

ISD #314  
Isanti, Pine, Chisago,  
& Kanabec Counties  
Braham, MN 55006

AGENDA  
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING  
Monday, August 22, 2016  
7:00 pm – BAHS Community Room

1. Regular meeting called to order by Chair. Pledge of Allegiance.  
Roll call.
2. Adopt Agenda.
3. Consent Agenda:
  - a. Approve the minutes of the July 18th, 2016 School Board Meeting.
  - b. Approve the August bills.
  - c. Review and accept the August Treasurer's report.
  - d. Personnel
4. Acknowledgement of Donations or Contributions
5. Open Forum
6. Review Student Council Representative's report. - **No report this month.**
7. Review Elementary Principal's report.
8. Review Activities/Community Ed Director report.
9. Review High School Principal's report. - **No report this month.**
10. Review District Assessment Coordinator's report. - **No report this month.**
11. Superintendent's Report
12. Acknowledge Braham "HONORS" Recipients.
13. School Board members' reports/updates.
14. Consider authorizing calling for bids for lease agreement on school owned property (farmland) for 2017 growing season.
15. Consider motion authorizing the Superintendent to request legal counsel for construction related issues.
16. Consider 2016-2017 Coaching and Fine Art Assignments.
17. Consider authorizing calling for bids for snow plowing for 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 school years.
18. Consider **THIRD** reading of MSBA and district policies for adoption. - Pg 12
19. Consider **SECOND** reading of MSBA and district policies for discussion, update & revision. - Pg 36
20. Consider **ANNUAL** review of policies. - Pg 49
20. Reminder of the August School Board meeting.
21. Adjourn.

- 1. Meeting called to order by Chair. Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call.

- 2. Adopt agenda.

- 3. Consent Agenda.

- a. Approve the minutes of the July 18th, 2016 School Board Meetings.

Ind. School District No. 314  
Isanti, Pine, Chisago & Kanabec Counties  
Braham, MN 55006

Regular School Board Meeting  
Monday, July 18, 2016  
7:00 pm – BAHS Community Room

The regular school board meeting was called to order by Chair Steven Eklund at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Members present: S. Eklund, M. Thompson, T. Cuda, A. Londgren, A. Flowers, R. Wyganowski, and Supt. Gagner. Members absent: J. Paitl

Motion by M. Thompson, second by R. Wyganowski to adopt the agenda with two additions: 1) minutes of the July 11th Special School Board meeting, and 2) approval of contract between Isanti Cnty Collaborative and Teen Focus. Carried

Motion by T. Cuda, second by A. Flowers to approve the minutes of the June 20th Regular and Special and July 11th Special School Board meetings, approve the July bills \$1,306,149.70; and, accept the July Treasurer’s report. The board accepted the resignations of Matt Lattimore, HS Principal effective July 15, 2016; and, Eric Tye, HS Special Ed teacher effective the end of the 2015-16 school year. The board approved hiring recommendations of Alex Sundly as the 5-8 Special Ed teacher at BA Step 1 and, Ryan Kedrowski as the HS Art teacher at BA Step 1. Mr. Sundly and Mr. Kedrowski will start on August 29, 2016. Carried

Motion by A. Londgren, second by A. Flowers to acknowledge the July 2016 donations for the purposes requested: for 6th gr field trip transportation \$118 from Isanti Cnty and \$448.00 from the MN Historical Society and for Supermileage \$75.00 from Staples-Motley ISD #2170. Carried.

Under Open Forum - There were no comments.

There were no reports from Student Council or DAC this month.

Jeff Eklund, Elem Principal reviewed his written report. There were 25 - 50 students that attended Bomber Boost. Elementary staffing is complete for fall 2016.

Motion by R. Wyganowski, second by T. Cuda to approved the Communicable Diseases changes to the elementary handbook. Carried.

Shawn Kuhnke, AD/CE Director's written report was reviewed. August 9 at 7 p.m. is the Activities night for parents and students to meet advisors and get required participation forms.

Matt Lattimore, HS Principal's written report was reviewed.

Supt. Gagner updated the board on the exterior and interior projects. Many projects are nearing completion. The Staff Development committee is still seeking a community member volunteer. The district has signed an agreement with Tremco Inc. to 'button up' and guarantee the last two sections of original roofing on the 5-12 building. The allows the district to save funds for roof replacement in 2019.

Supt. Gagner congratulated the following staff, students and community members for their accomplishments as "Braham HONORS" recipients. They are: Britne Engelking, Sue Pearson, Cassie Tomczak, Kelly Rud, Trista Kirchberg, Karen Prigge, Kaylie Paitl, Emily Lindquist, Ariaah Beckman, Scott Severson, Cody Waletzko, and Luke Nadeau.

Board members reported on individual meetings and activities attended. Members attended policy review, ECFE Carnival, field trips, basketball & baseball games, special school board meeting, and construction meetings.

Motion by A. Londgren, second by M. Thompson to approve the Long-term Facilities Maintenance Revenue Plan to be submitted to MN MDE. Carried

Motion by R. Wyganowski, second by A. Londgren to approve #807 Health & Safety Policy. Carried

Motion by A. Flowers, second by T. Cuda to approve the Indoor Air Quality Maintenance Plan as updated by MacNeil Environmental. Carried

Motion by A. Londgren, second by M. Thompson to approve the 2016-17 membership renewal in Schools for Equity in Education for \$2,125.86. Carried

Motion by A. Flowers, second by T. Cuda to approve the 2016-17 membership renewal in Central MN Educational Research & Development Council for \$1,134. Carried

Motion by B. Wyganowski, second by A. Flowers to approve membership renewal to MN School Boards Association for \$4,132. Six yes votes, 0 no votes, one absent member. Carried.

Motion by M. Thompson, second by R. Wyganowski to approve the the FFA National Convention trip to Indianapolis, IN from Oct. 18 thru Oct. 22, 2016 contingent upon FFA having adequate funds available. Carried

Motion by A. Flowers, second by A. Londgren to accept the 2016 Local Literacy Plan. Carried

Motion by R. Wyganowski, second by A. Londgren to adopt the following policies: #101 - School District Legal Status; #101.1 - Name of the School District; #103 - Complaints - Students, Employees, Parents, Other Persons; #203 - Operation of the School Board - Governing Rules; #203.1 - School Board Procedures; Rules of Order; #203.2 - Order of the Regular School Board Meeting; #207 - Public Hearings; #209 - School Board Member Code of Ethics; #211 - Criminal or Civil Action against School District, School Board Member, employee or student; #212 - Board Member Development; #213 - School Board Committees; #403 - Discipline, Suspension & Dismissal of School District Employees; #408 - Subpoena of a School District Employee; #409 - Employee Publications, Instructional Materials, Inventions, and Creations; #422 - Policies incorporated by Reference; #423 - Employee-Student Relationships; #504 - Student Dress & Appearance; #505 - Distribution of Non-school sponsored materials on School Premises by Students & Employees; #512 - School-sponsored Student Publications and Activities; #517 - Student Recruiting; #523 - Policies incorporated by Reference; #525 - Violence Prevention (Applicable to Students and Staff); #527 - Student Use and Parking of Motor vehicles; Patrols Inspections, and Searches; #604 - Instructional Curriculum; #605 - Alternative Programs; #609 - Religion; #615 - Testing Accommodations, modifications, and Exemptions for IEP's, Section 504 Plans, and LEP Students; #623 - Mandatory Summer School Instruction; #704 - Development & Maintenance of an Inventory of Fixed Assets & a Fixed Asset Accounting System; #711 - Video Recording on School Buses; #713 - Student Activity Accounting; #720 - Vending Machines; #904 - Distribution of Materials on School District Property by Non-School Persons; #905 - Advertising; #906 - Community Notification of Predatory Offenders. Carried

The following policies were submitted for their SECOND reading: #201 - Legal Status of the School Board; #208 - Development, Adoption & Implementation of Policies; #209 - Code of Ethics; #301 - School District Administration; #302 - Superintendent; #303 Superintendent Selection; #304 - Superintendent Contract, Duties, and Evaluation; #305 - Policy Implementation; #306 - Administrator Code of Ethics; #511 Student Fundraising; #513 - Student Promotion, Retention, and Program Design; #518 - DNR-DNI Orders; #519 Interviews of Students by Outside Agencies; #602 - Organization of School Calendar & School Day; #606 - Textbooks & Instructional Materials; #901 - Community Education; #903 - Visitors to School District Buildings & Sites. NO ACTION REQUIRED AT THIS TIME.

The following policy was submitted for its FIRST reading: #721 - Uniform Grant Guidance Policy regarding Federal Revenue Sources.

Motion by A. Londgren, second by T. Cuda to eliminate the following outdated policies: BAA - School Board Evaluation; BBBA - Board Member Qualifications; BBBB - Board Member Oath of Office; BID-2 - Board Member Compensation; DL - Payroll Procedures; EAA - Intruder Policy - EBCD - Emergency Closing; GBGB - Provide a Safe Environment; GBI - Employee Recognition /Compensation; GCAA - Classroom Teaching Position; GCBC - GDBC - Employee Insurance Program; GCN - Evaluation Procedures for Instructional Staff; HE - Board Negotiating Agents; IIA - Material Selection and Review Policy; IICC - School Volunteers; JN - Extracurricular Fees; and, LBA - Shared Services. Carried

Motion by T. Cuda, second by R. Wyganowski to have the following policies removed from the district policy manual and placed in the district handbooks as approved procedures. These policies are: EEB - Process for Managing Non-Student Bus Complaint; EFF - Meal Charge Policy; EGAD - Copyright Compliance; GBN - Reclassification for Comparable Worth; GCD - Professional Staff Hiring; GCN - Evaluation Procedures for Instructional Staff; and, IMBA - Policy on Alternative Education. Carried

Motion by A. Londgren, second by A. Flowers to approve the contract between Isanti County Collaborative and Teen Focus for Mary Keller to provide Chemical Health Professional services for the 2016-17 school year to Braham Schools. Carried

Motion by A. Flowers, second by R. Wyganowski to move the Regular School Board meeting set for Monday, August 15th, 2016 to Monday, August 22nd, 2016 at 7 p.m. in B100 - Community Room at the high school. Carried

Motion by A. Flowers, second by T. Cuda to adjourn the meeting. Chair Eklund adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Allison Londgren, Clerk

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Steven Eklund, Chair

- b. Approve the August bills.
- c. Review and accept the August Treasurer's report.
- d. Personnel

**STEP CORRECTION**

**Tim Burton**, Cleaner/Sweeper, will be paid at Step 3 not, Step 2.

**RESIGNATIONS**

**Christina Moscho**, 3rd Grade teacher, has submitted her letter of resignation effective the end of the 2015-16 school year. She has worked for Braham since fall 2015.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

Supt. Gagner is making the following hiring recommendations:

**Shawn Kuhnke** as the HS Principal/Activities Director. His start date in the position is August 1, 2016. He will be paid on the Braham Administrator's contract.

**Tammi Johnson** as a .5 FTE Dean of Students and .5 FTE Social Studies teacher. Her start date is August 1, 2016. She will be paid at her current rate of pay MA+45, Step 11 of the Braham Teacher's contract plus 5 days.

**Becky Swanson** as a 1.0 FTE Social Studies teacher. Her start date in this position is Aug. 29, 2016. She will continue to be paid at MA, Step 11.

**Jane Johnston** as a 1.0 FTE high school Special Education teacher. Her start date will be August 29, 2016. She will be paid at MA Step 5.

