTEN

A written request for consideration of Early Entrance to Kindergarten must be submitted to the Jordan School District Office by May 1st, located at 500 Sunset Drive; Jordan, MN 55352. Parents/guardians new to the district should submit request by August 1st.

IV. EARLY ENTRANCE PROCESS

To increase the likelihood that your child will have a successful first year of school, he/she will be expected to meet standards approximately six months above his/her chronological age in all areas assessed. Children meeting the early entrance standards will be recommended for a six-week trial period in kindergarten beginning at the start of the following school year. Any time within the first six weeks, the school administration and the child's guardian will meet to discuss the child's progress and continued placement in the kindergarten program. To meet early entrance standards, the three phases of assessment for early entrance to kindergarten are:

A. Observation

1. The early entrance process involves an objective evaluation of your child's cognitive, gross and fine motor, visual-motor integration, communication, and social/emotional development.
2. A district administrator or advisory committee will use appropriate screening and testing assessments to determine eligibility.
3. The superintendent shall be responsible for the final determination of early entrance.

B. Review

1. The District will appoint a certified specialist to conduct a review of the child's academic readiness.
2. The District will notify the parent/guardian if the child may proceed to the evaluation process or if early entrance is not advised but may enroll in kindergarten the following fall.

C. Evaluation

For those children recommended to proceed to the evaluation process, the District may provide names of psychologists who can administer a psychological assessment for the child. The parent/guardian has the sole responsibility to schedule and pay for the child's assessment.

- a. The organization providing the assessment typically uses a sliding fee scale to adjust the cost of the assessment in relation to the parent/legal guardian's income. The school district does not have any influence on the cost of the assessment or the sliding

- fee scale.
- b. After completion of the evaluation process the District will notify the parent/legal guardian if the child may enter kindergarten early on a conditional admission or if the child will not be admitted for early entrance but may enroll in kindergarten the following fall.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 120A.20 (Admission to Public School)