Principal Eklund is making the following hiring recommendation:

**Chris Grote** as an elementary classroom teacher. His start date is August 29, 2016. He will be paid on MA+45, Step 5.

**LANE CHANGE REQUEST**

**Andrea DeRushia, 2nd Grade Teacher** has submitted a request for lane advancement from BA Step 10 to BA +15, Step 10. Ms. DeRushia has completed all necessary requirements to qualify for this lane advancement. Her 2016-2017 salary will be based on BA+15, Step 10.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. Acknowledgement of donations or contributions.

Minnesota Statute 123B.02 permits school boards to "...receive, for the benefit of the district, bequests, donations, or gifts for any proper purpose and apply the same to the purpose designated. In that behalf, the board may act as trustee of any trust created for the benefit of the district, and for the benefit of pupils thereof."

Therefore, the Superintendent recommends the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No.314 that the School Board accepts with appreciation the following contributions and permits their use as designated by the donors.

<b>Donor</b>	<b>Item and/or Amount</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
Doug Eklund, VFW	\$150.00 value	3 MIA and 3 US Flags
Cooper Wynn	\$1,000.00 value	rental radios for SuperMileage

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5. Open Forum.

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6. Review Student Council Representative's report. - **No report this month.**

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7. Review Elementary Principal's report.

**Braham Area Elementary  
August 2016 Board Report**

**1. PreK-3 Principal Leadership Series (August 10)**

- Comprehensive, 5-day series supports elementary level principals in improving their school's readiness and the alignment of policies and practices across the birth-to-age-eight learning continuum. Developed in partnership between the Minnesota Elementary School Principals' Association and the Minnesota Department of Education, this series will cover a range of topics to help us strengthen our PreK-3 programming.

**2. School of Excellence Leadership Team**

- Has been meeting throughout the summer
- Goal is to have a draft to present to staff during fall workshops

**3. Building**

- With staff reductions we have access to some "extra" rooms.
- EBD Room
- SMART learning room
- Intervention room

8. Review Activities/Community Ed Director report.

**Activities/Community Education Director  
School Board Report  
August 22, 2016**

1. The Activities Night was held on Tuesday, August 9 and was very well attended. Students were given an opportunity to hand in all the paperwork to get them ready for this season.

2. Football, Volleyball and Cross Country have started their practices on Monday, August 15. Participation numbers were not available at the time of submission of this report and will therefore be presented in September.

3. Positions of change to note regarding the Coaching/Fine Arts Assignments for 2016 – 2017 school year include:

- Amie Yerke – JH Volleyball
- Chris Grote – Varsity Assistant Football
- Brady Yrjo – Head JV Football
- Alex Sundly – Assistant JV Football
- Andrea Downing – Assistant Musical Director – Pit Crew
- Karl Fix – Musical Tech Director
- Jennifer Lundin – ECHO (Yearbook)
- Math Masters – Tracy Fix

Positions to be hired for the 2016 – 2017 school year include:

- JV Boys Basketball
- Head Girls Basketball
- Head Track and Field
- JH Softball
- Weight Training
- Prom Advisor

4. I attended Lake ECMECC 2016. I have received very positive feedback from the Braham staff that was also in attendance regarding the learning opportunities provided. I sat in on a conferences titled: Using Anticipatory Sets in the Classroom, Inspire Deeper Learning with Students and Assessing student work with Google tools.

5. I participated in a safety meeting with Mr. Gagner, Mrs. Klemz and a sheriff from the Isanti County Sheriff's Office. We discussed our safety protocols and reviewed standard procedures for crisis protocols regarding Lockdown and Evacuation procedures. These procedures will be discussed with all teachers during teacher workshops.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shawn Kuhnke

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9. Review High School Principal - **No report this month.**

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10. Review District Assessment Coordinator's report. - **No report this month.**

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11. Superintendent's report.

Braham Area Schools #314

Superintendent Report

August 22, 2016

1. Please see the *Policy Review Schedule* in your supplementary email. You will note there are nine annual policies which must be reviewed each August otherwise there typically will be four policies per month which will allow us to analyze all policies on a three year cycle (per policy #208).
2. Grandy Lions update (Aug. 1):
  - Fall Pancake Feed at the Grandy Community Center has been set for Oct. 16.
  - The new playground equipment is in place at the Grandy Community Center.
3. Braham Chamber update (Aug. 2):
  - Lakes and Pines shared information on available services. Joan Madsen Kirchner will present to Braham Area School's staff on Aug. 30.
  - Pie Day activities were discussed. Members are looking forward to a big day.
  - Tracy Fix spoke on behalf of the district to invite the community to participate in the Bomber Pride character development program. The purpose is to share a set of common expectations within the community and recognize desired behaviors. This is part of a WBWF goal to improve academics and the school environment.
  - Planning is taking place for the *Fall Fest*
4. Facilities Project: *Check out the school website and FaceBook page for the latest photo's etc.*
  - **Exterior Project 'To do' list:**
    - Finish fencing
    - Discus ring
    - Regrade low area to the north of discus throwing area
    - Grass growth in **many** areas
  - **Interior Project 'To do' list:**
    - C100 work (lights and sound) - training scheduled for Aug. 24 or 25?
    - Multipurpose: install/paint new door and hardware
    - East gym: install missing end caps to bleachers
    - CTE: panel saw repair, door hardware, oxy acetylene tank piping, control systems, electrical box labeled
    - Rain gutter on skylights to north door
5. Ongoing items:
  - a. A letter was sent to all staff on Aug. 11 with pertinent Back-to-School information.



- b. Work continues in all departments on fulfilling goals outlined in the district's World's Best Workforce plan. We are still waiting on the MMR reports from the state (scheduled for release August 30) before we can pull together the WBWF committee.

12. Acknowledge Braham "HONORS" Recipients.

7-13-16	Aitor Leniz, Deb Shockman, Edie Kaunonen, Rebecca Anderson, James Londgren	Braham Area School District #314 would like to thank the Board of Directors of the Braham Area Committee for Kids (BACK) for your tremendous efforts in supporting District #314. Your financial gifts were a critical part in creating facilities that will benefit students for years to come, and for that we are truly grateful. Our sincere thanks!
7-13-16	Deb Shockman, Bill Hellser, Brian Eklund, Jake Shockman, Jake Schroeder, David Shockman, Matt Shockman, JD Coolidge, Joel Schleicher, Shane Pierce	Braham Area School District #314 would like to thank you for your volunteer efforts to create a top notch floor in the remodeled multi-purpose gym. We appreciate your gifts of time and talent to complete this project for the youth of Braham Area Schools. Our sincere thanks!
7-29-16	Luke Becker, Mike Thompson, Beth Stone, Bob Wyganowski, Amber Hoffman, Jen Lundin	Braham Area School District #314 would like to recognize you for volunteering your time to assist in the hiring process of the HS Principal/AD and/or Dean of Student positions. Bringing in great talent is critical to the success of our district and we sincerely appreciate your efforts in making this happen. Thanks!
8-2-16	Luke Becker	Braham Area School District #314 would like to recognize you for being designated as the Director for the Minnesota State Supermileage competition held in Brainerd, MN annually. Fundraising for, and coordinating this event, is right up your alley! Congratulations!
8-3-16	Jonelle Klemz, Shawn Kuhnke, Luke Becker, Chad Meyer	Braham Area School District #314 would like to recognize you for volunteering your time to assist in reviewing the Crisis Plan on Aug. 3, 2016. Keeping students and staff safe is a critical piece of our district's mission and we appreciate your support in this review process.
8-8-16	Marie Sward	Braham Area School District #314 would like to recognize you for your extra efforts in completing necessary paperwork ensuring district reimbursement related to assessments. We appreciate your 'service attitude' and it's overall impact on the success of our students.
8/12/16	Becky Anderson	Braham Area School District #314 would like to express our sincere appreciation for your role in coordinating the Back to School breakfast for our staff. Your efforts make it a very special morning at Braham Schools! Thank you!
8-12-16	Frandsen Bank & Trust	Braham Area School District #314 would like to express our appreciation to you for providing fruit, rolls, and juice for our Welcome Back to School meeting for all staff. For several years your contribution has helped to make it a special morning here at Braham Schools! Thank you!

13. School Board members' reports/updates.

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14. Consider authorizing calling for bids for lease agreement on school owned property (farmland) for 2017 growing season.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

Independent School District 314, Braham, Minnesota, will receive SEALED bids for the rental of school district owned farm land for the 2017 growing season as follows:

a 4.3 acre piece of farmland, located west of the Elementary School.

The rent will be due in its entirety upon the awarding of and acceptance of the contract.

**Submit sealed bids by Monday, October 3, 2016, 10:00 a.m. to:**

**Superintendent of Schools**  
Braham ISD 314, 531 Elmhurst Ave S  
Braham, MN 55006

Individuals wishing to inspect the farm land may make arrangements by calling 320-396-3313.

Braham ISD 314 reserves the right to accept or reject any/all bids, and waive formalities or irregularities in bidding.

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15. Consider motion authorizing the Superintendent to request legal counsel for construction related issues.

The school board is being asked to make a motion to authorize the Superintendent to seek legal counsel from the firm of Rupp, Anderson, Squires & Waldspurger, P.A. This firm is more specialized in construction related issues.

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16. Consider 2016-2017 Coaching and Fine Art Assignments.

## COACHING ASSIGNMENTS 2016 – 2017

SPORT	HEAD COACH	ASSISTANT / JV	(JV) 9 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE	8 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE	7 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE
FOOTBALL	<b>Shawn Kuhnke</b> 9 <sup>th</sup> step	<b>Nick Hohn</b> 9 <sup>th</sup> Step <b>Chris Grote</b> 9 <sup>th</sup> Step	<b>Brady Yrjo</b> 3rd step <b>Alex Sundly</b> 2nd step	<b>Jay Sparling</b> 9 <sup>th</sup> step	<b>Aitor Leniz</b> 9 <sup>th</sup> step

<b>VOLLEYBALL</b>	<b>Britne Engelking</b> 9 <sup>th</sup> step	<b>Tammi Johnson</b> 9 <sup>th</sup> step	<b>Karen Leniz</b> 9 <sup>th</sup> step	<b>Kearina Maher</b> 6 <sup>th</sup> step	<b>Amie Yerke</b> 1st step
<b>CROSS COUNTRY</b>	<b>Joe Rajkowski</b> 9 <sup>th</sup> step	_____	_____	_____	_____
<b>BOYS BASKETBALL</b>	<b>Jeff Eklund</b> 9 <sup>th</sup> step	???	<b>Korey Sybrant</b> 1st step	<b>Nick Hohn</b> 9 <sup>th</sup> step	_____
<b>GIRLS BASKETBALL</b>	???	<b>Becky Swanson</b> 9 <sup>th</sup> step	<b>Amber Hoffman</b> 3rd step	<b>Kearina Maher</b> 6 <sup>th</sup> step	_____
<b>WRESTLING</b>	<b>Jake Shockman</b> 9 <sup>th</sup> step	_____	_____	_____	_____
<b>SOFTBALL</b>	<b>Becky Swanson</b> 9 <sup>th</sup> step	<b>Bryan Johnson</b> 9 <sup>th</sup> step	_____	???	_____
<b>BASEBALL</b>	<b>Aitor Leniz</b> 9 <sup>th</sup> step	<b>Jay Sparling</b> 9 <sup>th</sup> step	<b>David Blomdahl</b> 9 <sup>th</sup> step	<b>Nick Hohn</b> 9 <sup>th</sup> step	_____
<b>GOLF</b>	<b>Tiffany Flogel</b> 2nd step	<b>Britne Engelking</b> 9 <sup>th</sup> step	_____	_____	_____
<b>TRACK &amp; FIELD</b>	???	<b>Brea Durovec</b> 3rd step	_____	<b>Amber Hoffman</b> 3rd step	_____
<b>WEIGHT TRAINING</b>	<b>FALL</b> ??	<b>WINTER</b> ??	<b>SPRING</b> ??	<b>SUMMER</b> ??	_____

## CO-CURRICULAR FINE ARTS & ACTIVITIES ASSIGNMENTS 2016 – 2017

**SR. HIGH SPEECH:** Jennifer Lundin 9<sup>th</sup> step

**JR HIGH SPEECH:** None

**PEP BAND:** Bryan Johnson 9<sup>th</sup> step

**ECHELON:** Katie Thies 3rd step

**JAZZ:** Bryan Johnson 9<sup>th</sup> step

**SUMMER BAND:** Bryan Johnson 9<sup>th</sup> step

**ECHO (Yearbook):** Jennifer Lundin 9<sup>th</sup> step

**STUDENT COUNCIL:** Tammi Johnson 9<sup>th</sup> step

**MUSICAL DIRECTOR:** Bryan Johnson 9<sup>th</sup> step

**ASS'T MUSICAL DIRECTOR:** Tracy Fix 9<sup>th</sup> step

**MUSIC DIRECTOR - Pit Crew:** Andrea Downing 1st step

**TECHNICAL DIRECTOR:** Karl Fix 2nd step

**CHOREOGRAPHER:** Amber Hoffman 3rd step

**ACADEMIC BOWL:** Amber Hoffman 3rd step

**SPRING PLAY DIRECTOR:** Tracy Fix 9<sup>th</sup> step  
**ASS'T PLAY DIRECTOR:** Tammi Johnson 9th step  
**TECHNICAL DIRECTOR:** Bryan Johnson 9th step

**ONE ACT DIRECTOR:** Jennifer Lundin 9th step

**PROM ADVISORS:** ??? 5<sup>th</sup> step ALWAYS

**SENIOR ADVISORS:** Jennifer Lundin 5<sup>th</sup> step ALWAYS  
Bryan Johnson 5<sup>th</sup> step ALWAYS  
Beth Stone 5<sup>th</sup> step ALWAYS

**FFA: Luke Becker:** 7th step

**National Honor Society:** Beth Stone

**Geography Bee:** Lori Lemeiux

**Math Masters:** Tracy Fix

**Spelling Bee:** Jennifer Lundin

- 17. Consider authorizing calling for bids for snow plowing for 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 school years.

**ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS  
SNOWPLOWING QUOTES**

Braham Public Schools is accepting quotes for Snow Plowing for the 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 winter seasons. Quotes are to be submitted by 2 p.m. Monday, October 3, 2016 to Superintendent of Schools, 531 Elmhurst Ave S, Braham, MN 55006. For plowing specifications contact: Jeff Campbell, 763-286-7283. Braham Schools reserves the right to accept or reject any/or all quotes and waive formalities or irregularities in bidding.

- 18. Consider **THIRD** reading of MSBA and district Policies for adoption.

The following policies are being submitted for their **THIRD reading and adoption:** #201 - Legal Status of the School Board; #208 - Development, Adoption & Implementation of Policies; #209 - Code of Ethics; #301 - School District Administration; #302 - Superintendent; #303 Superintendent Selection; #304 - Superintendent Contract, Duties, and Evaluation; #305 - Policy Implementation; #306 - Administrator Code of Ethics; #511 Student Fundraising; #513 - Student Promotion, Retention, and Program Design; #518 - DNR-DNI Orders; #519 Interviews of Students by Outside Agencies; #602 - Organization of School Calendar & School Day; #606 - Textbooks & Instructional Materials; #901 - Community Education; #903 - Visitors to School District Buildings & Site.

Adopted:  
Orig. 1995  
Revised:

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 201  
Rev. 2009

## **#201 - LEGAL STATUS OF THE SCHOOL BOARD**

### **I. PURPOSE**

The care, management, and control of the schools is vested by statutory and constitutional authority in the school board. The school board shall carry out the mission of the school district with diligence, prudence, and dedication to the ideals of providing the finest public education. The purpose of this policy is to define the authority, duties, and powers of the school board in carrying out its mission.

### **II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

- A. The school board is the governing body of the school district. As such, the school board has responsibility for the care, management, and control over public schools in the school district.
- B. Generally, elected members of the school board have binding authority only when acting as a school board legally in session, except where specific authority is provided to school board members or officers individually. Generally, the school board is not bound by an action or statement on the part of an individual school board member unless the action is specifically directed or authorized by the school board.

### **III. DEFINITION**

"School board" means the governing body of the school district.

### **IV. ORGANIZATION AND MEMBERSHIP**

- A. The membership of the school board consists of six elected directors, or seven if the school board has submitted the question to the electors and a majority have approved a seven-member school board. The term of office is four years.

***[Note: This number may be different for combining or consolidating school boards that are in a transition period.]***

- B. There may be other ex officio members of the school board as provided by law. The superintendent is an ex officio member.
- C. A majority of voting members constitutes a quorum. The act of the majority of a quorum is the act of the school board.

### **V. POWERS AND DUTIES**

- A. The school board has powers and duties specified by statute. The school board's authority includes implied powers in addition to specific powers granted by the legislature.
- B. The school board exercises administrative functions. It also has certain powers of a legislative character and other powers of a quasi-judicial character.

- C. The school board shall superintend and manage the schools of the school district; adopt rules for their organization, government, and instruction; prescribe textbooks and courses of study; and make and authorize contracts.
- D. The school board shall have the general charge of the business of the school district, its facilities and property, and of the interest of the schools.
- E. The school board, among other duties, shall perform the following in accordance with applicable law:
  - 1. provide by levy of tax, necessary funds for the conduct of schools, the payment of indebtedness, and all proper expenses of the school district;
  - 2. conduct the business of the schools and pay indebtedness and proper expenses;
  - 3. employ and contract with necessary qualified teachers and discharge the same for cause;
  - 4. provide services to promote the health of its pupils;
  - 5. provide school buildings and erect needed buildings;
  - 6. purchase, sell, and exchange school district property and equipment as deemed necessary by the school board for school purposes;
  - 7. provide for payment of claims against the school district, and prosecute and defend actions by or against the school district, in all proper cases;
  - 8. employ and discharge necessary employees and contract for other services;
  - 9. provide for transportation of pupils to and from school, as governed by statute; and
  - 10. procure insurance against liability of the school district, its officers, and employees.
- F. The school board, at its discretion, may perform the following:
  - 1. provide library facilities, public evening schools, adult and continuing education programs, summer school programs, and intersession classes of flexible school year programs;
  - 2. furnish school lunches for pupils and teachers on such terms as the school board determines;
  - 3. enter into agreements with one or more other independent school districts to provide for agreed upon educational services;
  - 4. lease rooms or buildings for school purposes;
  - 5. authorize the use of school facilities for community purposes that will not interfere with their use for school purposes;

6. authorize cocurricular and extracurricular activities;
7. receive, for the benefit of the school district, bequests, donations, or gifts for any proper purpose; and
8. perform other acts as the school board shall deem to be reasonably necessary or required for the governance of the schools.

**Legal References:** Minn. Stat. § 123A.22 (Cooperative Centers)  
Minn. Stat. § 123B.02 (General Powers)  
Minn. Stat. § 123B.09 (School Board Powers)  
Minn. Stat. § 123B.14 (School District Officers)  
Minn. Stat. § 123B.23 (Liability Insurance)  
Minn. Stat. § 123B.49 (Cocurricular and Extracurricular Activities; Insurance)  
Minn. Stat. § 123B.51 (Schoolhouses and Sites; Access for Noncurricular Purposes)  
Minn. Stat. § 123B.85 (Definition)  
*Jensen v. Indep. Consol. Sch. Dist. No. 85*, 160 Minn. 233, 199 N.W. 911 (1924)

**Cross References:** MSBA/MASA Model Policy 101 (Legal Status of the School District)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 202 (School Board Officers)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 203 (Operation of the School Board -Governing Rules)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 205 (Open Meetings and Closed Meetings)  
MSBA Service Manual, Chapter 1, School District Governance, Powers and Duties  
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*Adopted:* MSBA/MASA Model Policy 208  
*Orig. 1995*  
*Revised:* Rev. 2015

**#208 DEVELOPMENT, ADOPTION, AND IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICIES**

***[Note: The provisions of this policy are recommendations. The procedures for policy development, adoption, and implementation are not specifically provided by statute.]***

**I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to emphasize the importance of the policy-making role of the school board and provide the means for it to continue to be an ongoing effort.

**II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

Formal guidelines are necessary to ensure the school community that the school system responds to its mission and operates in an effective, efficient, and consistent manner. A set of written policy statements shall be maintained and modified as needed. Policies should define the desire and intent of the school board and should be in a form which is sufficiently explicit to guide administrative action.

**III. DEVELOPMENT OF POLICY**

- A. The school board has jurisdiction to legislate policy for the school district with the force and effect of law. School board policy provides the general direction as to what the school board wishes to accomplish while delegating implementation of policy to the administration.

- B. The school board's written policies provide guidelines and goals to the school community. The policies shall be the basis for the formulation of guidelines and directives by the administration. The school board shall determine the effectiveness of the policies by evaluating periodic reports from the administration.
- C. Policies may be proposed by a school board member, employee, student or resident of the school district. Proposed policies or ideas shall be submitted to the superintendent for review prior to possible placement on the school board agenda.

#### IV. ADOPTION OF POLICY

- A. The school board shall give notice of proposed policy changes or adoption of new policies by placing the item on the agenda of two school board meetings. The proposals shall be distributed and public comment will be allowed at both meetings prior to final school board action.
- B. The final action taken to adopt the proposed policy shall be approved by a simple majority vote of the school board at a subsequent meeting after the meetings at which public input was received. The policy will be effective on the later of the date of passage or the date stated in the motion.
- C. In the case of an emergency, a new or modified policy may be adopted by a majority vote of a quorum of the school board. A statement regarding the emergency and the need for immediate adoption of the policy shall be included in the minutes. The emergency policy shall expire within one year following the emergency action unless the policy adoption procedure stated above is followed and the policy is reaffirmed. The school board shall have discretion to determine what constitutes an emergency situation.
- D. If a policy is modified with minor changes that do not affect the substance of the policy or because of a legal change over which the school board has no control, the modified policy may be approved at one meeting at the discretion of the school board.

#### V. IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICY

- A. The superintendent shall be responsible for implementing school board policies, other than the policies that cover how the school board will operate. The superintendent shall develop administrative guidelines and directives to provide greater specificity and consistency in the process of implementation. These guidelines and directives, including employee and student handbooks, shall be subject to annual review and approval by the school board.

***[Note: These policies are found in the 200 Series of the MSBA/MASA Policy Reference Manual.]***

- ~~B. Each school board member shall have access to this policy manual, and a copy shall be placed in the office of each school attendance center. Manuals shall be available in the~~



~~central office and made available for reference purposes to other interested persons.~~

**Policies shall be accessible to all members of the public on the school website.**

- C. The superintendent, employees designated by the superintendent, and individual school board members shall be responsible for keeping the policy manuals current.
- D. The school board shall review policies at least once every three years. The superintendent shall be responsible for developing a system of periodic review, addressing approximately one third of the policies annually. In addition, the school board shall review the following policies annually: 410 Family and Medical Leave Policy; 413 Harassment and Violence; 414 Mandated Reporting of Child Neglect or Physical or Sexual Abuse; 415 Mandated Reporting of Maltreatment of Vulnerable Adults; 506 Student Discipline; 514 Bullying Prohibition Policy; 522 Student Sex Nondiscrimination; 524 Internet Acceptable Use and Safety Policy; 616 School District System Accountability; and 806 Crisis Management Policy.
- E. When no school board policy exists to provide guidance on a matter, the superintendent is authorized to act appropriately under the circumstances keeping in mind the educational philosophy and financial condition of the school district. Under such circumstances, the superintendent shall advise the school board of the need for a policy and present a recommended policy to the school board for approval.

**Legal References:** Minn. Stat. § 123B.02, Subd. 1 (School District Powers)

Minn. Stat. § 123B.09, Subd. 1 (School Board Powers)

**Cross References:** MSBA/MASA Model Policy 305 (Policy Implementation)

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**Adopted:** MSBA/MASA Model Policy 209

**Orig. 1995**

**Revised:** Rev. 2009

**209 CODE OF ETHICS**

**I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to assist the individual school board member in understanding his or her role as part of a school board and in recognizing the contribution that each member must make to develop an effective and responsible school board.

**II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

Each school board member shall follow the code of ethics stated in this policy.

- A. AS A MEMBER OF THE SCHOOL BOARD, I WILL:
  - 1. Attend school board meetings.
  - 2. Come to the meetings prepared for discussion of the agenda items.
  - 3. Listen to the opinions and views of others (including, but not limited to, other school

board members, administration, staff, students, and community members).

4. Vote my conscience after informed discussion, unless I abstain because a conflict of interest exists.
5. Support the decision of the school board, even if my position concerning the issue was different.
6. Recognize the integrity of my predecessors and associates and appreciate their work.
7. Be primarily motivated by a desire to provide the best possible education for the students of my school district.
8. Inform myself about the proper duties and functions of a school board member.

B. IN PERFORMING THE PROPER FUNCTIONS OF A SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER, I WILL:

1. Focus on education policy as much as possible.
2. Remember my responsibility is to set policy – not to implement policy.
3. Consider myself a trustee of public education and do my best to protect, conserve, and advance its progress.
4. Recognize that my responsibility, exercised through the actions of the school board as a whole, is to see that the schools are properly run – not to run them myself.
5. Work through the superintendent – not over or around the superintendent.
6. Delegate the implementation of school board decisions to the superintendent.

C. TO MAINTAIN RELATIONS WITH OTHER MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL BOARD, I WILL:

1. Respect the rights of others to have and express opinions.
2. Recognize that authority rests with the school board in legal session – not with the individual members of the school board except as authorized by law.
3. Make no disparaging remarks, in or out of school board meetings, about other members of the school board or their opinions.
4. Keep an open mind about how I will vote on any proposition until the board has met and fully discussed the issue.
5. Make decisions by voting in school board meetings after all sides of debatable questions have been presented.
6. Insist that committees be appointed to serve only in an advisory capacity to the school board.

D. IN MEETING MY RESPONSIBILITIES TO MY COMMUNITY, I WILL:

1. Attempt to appraise and plan for both the present and future educational needs of the school district and community.
2. Attempt to obtain adequate financial support for the school district's programs.
3. Insist that business transactions of the school district be ethical and open.
4. Strive to uphold my responsibilities and accountability to the taxpayers in my school district.

E. IN WORKING WITH THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS AND STAFF, I WILL:

1. Hold the superintendent responsible for the administration of the school district.
2. Give the superintendent authority commensurate with his or her responsibilities.
3. Assure that the school district will be administered by the best professional personnel available.
4. Consider the recommendation of the superintendent in hiring all employees.
5. Participate in school board action after considering the recommendation of the superintendent and only after the superintendent has furnished adequate information supporting the recommendation.
6. Insist the superintendent keep the school board adequately informed at all times.
7. Offer the superintendent counsel and advice.
8. Recognize the status of the superintendent as the chief executive officer and a non-voting, ex officio member of the school board.
9. Refer all complaints to the proper administrative officer or insist that they be presented in writing to the whole school board for proper referral according to the chain of command.
10. Present any personal criticisms of employees to the superintendent.
11. Provide support for the superintendent and employees of the school district so they may perform their proper functions on a professional level.

F. IN FULFILLING MY LEGAL OBLIGATIONS AS A SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER, I WILL:

1. Comply with all federal, state, and local laws relating to my work as a school board member.
2. Comply with all school district policies as adopted by the school board.
3. Abide by all rules and regulations as promulgated by the Minnesota Department of Education and other state and federal agencies with jurisdiction over school districts.

4. Recognize that school district business may be legally transacted only in an open meeting of the school board.
5. Avoid conflicts of interest and refrain from using my school board position for personal gain.
6. Take no private action that will compromise the school board or administration.
7. Guard the confidentiality of information that is protected under applicable law.

*Legal References:* Minn. Stat. § 123B.02, Subd. 1 (School District Powers)

Minn. Stat. § 123B.09 (School Board Powers)

Minn. Stat. § 123B.143, Subd. 1 (Superintendent)

*Cross References:* MSBA Service Manual, Chapter 1, School Board Member Code of Ethics

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*Adopted:* MSBA/MASA Model Policy 301

*Orig. 1995*

*Revised:* Rev. 2011

## **#301 - SCHOOL DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION**

### **I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to clarify the role of the school district administration and its relationship with the school board.

### **II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

- A. Effective administration and sound management practices are essential to realizing educational excellence. It is the responsibility of the school district administration to develop a school environment that recognizes the dignity of each student and employee, and the right of each student to access educational programs and services.
- B. The school board expects all activities related to the operation of the school district to be administered in a well-planned manner, conducted in an orderly fashion, and to be consistent with the policies of the school board.
- C. The school board shall seek specific recommendations, background information and professional advice from the school district administration, and will hold the administration accountable for sound management of the schools.
- D. Although the school board holds the superintendent ultimately responsible for administration of the school district and annual evaluation of each principal, the school board also recognizes the direct responsibility of principals for educational results and effective administration, supervisory, and instructional leadership at the school building level.
- E. The school board and school administration shall work together to share information and decisions

that best serve the needs of school district students within financial and facility constraints that may exist.

*Legal References:* Minn. Stat. § 123B.143 (Superintendent)

Minn. Stat. § 123B.147 (Principals)

*Cross References:* MSBA Service Manual, Chapter 3, Superintendent of Schools

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*Adopted:* MSBA/MASA Model Policy 302

*Orig. 1995*

*Revised:* Rev. 2011

**#302 - SUPERINTENDENT**

**I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to recognize the importance of the role of the superintendent and the overall responsibility of that position within the school district.

**II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

The school board shall employ a superintendent who shall serve as an ex officio, nonvoting member of the school board and as chief executive officer of the school system.

**III. GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

- A. The superintendent is responsible for the management of the schools, the administration of all school district policies, and is directly accountable to the school board.
- B. The superintendent shall annually evaluate each principal assigned responsibility for supervising a school building in the district.
- C. The superintendent may delegate responsibilities to other school district personnel, but shall continue to be accountable for actions taken under such delegation.
- D. Where responsibilities are not specifically prescribed, nor school board policy applicable, the superintendent shall use personal and professional judgment, subject to review by the school board.

*Legal References:* Minn. Stat. § 123B.143 (Superintendent)

*Cross References:* MSBA/MASA Model Policy 202 (School Board Officers)

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 208 (Development, Adoption, and Implementation of Policies)

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 214 (Out-of-State Travel by School Board Members)

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 301 (School District Administration)

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 303 (Superintendent Selection)

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 304 (Superintendent Contract, Duties, and Evaluation)

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 305 (Policy Implementation)

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 306 (Administrator Code of Ethics)

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 412 (Expense Reimbursement)

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 510 (School Activities)  
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 511 (Student Fundraising)  
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 513 (Student Promotion, Retention, and Program Design)  
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 602 (Organization of School Calendar and School Day)  
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 605 (Alternative Programs)  
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 701 (Establishment and Adoption of School District Budget)  
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 704 (Development and Maintenance of an Inventory of Fixed Assets and a Fixed Asset Accounting System)  
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 802 (Disposition of Obsolete Equipment and Material)  
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 903 (Visitors to School District Buildings and Sites)  
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 905 (Advertising)  
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 906 (Community Notification of Predatory Offenders)  
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 907 (Rewards)  
 MSBA Service Manual, Chapter 3, Superintendent of Schools  
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*Adopted:* MSBA/MASA Model Policy 303  
*Orig. 1995*  
*Revised:* Rev. 2003

**#303 - SUPERINTENDENT SELECTION**

**I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to convey to the school community that the authority to select and employ a superintendent is vested in the school board.

**II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

The school board shall employ a superintendent to serve as the chief executive officer of the school board and to conduct the daily operations of the school district.

**III. QUALIFICATIONS**

- A. The school board shall consider applicants who meet or exceed the licensing standards set by the Minnesota Board of School Administrators and qualifications established in the job description for the superintendent position. State and federal equal employment and nondiscrimination requirements shall be observed throughout the recruitment and selection process.
- B. The school board will consider professional preparation, experience, skill and demonstrated competence of qualified applicants in making a final decision.

**IV. SELECTION**

- A. A process for recruitment, screening, and interviewing of candidates shall be developed by the school board.
- B. The school board may contract for assistance in the search for a superintendent.

- C. The school board shall provide the contract for the superintendent and specifically identify all conditions of employment mutually agreed upon with the superintendent. In so doing, the school board shall observe all requirements of state and federal law and school board policy.

*Legal References:* Minn. Stat. § 123B.143 (Superintendent)

Minn. Rules, Chapter 3512

*Cross References:* MSBA Service Manual, Chapter 3, Superintendent of Schools

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*Adopted:* MSBA/MASA Model Policy 304

*Orig. 1995*

*Revised:* Rev. 1999

**#304 - SUPERINTENDENT CONTRACT, DUTIES, AND EVALUATION**

**I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to provide for the use of an employment contract with the superintendent, a position description and the use of an approved instrument to evaluate performance.

**II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

- A. The superintendent’s contract shall be used to formalize the employment relationship and to specifically identify and clarify all conditions of employment with the superintendent.
- B. The specific duties for which the superintendent is accountable shall be set forth in a position description for the superintendent and shall be measured by a performance appraisal instrument approved by the school board in consultation with the superintendent. The school board shall use this instrument to periodically evaluate the performance of the superintendent.
- C. The school board may use the model contract approved by the boards of the Minnesota School Boards Association and the Minnesota Association of School Administrators as a model instrument.

*Legal References:* Minn. Stat. § 123B.143 (Superintendent)

*Cross References:* MSBA Service Manual, Chapter 3, Superintendent of Schools (See Model Contract, Sample Performance Appraisals, and Model Job Description)

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*Adopted:* MSBA/MASA Model Policy 305

*Orig. 1995*

*Revised:* Rev. 1999

**#305 - POLICY IMPLEMENTATION**

**I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to clarify the responsibility of the school administration for implementation of school board policy.

**II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

- A. It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to implement school board policy and to recommend additions or modifications thereto. The administration is authorized to develop guidelines and directives to effectuate the implementation of school board policies. These guidelines and directives shall not be inconsistent with said policies. At least annually, these written procedures shall be presented to the school board for review.
- B. Employee and student handbooks shall be subject to annual review and approval by the school board.
- C. School principals and other administrators who have handbook responsibilities shall present recommended changes necessary to reflect new or modified policies. Changes of substance within handbooks shall be reviewed by the superintendent to assure compliance with school board policy and shall be approved by the school board.

*Legal References:* Minn. Stat. § 123B.143 (Superintendent)

*Cross References:* MSBA/MASA Model Policy 208 (Development, Adoption, and Implementation of Policies)

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*Adopted:* MSBA/MASA Model Policy 306  
*Orig. 1995*  
*Revised:* Rev. 2002

**#306 - ADMINISTRATOR CODE OF ETHICS**

**I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to establish the requirements of the school board that school administrators adhere to the standards of ethics and professional conduct in this policy and Minnesota law.

**II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

- A. An educational administrator’s professional behavior must conform to an ethical code. The code must be idealistic and at the same time practical, so that it can apply reasonably to all educational administrators. The administrator acknowledges that the schools belong to the public they serve for the purpose of providing educational opportunities to all. However, the administrator assumes responsibility for providing professional leadership in the school and community. This responsibility requires the administrator to maintain standards of exemplary professional conduct. It must be recognized that the administrator’s actions will be viewed and appraised by the community, professional associates, and students. To these ends, the administrator must subscribe to the following standards.
- B. The Educational Administrator:



1. Makes the well-being of students the fundamental value of all decision-making and actions.
2. Fulfills professional responsibilities with honesty and integrity.
3. Supports the principle of due process and protects the civil and human rights of all individuals.
4. Obeys local, state, and national laws and does not knowingly join or support organizations that advocate, directly or indirectly, the overthrow of the government.
5. Implements the school board's policies.
6. Pursues appropriate measures to correct those laws, policies, and regulations that are not consistent with sound educational goals.
7. Avoids using positions for personal gain through political, social, religious, economic, or other influence.
8. Accepts academic degrees or professional certification only from duly accredited institutions.
9. Maintains the standards and seeks to improve the effectiveness of the profession through research and continuing professional development.
10. Honors all contracts until fulfillment, release, or dissolution is mutually agreed upon by all parties to the contract.
11. Adheres to the Code of Ethics for School Administrators in Minnesota Rule.

*Legal References:* Minn. Stat. § 122A.14, Subd. 4 (Code of Ethics)  
Minn. Rules Part 3512.5200 (Code of Ethics for School Administrators)

*Cross References:*

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*Adopted:* MSBA/MASA Model Policy 511  
*Orig. 1995*  
*Revised:* Rev. 2003

**#511 - STUDENT FUNDRAISING**

**I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to address student fundraising efforts.

**II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

The school board recognizes a desire and a need by some student organizations for fundraising. The school board also recognizes a need for some constraint to prevent fundraising activities from becoming too numerous and overly demanding on employees, students and the general public.

**III. RESPONSIBILITY**

- A. It shall be the responsibility of the building administrators to develop recommendations to the superintendent that will result in a level of activity deemed acceptable by employees, parents and students. Fundraising must be conducted in a manner that will not result in embarrassment on the part of individual students, employees, or the school.
- B. All fundraising activities must be approved in advance by the administration. Participation in non-approved activities shall be considered a violation of school district policy.
- C. It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to provide coordination of student fundraising throughout the school district as deemed appropriate.
- D. The school district expects all students who participate in approved fundraising activities to represent the school, the student organization and the community in a responsible manner. All rules pertaining to student conduct and student discipline extend to student fundraising activities.
- E. The school district expects all employees who plan, supervise, coordinate, or participate in student fundraising activities to act in the best interests of the students and to represent the school, the student organization, and the community in a responsible manner.

**IV. ANNUAL REPORT**

The superintendent shall report to the school board, at least annually, on the nature and scope of student fundraising activities approved pursuant to this policy.

*Legal References:* Minn. Stat. § 120A.20 (Age Limitations; Pupils)  
Minn. Stat. § 123B.09, Subd. 8 (Duties)  
Minn. Stat. § 123B.36 (Authorized Fees)

*Cross References:* MSBA/MASA Model Policy 506 (Student Discipline)

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*Adopted:* MSBA/MASA Model Policy 513  
*Orig. 1995*  
*Revised:* Rev. 2007

**#513 - STUDENT PROMOTION, RETENTION, AND PROGRAM DESIGN**

**I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance to professional staff, parents and students regarding student promotion, retention and program design.

**II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

The school board expects all students to achieve at an acceptable level of proficiency. Parental assistance, tutorial and remedial programs, counseling and other appropriate services shall be coordinated and utilized to the greatest extent possible to help students succeed in school.

A. Promotion

Students who achieve at levels deemed acceptable by local and state standards shall be promoted to the next grade level at the completion of each school year.

B. Retention

Retention of a student may be considered when professional staff and parents feel that it is in the best interest of the student. Physical development, maturity, and emotional factors shall be considered as well as scholastic achievement. The superintendent's decision shall be final.

C. Program Design

1. The superintendent, with participation of the professional staff and parents, shall develop and implement programs to challenge students that are consistent with the needs of students at every level. A procedure for screening and identifying students for program assignment shall be developed in coordination with such programs. Opportunities for special programs and placement outside of the school district shall also be developed as additional options.

2. The school district will adopt procedures for the academic acceleration of gifted and talented students. These procedures will include how the school district will:

- a. assess a student's readiness and motivation for acceleration; and
- b. match the level, complexity, and pace of the curriculum to a student to achieve the best type of academic acceleration for that student.

**Legal References:** Minn. Stat. § 120B.15 (Gifted and Talented Program)

Minn. Stat. § 123B.143, Subd. 1 (Superintendents)

**Cross References:** 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 Assurance of Preparatory and High School Standards)

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

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 620 (Credit for Learning)

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**Adopted:** MSBA/MASA Model Policy 518

**Orig.** 1995

**Revised:** Rev. 2003

**#518 - DNR-DNI ORDERS**

**I. PURPOSE**

The school district recognizes that it is serving students with complex health needs. The school district also recognizes that school district staff may be confronted with requests to withhold emergency care of a student in the event of a life threatening situation at school or school activities or be presented with Do Not

Resuscitate/Do Not Intubate (DNR-DNI) orders. The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance to school district staff and parents or guardians in these situations.

**II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

- A. The primary mission of the school district is education. DNR-DNI orders are medical documents. School district staff will not accept or honor requests to withhold emergency care or DNR-DNI orders. The school district will not convey such orders to emergency medical personnel.
- B. School district staff will provide reasonable emergency care and assistance when a student is undergoing a medical emergency during school or school activities.
- C. School district staff will activate emergency medical services (911) as soon as possible when a student is undergoing a medical emergency during school or school activities.
- D. The parent/guardian will be notified of the emergency as soon as possible.
- E. Notwithstanding this school district policy, IEP and Section 504 teams must develop individualized medical emergency care plans for students when appropriate in accordance with state and federal law.
- F. Parents/guardians who request that emergency care be withheld for their child or who present DNR-DNI orders, shall be advised of and shall be given a copy of this policy.

*Legal References:* 29 U.S.C. § 794 *et seq.* (Rehabilitation Act of 1973, § 504)  
42 U.S.C. §§ 12101-12213 (Americans with Disabilities Act)

*Cross References:*

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*Adopted:* MSBA/MASA Model Policy 519  
*Orig. 1995*  
*Revised:* Rev. 2002

**#519 - INTERVIEWS OF STUDENTS BY OUTSIDE AGENCIES**

**I. PURPOSE**

There are occasions in which persons other than school district officials and employees find it necessary to speak with a student during the school day. Student safety and disruption of the educational program is of concern to the school district. The purpose of this policy is to establish the procedures for access to students by authorized individuals during the school day.

**II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

- A. Generally, students may not be interviewed during the school day by persons other than a student's

parents, school district officials, employees and/or agents, except as otherwise provided by law and/or this policy.

- B. Requests from law enforcement officers and those other than a student's parents, school district officials, employees and/or agents to interview students shall be made through the principal's office. Upon receiving a request, it shall be the responsibility of the principal to determine whether the request will be granted. Prior to granting a request, the principal shall attempt to contact the student's parents to inform them of the request, except where otherwise prohibited by law.

### III. INTERVIEWS CONDUCTED UNDER THE MALTREATMENT OF MINORS ACT

- A. In the case of an investigation pursuant to the Maltreatment of Minors Act, Minn. Stat. § 626.556, Subd. 10, a local welfare agency, the agency responsible for investigating the report, and a local law enforcement agency may interview, without parental consent, an alleged victim and any minors who currently reside with or who have resided with the alleged perpetrator. The interview may take place at school and during school hours. School district officials will work with the local welfare agency, the agency responsible for investigating the report, or law enforcement agency to select a place appropriate for the interview. The interview may take place outside the presence of the perpetrator or parent, legal custodian, guardian, or school district official.
- B. If the interview took place or is to take place on school district property, an order of the juvenile court pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 626.556, Subd. 10 (c) may specify that school district officials may not disclose to the parent, legal custodian, or guardian the contents of the notification of intent to interview the child on school district property and/or any other related information regarding the interview that may be a part of the child's record. The school district official must receive a copy of the order from the local welfare or law enforcement agency.
- C. When the local welfare agency, local law enforcement agency, or agency responsible for assessing or investigating a report of maltreatment determines that an interview should take place on school district property, school district officials must receive written notification of intent to interview the child on school district property prior to the interview. The notification shall include the name of the child to be interviewed, the purpose of the interview, and a reference to the statutory authority to conduct an interview on school district property. Where the interviews are conducted by the local welfare agency, the notification must be signed by the chair of the local social services agency or the chair's designee. The notification is private educational data on the student. School district officials may not disclose to the parent, legal custodian or guardian the contents of the notification or any other related information regarding the interview until notified in writing by the local welfare or law enforcement agency that the investigation or assessment has been concluded, unless a school employee or agent is alleged to have maltreated the child. Until school district officials receive said notification, all inquiries regarding the nature of the investigation or assessment should be directed to the local welfare or law enforcement agency or the agency responsible for assessing or investigating a report of maltreatment shall be solely responsible for any disclosure regarding the nature of the assessment or investigation.
- D. School district officials shall have discretion to reasonably schedule the time, place, and manner of

an interview by a local welfare or local law enforcement agency on school district premises. However, where the alleged perpetrator is believed to be a school district official or employee, the local welfare or local law enforcement agency will have discretion to determine where the interview will be held. The interview must be conducted not more than 24 hours after the receipt of the notification unless another time is considered necessary by agreement between the school district officials and the local welfare or law enforcement agency. However, school district officials must yield to the discretion of the local welfare or law enforcement agency concerning other persons in attendance at the interview. School district officials will make every effort to reduce the disruption to the educational program of the child, other students, or school staff when an interview is conducted on school district premises.

- E. Students shall not be taken from school district property without the consent of the principal and without proper warrant.

*Legal References:* Minn. Stat. § 13.32 (Educational Data)

Minn. Stat. § 626.556, Subd. 10(c) and (d) (Duties of Local Welfare Agency and Local Law Enforcement Agency Upon Receipt of a Report)

*Cross References:* MSBA/MASA Model Policy 103 (Complaints – Students, Employees, Parents, Other Persons)

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 414 (Mandated Reporting of Child Neglect or Physical or Sexual Abuse)

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 515 (Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records)

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*Adopted:* MSBA/MASA Model Policy 602

*Orig. 1995*

*Revised:* Rev. 2013

## **#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.]**

**[Note: To the extent the school board offers K-12 teachers the opportunity for more staff development training under Minn. Stat. § 122A.40, Subds. 7 and 7a, or Minn. Stat. § 122A.41, Subds. 4 and 4a, the school district shall adopt as its school calendar a total of 240 days of student instruction and staff development, of which the total number of staff development days equals the difference between the total number of days of student instruction and 240 days. The school board may schedule additional staff development days throughout the calendar year.]**

- 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., III.B.2., or III.B.3. 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.
  - 2. The school district may begin the school year on any day before Labor Day if the school district has agreement under Minn. Stat. § 123A.30, § 123A.32, or § 123A.35 with a school district that qualifies under Section III.B.1.
  - 3. The school district may begin the school year on any day before Labor Day if the school district agrees to the same schedule with a school district in an adjoining state.
- C. Employee and advisory groups 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)  
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**Adopted:** MSBA/MASA Model Policy 606  
**Orig. 1995**  
**Revised:** Rev. 2005

**#606 - TEXTBOOKS AND INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS**

**I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to provide direction for selection of textbooks and instructional materials.

**II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

The school board recognizes that selection of textbooks and instructional materials is a vital component of the school district's curriculum. The school board also recognizes that it has the authority to make final decisions on selection of all textbooks and instructional materials.

**III. RESPONSIBILITY OF SELECTION**

- A. While the school board retains its authority to make final decisions on the selection of textbooks and instructional materials, the school board recognizes the expertise of the professional staff and the vital need of such staff to be primarily involved in the recommendation of textbooks and instructional materials. Accordingly, the school board delegates to the superintendent the responsibility to direct the professional staff in formulating recommendations to the school board on textbooks and other instructional materials.



- B. In reviewing textbooks and instructional materials during the selection process, the professional staff shall select materials which:
1. support the goals and objectives of the education programs;
  2. consider the needs, age, and maturity of students;
  3. foster respect and appreciation for cultural diversity and varied opinion;
  4. fit within the constraints of the school district budget;
  5. are in the English language. Another language may be used, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 124D.61;
  6. permit grade-level instruction for students to read and study America's founding documents, including documents that contributed to the foundation or maintenance of America's representative form of limited government, the Bill of Rights, our free-market economic system, and patriotism; and
  7. do not censor or restrain instruction in American or Minnesota state history or heritage based on religious references in original source documents, writings, speeches, proclamations, or records.
- C. The superintendent shall be responsible for developing procedures and guidelines to establish an orderly process for the review and recommendation of textbooks and other instructional materials by the professional staff. Such procedures and guidelines shall provide opportunity for input and consideration of the views of students, parents, and other interested members of the school district community. This procedure shall be coordinated with the school district's curriculum development effort and may utilize advisory committees.

#### **IV. SELECTION OF TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS**

- A. The superintendent shall be responsible for keeping the school board informed of progress on the part of staff and others involved in the textbook and other instructional materials review and selection process.
- B. The superintendent shall present a recommendation to the school board on the selection of textbooks and other instructional materials after completion of the review process as outlined in this policy.

#### **V. RECONSIDERATION OF TEXTBOOKS OR OTHER INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS**

- A. The school board recognizes differences of opinion on the part of some members of the school district community relating to certain areas of the instruction program. Interested persons may request an opportunity to review materials and submit a request for reconsideration of the use of certain textbooks or instructional materials.
- B. The superintendent shall be responsible for the development of guidelines and procedures to identify the steps to be followed to seek reconsideration of textbooks or other instructional materials.
- C. The superintendent shall present a procedure to the school board for review and approval

regarding reconsideration of textbooks or other instructional materials. When approved by the school board, such procedure shall be an addendum to this policy.

**Legal References:** Minn. Stat. § 120A.22, Subd. 9 (Compulsory Instruction – Curriculum)

Minn. Stat. § 120B.235 (American Heritage Education)

Minn. Stat. § 123B.02, Subd. 2 (General Powers of Independent School Districts)

Minn. Stat. § 123B.09, Subd. 8 (School Board Responsibilities)

Minn. Stat. § 124D.59-124D.61 (Limited English Proficiency)

Minn. Stat. § 127A.10 (State Officials and School Board Members to be Disinterested; Penalty)

*Hazelwood Sch. Dist. v. Kuhlmeier*, 484 U.S. 260, 108 S.Ct. 562, 98 L.Ed.2d 592 (1988)

*Pratt v. Independent Sch. Dist. No. 831*, 670 F.2d 771 (8<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1982)

**Cross References:** MSBA/MASA Model Policy 603 (Curriculum Development)

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 604 (Instructional Curriculum)

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*Adopted:* MSBA/MASA Model Policy 901

*Orig. 1995*

*Revised:* Rev. 1999

## #901 - COMMUNITY EDUCATION

### I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to convey to employees and to the general public the important role of community education within the school district.

### II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The school board affirms a strong commitment to the community education program. The school board welcomes, and strongly encourages use of school buildings and activity areas by the community when not used for regularly scheduled elementary and secondary programs. The school administration should strive to accomplish the following objectives:

- A. Maximum use should be made of public school facilities within the school district service area.
- B. Educational needs and interest of area residents should be determined periodically.
- C. Community resources and expertise of residents should be utilized to develop a vibrant, well-rounded community education program.
- D. Area residents should be encouraged to actively participate in program opportunities.

### III. COMMUNITY EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

- A. The council shall assist in promoting the goals and objectives of the program.
- B. The membership of the community education advisory will consist of members who represent: various service organizations; churches; public and nonpublic schools; local government including elected officials; public and private nonprofit agencies serving youth and families; parents; youth; park, recreation or forestry services of municipal or local

government units located in whole or in part within the boundaries of the school district; and any other groups participating in the community education program in the school district.

C. Bylaws of the community education advisory council shall provide the framework for the organization including criteria pertaining to membership, officers' duties, frequency and structure of meetings and such other matters as deemed necessary and appropriate.

D. The council will adopt a policy to reduce and eliminate program duplication within the school district.

*Legal References:* Minn. Stat. § 123B.51 (Schoolhouses and Sites; Access for Noncurricular Purposes)

Minn. Stat. § 124D.19, Subd. 1 (Community Education Programs; Advisory Council)

Minn. Stat. § 124D.20, Subd. 1 (Community Education Revenue)

*Cross References:* MSBA/MASA Model Policy 902 (Use of School District Facilities and Equipment)

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*Adopted:* MSBA/MASA Model Policy 903

*Orig. 1995*

*Revised:* Rev. 2002

**#903 VISITORS TO SCHOOL DISTRICT BUILDINGS AND SITES**

**I. PURPOSE**

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

**II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

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

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

**III. RESPONSIBILITY**

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

- B. It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to provide coordination that may be needed throughout the process and provide for periodic school board review and approval of the procedures.

**IV. VISITOR LIMITATIONS**

- A. An individual or group may be denied permission to visit a school or school property or such permission may be revoked if the visitor(s) does not comply with the school district procedures and regulations or if the visit is not in the best interest of students, employees or the school district.
- B. Visitors are authorized to park vehicles on school property at times and in locations specified in the approved visitor procedures and requirements which are an addendum to this policy or as otherwise specifically authorized by school officials. When unauthorized vehicles of visitors are parked on school property, school officials may:
  - 1. move the vehicle or require the driver or other person in charge of the vehicle to move it off school district property; or
  - 2. if unattended, provide for the removal of the vehicle, at the expense of the owner or operator, to the nearest convenient garage or other place of safety off of school property.
- C. An individual or group who enters school property without complying with the procedures and requirements may be guilty of criminal trespass and thus subject to criminal penalty. Such persons may be detained by the school principal or a person designated by the school principal in a reasonable manner for a reasonable period of time pending the arrival of a police officer.

*Legal References:* Minn. Stat. § 123B.02 (General Powers of Independent School Districts)  
Minn. Stat. § 128C.08 (Assaulting a Sports Official Prohibited)  
Minn. Stat. § 609.605, Subd. 4 (Trespasses on School Property)

*Cross References:*

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- 25. Consider **SECOND** reading of MSBA and district Policies for update and revision.

This policy was just added by MSBA and is being submitted for its second reading. **NO FURTHER ACTION IS REQUIRED AT THIS TIME.**

#721 - Uniform Grant Guidance Policy Regarding (replaces old DDA)

Adopted: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 721  
Orig. 2016  
Revised:

**721 UNIFORM GRANT GUIDANCE POLICY REGARDING FEDERAL REVENUE SOURCES**

**[Note: School districts are required by the federal Uniform Grant Guidance regulations, 2 C.F.R. Part 200, to have the policies which establish uniform administrative requirements, cost principles, and**

***audit requirements for federal awards to non-federal entities including school districts. The United States Office of Management and Budget published the final regulations December 26, 2013. The Uniform Grant Guidance is effective for new and continuation federal grant awards issued on or after December 26, 2014. The regulations do not affect grant funds awarded prior to December 26, 2014, unless funds made available under those grants are carried forward into a new federal fiscal year or a continuation grant. 2 C.F.R. § 200.110.]***

## **I. PURPOSE**

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

## **II. DEFINITIONS**

### **A. Grants**

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

***[Note: All of the requirements outlined in this policy apply to both direct grants and state-administered grants.]***

- B. "Non-federal entity" means a state, local government, Indian tribe, institution of higher education, or nonprofit organization that carries out a federal award as a recipient or subrecipient.
- C. "Federal award" has the meaning, depending on the context, in either paragraph 1. or 2. of this definition:
  1.
    - a. The federal financial assistance that a non-federal entity receives directly from a federal awarding agency or indirectly from a pass-through entity, as described in 2 C.F.R. § 200.101 (Applicability); or
    - b. The cost-reimbursement contract under the federal Acquisition Regulations that a non-federal entity receives directly from a federal awarding agency or indirectly from a pass-through entity, as described in 2 C.F.R. § 200.101 (Applicability).
  2. The instrument setting forth the terms and conditions. The instrument is the grant agreement, cooperative agreement, other agreement for assistance covered in paragraph (b) of 2 C.F.R. § 200.40 (Federal Financial Assistance), or the cost-reimbursement contract awarded under the federal Acquisition Regulations.
  3. "Federal award" does not include other contracts that a federal agency uses to buy goods or services from a contractor or a contract to operate federal-government-owned, contractor-operated facilities.

- D. "Contract" means a legal instrument by which a non-federal entity purchases property or services needed to carry out the project or program under a federal award. The term, as used in 2 C.F.R. Part 200, does not include a legal instrument, even if the non-federal entity considers it a contract, when the substance of the transaction meets the definition of a federal award or subaward.
- E. Procurement Methods
1. "Procurement by micro-purchase" is the acquisition of supplies or services, the aggregate dollar amount of which does not exceed the micro-purchase threshold (generally \$3,000, except as otherwise discussed in 48 C.F.R. Subpart 2.1 or as periodically adjusted for inflation).
  2. "Procurement by small purchase procedures" are those relatively simple and informal procurement methods for securing services, supplies, or other property that do not cost more than \$150,000 (periodically adjusted for inflation).
  3. "Procurement by sealed bids (formal advertising)" is a publicly solicited and a firm, fixed-price contract (lump sum or unit price) awarded to the responsible bidder whose bid, conforming to all the material terms and conditions of the invitation for bids, is the lowest in price.
  4. "Procurement by competitive proposals" is normally conducted with more than one source submitting an offer, and either a fixed-price or cost-reimbursement type contract is awarded. Competitive proposals are generally used when conditions are not appropriate for the use of sealed bids.
  5. "Procurement by noncompetitive proposals" is procurement through solicitation of a proposal from only one source.
- F. "Equipment" means tangible personal property (including information technology systems) having a useful life of more than one year and a per-unit acquisition cost which exceeds the lesser of the capitalization level established by the non-federal entity for financial statement purposes, or \$5,000.
- G. "Compensation for personal services" includes all remuneration, paid currently or accrued, for services of employees rendered during the period of performance under the federal award, including, but not necessarily limited to, wages and salaries. Compensation for personal services may also include fringe benefits which are addressed in 2 C.F.R. § 200.431 (Compensation - Fringe Benefits).
- H. "Post-retirement health plans" refer to costs of health insurance or health services not included in a pension plan covered by 2 C.F.R. § 200.431(g) for retirees and their spouses, dependents, and survivors.
- I. "Severance pay" is a payment in addition to regular salaries and wages by the non-federal entities to workers whose employment is being terminated.
- J. "Direct costs" are those costs that can be identified specifically with a particular final cost objective, such as a federal award, or other internally or externally funded activity, or that can be directly assigned to such activities relatively easily with a high degree of accuracy.

- K. "Relocation costs" are costs incident to the permanent change of duty assignment (for an indefinite period or for a stated period not less than 12 months) of an existing employee or upon recruitment of a new employee.
- L. "Travel costs" are the expenses for transportation, lodging, subsistence, and related items incurred by employees who are in travel status on official business of the school district.

### **III. CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

- A. Employee Conflict of Interest. No employee, officer, or agent may participate in the selection, award, or administration of a contract supported by a federal award if he or she has a real or apparent conflict of interest. Such a conflict of interest would arise when the employee, officer, or agent, any member of his or her immediate family, his or her partner, or an organization which employs or is about to employ any of the parties indicated herein, has a financial or other interest in or a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for a contract. The employees, officers, and agents of the school district may neither solicit nor accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from contractors or parties to subcontracts. However, the school district may set standards for situations in which the financial interest is not substantial or the gift is an unsolicited item of nominal value. The standards of conduct must provide for disciplinary actions to be applied for violations of such standards by employees, officers, or agents of the school district.
- B. Organizational Conflicts of Interest. The school district is unable or appears to be unable to be impartial in conducting a procurement action involving the related organization because of relationships with a parent company, affiliate, or subsidiary organization.
- C. Disclosing Conflicts of Interest. The school district must disclose in writing any potential conflict of interest to MDE in accordance with applicable federal awarding agency policy.

### **IV. ACCEPTABLE METHODS OF PROCUREMENT**

- A. General Procurement Standards. The school district must use its own documented procurement procedures which reflect applicable state laws, provided that the procurements conform to the applicable federal law and the standards identified in the Uniform Grant Guidance.
- B. The school district must maintain oversight to ensure that contractors perform in accordance with the terms, conditions, and specifications of their contracts or purchase orders.
- C. The school district's procedures must avoid acquisition of unnecessary or duplicative items. Consideration should be given to consolidating or breaking out procurements to obtain a more economical purchase. Where appropriate, an analysis will be made of lease versus purchase alternatives and any other appropriate analysis to determine the most economical approach.
- D. The school district must award contracts only to responsible contractors possessing the ability to perform successfully under the terms and conditions of a proposed procurement. Consideration will be given to such matters as contractor integrity, compliance with public policy, record of past performance, and financial and technical resources.

- E. The school district must maintain records sufficient to detail the history of procurement. These records will include, but are not necessarily limited to, the following: rationale for the method of procurement; selection of the contract type; contractor selection or rejection; and the basis for the contract price.
- F. The school district alone must be responsible, in accordance with good administrative practice and sound business judgment, for the settlement of all contractual and administrative issues arising out of procurements. These issues include, but are not limited to, source evaluation, protests, disputes, and claims. These standards do not relieve the school district of any contractual responsibilities under its contracts.
- G. The school district must take all necessary affirmative steps to assure that minority businesses, women's business enterprises, and labor surplus area firms are used when possible.
- H. Methods of Procurement. The school district must use one of the following methods of procurement:
  - 1. Procurement by micro-purchases. To the extent practicable, the school district must distribute micro-purchases equitably among qualified suppliers. Micro-purchases may be awarded without soliciting competitive quotations if the school district considers the price to be reasonable.
  - 2. Procurement by small purchase procedures. If small purchase procedures are used, price or rate quotations must be obtained from an adequate number of qualified sources.
  - 3. Procurement by sealed bids (formal advertising).
  - 4. Procurement by competitive proposals. If this method is used, the following requirements apply:
    - a. Requests for proposals must be publicized and identify all evaluation factors and their relative importance. Any response to publicized requests for proposals must be considered to the maximum extent practical;
    - b. Proposals must be solicited from an adequate number of qualified sources;
    - c. The school district must have a written method for conducting technical evaluations of the proposals received and for selecting recipients;
    - d. Contracts must be awarded to the responsible firm whose proposal is most advantageous to the program, with price and other factors considered; and
    - e. The school district may use competitive proposal procedures for qualifications-based procurement of architectural/engineering (A/E) professional services whereby competitors' qualifications are evaluated and the most qualified competitor is selected, subject to negotiation of fair and reasonable compensation. The method where price is not used as a selection factor can only be used in procurement of A/E professional services; it cannot be used to purchase other types of services, though A/E firms are a potential source to perform the proposed effort.
  - 5. Procurement by noncompetitive proposals. Procurement by noncompetitive proposals may be used only when one or more of the following circumstances apply:
    - a. The item is available only from a single source;
    - b. The public exigency or emergency for the requirement will not permit a delay



- c. resulting from competitive solicitation;
  - d. The DOE or MDE expressly authorizes noncompetitive proposals in response to a written request from the school district; or
  - e. After solicitation of a number of sources, competition is determined inadequate.
- I. Competition. The school district must have written procedures for procurement transactions. These procedures must ensure that all solicitations:
  - 1. Incorporate a clear and accurate description of the technical requirements for the material, product, or service to be procured. Such description must not, in competitive procurements, contain features which unduly restrict competition. The description may include a statement of the qualitative nature of the material, product, or service to be procured and, when necessary, must set forth those minimum essential characteristics and standards to which it must conform if it is to satisfy its intended use. Detailed product specifications should be avoided if at all possible. When making a clear and accurate description of the technical requirements is impractical or uneconomical, a “brand name or equivalent” description may be used as a means to define the performance or other salient requirements of procurement. The specific features of the named brand which must be met by offers must be clearly stated; and
  - 2. Identify all requirements which the offerors must fulfill and all other factors to be used in evaluating bids or proposals.
- J. The school district must ensure that all prequalified lists of persons, firms, or products which are used in acquiring goods and services are current and include enough qualified sources to ensure maximum open and free competition. Also, the school district must not preclude potential bidders from qualifying during the solicitation period.
- K. Non-federal entities are prohibited from contracting with or making subawards under “covered transactions” to parties that are suspended or debarred or whose principals are suspended or debarred. “Covered transactions” include procurement contracts for goods and services awarded under a grant or cooperative agreement that are expected to equal or exceed \$25,000.
- L. All nonprocurement transactions entered into by a recipient (i.e., subawards to subrecipients), irrespective of award amount, are considered covered transactions, unless they are exempt as provided in 2 C.F.R. § 180.215.

**V. MANAGING EQUIPMENT AND SAFEGUARDING ASSETS**

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

The school district must adhere to the requirements concerning real property, equipment, supplies, and intangible property set forth in 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.311, 200.314, and 200.315.

- B. Equipment

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

1. Property records must be maintained that include a description of the property; a serial number or other identification number; the source of the funding for the property (including the federal award identification number (FAIN)); who holds title; the acquisition date; the cost of the property; the percentage of the federal participation in the project costs for the federal award under which the property was acquired; the location, use, and condition of the property; and any ultimate disposition data, including the date of disposition and sale price of the property.
2. A physical inventory of the property must be taken and the results reconciled with the property records at least once every two years.
3. A control system must be developed to ensure adequate safeguards to prevent loss, damage, or theft of the property. Any loss, damage, or theft must be investigated.
4. Adequate maintenance procedures must be developed to keep property in good condition.
5. If the school district is authorized or required to sell the property, proper sales procedures must be established to ensure the highest possible return.

## **VI. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS**

- A. **Financial Management.** The school district's financial management systems, including records documenting compliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the federal award, must be sufficient to permit the preparation of reports required by general and program-specific terms and conditions; and the tracing of funds to a level of expenditures adequate to establish that such funds have been used according to the federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the federal award.
- B. **Payment.** The school district must be paid in advance, provided it maintains or demonstrates the willingness to maintain both written procedures that minimize the time elapsing between the transfer of funds and disbursement between the school district and the financial management systems that meet the standards for fund control.

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

- C. **Internal Controls.** The school district must establish and maintain effective internal control over the federal award that provides reasonable assurance that the school district is managing the federal award in compliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the federal award. These internal controls should be in compliance with guidance in "Standards for Internal Control in the Federal Government," issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, or the "Internal Control Integrated Framework," issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO).

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

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

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

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

## **VII. ALLOWABLE USE OF FUNDS AND COST PRINCIPLES**

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

### **B. Definitions**

1. "Allowable cost" means a cost that complies with all legal requirements that apply to a particular federal education program, including statutes, regulations, guidance, applications, and approved grant awards.
2. "Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR)" means a compilation of regulations that apply to federal education programs. These regulations contain important rules governing the administration of federal education programs and include rules affecting the allowable use of federal funds (including rules regarding allowable costs, the period of availability of federal awards, documentation requirements, and grants management requirements). EDGAR can be accessed at: <http://www2.ed.gov/policy/fund/reg/edgarReg/edgar.html>.
3. "Omni Circular" or "2 C.F.R. Part 200s" or "Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards" means federal cost principles that provide standards for determining whether costs may be charged to federal grants.
4. "Advance payment" means a payment that a federal awarding agency or pass through entity makes by any appropriate payment mechanism, including a predetermined payment schedule, before the non-federal entity disburses the funds for program purposes.

C. Allowable Costs. The following items are costs that may be allowable under the 2 C.F.R. Part 200s under specific conditions:

1. Advisory councils;
2. Audit costs and related services;
3. Bonding costs;
4. Communication costs;

5. Compensation for personal services;
6. Depreciation and use allowances;
7. Employee morale, health, and welfare costs;
8. Equipment and other capital expenditures;
9. Gains and losses on disposition of depreciable property and other capital assets and substantial relocation of federal programs;
10. Insurance and indemnification;
11. Maintenance, operations, and repairs;
12. Materials and supplies costs;
13. Meetings and conferences;
14. Memberships, subscriptions, and professional activity costs;
15. Security costs;
16. Professional service costs;
17. Proposal costs;
18. Publication and printing costs;
19. Rearrangement and alteration costs;
20. Rental costs of building and equipment;
21. Training costs; and
22. Travel costs.

D. **Costs Forbidden by Federal Law.** 2 CFR Part 200s and EDGAR identify certain costs that may never be paid with federal funds. The following list provides examples of such costs. If a cost is on this list, it may not be supported with federal funds. The fact that a cost is not on this list does not mean it is necessarily permissible. Other important restrictions apply to federal funds, such as those items detailed in the 2 CFR Part 200s; thus, the following list is not exhaustive:

1. Advertising and public relations costs (with limited exceptions), including promotional items and memorabilia, models, gifts, and souvenirs;
2. Alcoholic beverages;
3. Bad debts;
4. Contingency provisions (with limited exceptions);
5. Fundraising and investment management costs (with limited exceptions);
6. Donations;
7. Contributions;
8. Entertainment (amusement, diversion, and social activities and any associated costs);
9. Fines and penalties;
10. General government expenses (with limited exceptions pertaining to Indian tribal governments and Councils of Government (COGs));
11. Goods or services for personal use;
12. Interest, except interest specifically stated in 2 C.F.R. § 200.441 as allowable;
13. Religious use;
14. The acquisition of real property (unless specifically permitted by programmatic statute or regulations, which is very rare in federal education programs);
15. Construction (unless specifically permitted by programmatic statute or regulations, which is very rare in federal education programs); and
16. Tuition charged or fees collected from students applied toward meeting matching, cost sharing, or maintenance of effort requirements of a program.

E. **Program Allowability**

1. Any cost paid with federal education funds must be permissible under the federal program that would support the cost.
2. Many federal education programs detail specific required and/or allowable uses of funds for that program. Issues such as eligibility, program beneficiaries, caps or restrictions on certain types of program expenses, other program expenses, and other program specific requirements must be considered when performing the programmatic analysis.
3. The two largest federal K-12 programs, Title I, Part A, and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), do not contain a use of funds section delineating the allowable uses of funds under those programs. In those cases, costs must be consistent with the purposes of the program in order to be allowable.

F. Federal Cost Principles

1. The Omni Circular defines the parameters for the permissible uses of federal funds. While many requirements are contained in the Omni Circular, it includes five core principles that serve as an important guide for effective grant management. These core principles require all costs to be:
  - a. Necessary for the proper and efficient performance or administration of the program.
  - b. Reasonable. An outside observer should clearly understand why a decision to spend money on a specific cost made sense in light of the cost, needs, and requirements of the program.
  - c. Allocable to the federal program that paid for the cost. A program must benefit in proportion to the amount charged to the federal program – for example, if a teacher is paid 50% with Title I funds, the teacher must work with the Title I program/students at least 50% of the time. Recipients also need to be able to track items or services purchased with federal funds so they can prove they were used for federal program purposes.
  - d. Authorized under state and local rules. All actions carried out with federal funds must be authorized and not prohibited by state and local laws and policies.
  - e. Adequately documented. A recipient must maintain proper documentation so as to provide evidence to monitors, auditors, or other oversight entities of how the funds were spent over the lifecycle of the grant.

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

1. All federal education programs have certain program specific fiscal rules that apply. Determining which rules apply depends on the program; however, rules such as supplement, not supplant, maintenance of effort, comparability, caps on certain uses of funds, etc., have an important impact when analyzing whether a particular cost is permissible.
2. Many state-administered programs require local education agencies (LEAs) to use federal program funds to supplement the amount of state, local, and, in some cases, other federal funds they spend on education costs and not to supplant (or replace) those funds. Generally, the “supplement, not supplant” provision means that federal funds must be used to supplement the level of funds from non-federal sources

by providing additional services, staff, programs, or materials. In other words, federal funds normally cannot be used to pay for things that would otherwise be paid for with state or local funds (and, in some cases, with other federal funds).

3. Auditors generally presume supplanting has occurred in three situations:
  - a. School district uses federal funds to provide services that the school district is required to make available under other federal, state, or local Laws.
  - b. School district uses federal funds to provide services that the school district provided with state or local funds in the prior year.
  - c. School district uses Title I, Part A, or Migrant Education Program funds to provide the same services to Title I or Migrant students that the school district provides with state or local funds to nonparticipating students.
4. These presumptions apply differently in different federal programs and also in schoolwide program schools. Staff should be familiar with the supplement not supplant provisions applicable to their program.

#### H. Approved Plans, Budgets, and Special Conditions

1. As required by the Omni Circular, all costs must be consistent with approved program plans and budgets.
2. Costs must also be consistent with all terms and conditions of federal awards, including any special conditions imposed on the school district's grants.

#### I. Training

1. The school district will provide training on the allowable use of federal funds to all staff involved in federal programs.
2. The school district will promote coordination between all staff involved in federal programs through activities, such as routine staff meetings and training sessions.

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

### **VIII. COMPENSATION – PERSONAL SERVICES EXPENSES AND REPORTING**

#### A. Compensation – Personal Services

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

1. Is reasonable for the services rendered and conforms to the established written policy of the school district consistently applied to both federal and non-federal activities; and
2. Follows an appointment made in accordance with a school district's written policies and meets the requirements of federal statute, where applicable.

Unless an arrangement is specifically authorized by a federal awarding agency, a school district must follow its written non-federal, entitywide policies and practices concerning the

permissible extent of professional services that can be provided outside the school district for non-organizational compensation.

B. Compensation – Fringe Benefits

1. During leave.

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

- a. They are provided under established written leave policies;
- b. The costs are equitably allocated to all related activities, including federal awards; and
- c. The accounting basis (cash or accrual) selected for costing each type of leave is consistently followed by the school district.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1. Critical and necessary for the conduct of the project;
  2. Allowable under the cost principles set forth in the Uniform Grant Guidance;
  3. Consistent with the school district's cost accounting practices and school district policy; and
  4. Meeting the definition of "direct cost" in the applicable cost principles of the Uniform Grant Guidance.
- E. Relocation Costs of Employees. Relocation costs are allowable, subject to the limitations described below, provided that reimbursement to the employee is in accordance with the school district's reimbursement policy.
- F. Travel Costs. Travel costs may be charged on an actual cost basis, on a per diem or mileage basis in lieu of actual costs incurred, or on a combination of the two, provided the method used is applied to an entire trip and not to selected days of the trip, and results in charges consistent with those normally allowed in like circumstances in the school district's non-federally funded activities and in accordance with the school district's reimbursement policies.

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

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

1. Participation of the individual is necessary to the federal award; and
2. The costs are reasonable and consistent with the school district's established travel policy.

Temporary dependent care costs above and beyond regular dependent care that directly results from travel to conferences is allowable provided the costs are:

1. A direct result of the individual's travel for the federal award;
2. Consistent with the school district's documented travel policy for all school district travel; and
3. Only temporary during the travel period.

***[Note: Noncompliance. If a school district fails to comply with federal statutes, regulations, or the terms and conditions of a federal award, the DOE or MDE may impose additional conditions, as described in 2 C.F.R. § 200.207 (Specific Conditions). If the DOE or MDE determines that noncompliance cannot be remedied by imposing additional conditions, the DOE or MDE may take one or more of the following actions, as appropriate under the circumstances: 1) Temporarily withhold cash payments pending correction of the deficiency by the school district or more severe enforcement action by the DOE or MDE; 2) Disallow (that is, deny both use of funds and any applicable matching credit for) all or part of the cost of the activity or action not in compliance; 3) Wholly or partly suspend or terminate the federal award; 4) Initiate suspension or debarment proceedings as authorized under 2 C.F.R. Part 180 and DOE regulations (or, in the case of MDE,***



**recommend such a proceeding be initiated by the DOE); 5) Withhold further federal awards for the project or program; and/or 6) Take other remedies that may be legally available.]**

**Legal References:** 2 C.F.R. § 200.12 (Capital Assets)

- 2 C.F.R. § 200.112 (Conflict of Interest)
- 2 C.F.R. § 200.113 (Mandatory Disclosures)
- 2 C.F.R. § 200.205(d) (Federal Awarding Agency Review of Risk Posed by Applicants)
- 2 C.F.R. § 200.212 (Suspension and Debarment)
- 2 C.F.R. § 200.300(b) (Statutory and National Policy Requirements)
- 2 C.F.R. § 200.302 (Financial Management)
- 2 C.F.R. § 200.303 (Internal Controls)
- 2 C.F.R. § 200.305(b)(1) (Payment)
- 2 C.F.R. § 200.310 (Insurance Coverage)
- 2 C.F.R. § 200.311 (Real Property)
- 2 C.F.R. § 200.313(d) (Equipment)
- 2 C.F.R. § 200.314 (Supplies)
- 2 C.F.R. § 200.315 (Intangible Property)
- 2 C.F.R. § 200.318 (General Procurement Standards)
- 2 C.F.R. § 200.319(c) (Competition)
- 2 C.F.R. § 200.320 (Methods of Procurement to be Followed)
- 2 C.F.R. § 200.321 (Contracting with Small and Minority Businesses, Women’s Business Enterprises, and Labor Surplus Area Firms)
- 2 C.F.R. § 200.328 (Monitoring and Reporting Program Performance)
- 2 C.F.R. § 200.338 (Remedies for Noncompliance)
- 2 C.F.R. § 200.403(c) (Factors Affecting Allowability of Costs)
- 2 C.F.R. § 200.430 (Compensation – Personal Services)
- 2 C.F.R. § 200.431 (Compensation – Fringe Benefits)
- 2 C.F.R. § 200.447 (Insurance and Indemnification)
- 2 C.F.R. § 200.463 (Recruiting Costs)
- 2 C.F.R. § 200.464 (Relocation Costs of Employees)
- 2 C.F.R. § 200.473 (Transportation Costs)
- 2 C.F.R. § 200.474 (Travel Costs)

**Cross References:** MSBA/MASA Model Policy 208 (Development, Adoption, and Implementation of Policies)

- MSBA/MASA Model Policy 210 (Conflict of Interest – School Board Members)
- MSBA/MASA Model Policy 210.1 (Conflict of Interest – Charter School Board Members)
- MSBA/MASA Model Policy 412 (Expense Reimbursement)
- MSBA/MASA Model Policy 701 (Establishment and Adoption of School District Budget)
- MSBA/MASA Model Policy 701.1 (Modification of School District Budget)
- MSBA/MASA Model Policy 702 (Accounting)
- MSBA/MASA Model Policy 703 (Annual Audit)

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20. Consider annual review of policies.

School Board Policy #208 states: .... the school board shall review the following policies annually: #410 Family and Medical Leave Policy; #413 Harassment and Violence; #414 Mandated Reporting of Child Neglect or Physical or Sexual Abuse; #415 Mandated Reporting of Maltreatment of Vulnerable Adults; #506 Student Discipline; #514 Bullying Prohibition Policy; #522 Student Sex Nondiscrimination; #524 Internet Acceptable Use and Safety Policy; #616 School District System Accountability; and #806 Crisis Management Policy.

**Braham Area Public Schools**

**Ind. School District #314**

**Braham, MN 55006**

Adopted: May 20, 2013

Revised: **August 17, 2015**

**#410 - FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE POLICY**

## I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide for family and medical leave to school district employees in accordance with the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (FMLA) and also with parenting leave under state law.

## II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The following procedures and policies regarding family and medical leave are adopted by the school district, pursuant to the requirements of the FMLA and consistent with the requirements of the Minnesota parenting leave laws.

## III. DEFINITIONS

### A. "Covered active duty" means:

1. in the case of a member of a regular component of the Armed Forces, duty during the deployment of the member with the Armed Forces to a foreign country; and
2. in the case of a member of a reserve component of the Armed Forces, duty during the deployment of the member with the Armed Forces to a foreign country under a call or order to active duty under a provision of law referred to in 10 U.S.C. § 101(a)(13)(B).

### B. "Covered servicemember" means:

1. a member of the Armed Forces, including a member of the National Guard or Reserves, who is undergoing medical treatment, recuperation, or therapy, is otherwise in outpatient status, or is otherwise on the temporary disability retired list, for a serious injury or illness; or
2. a veteran who is undergoing medical treatment, recuperation, or therapy for a serious injury or illness and who was a member of the Armed Forces, including a member of the National Guard or Reserves, at any time during the period of five years preceding the date on which the veteran undergoes that medical treatment, recuperation, or therapy.

### C. "Eligible employee" means an employee who has been employed by the school district for a total of at least 12 months and who has been employed for at least 1,250 hours of service during the 12-month period immediately preceding the commencement of the leave. While the 12 months of employment need not be consecutive, employment periods prior to a break in service of seven years or more may not be counted unless the break is occasioned by the employee's fulfillment of his or her National Guard or Reserve military service obligation or a written agreement, including a collective bargaining agreement, exists concerning the school district's intention to rehire the employee after the break in service.

### D. "Next of kin of a covered servicemember" means the nearest blood relative other than the covered service member's spouse, parent, son, or daughter, in the following order of priority: blood relatives who have been granted legal custody of the covered servicemember by court decree or statutory provisions, brothers and sisters, grandparents, aunts and uncles, and first cousins, unless the covered servicemember has specifically designated in writing another blood relative as his or her nearest blood relative for purposes of military caregiver leave under the FMLA. When no such designation is made and there are multiple family members with the same level of relationship to the covered servicemember, all such family members shall be considered the covered service member's next of kin, and the employee may take

FMLA leave to provide care to the covered service member, either consecutively or simultaneously. When such designation has been made, the designated individual shall be deemed to be the covered service member's only next of kin.

- E. "Outpatient status" means, with respect to a covered servicemember, the status of a member of the Armed Forces assigned to:
1. a military medical treatment facility as an outpatient; or
  2. a unit established for the purpose of providing command and control of members of the Armed Forces receiving care as outpatients.
- F. "Qualifying exigency" means a situation where the eligible employee seeks leave for one or more of the following reasons:
1. to address any issues that arise from a short-notice deployment (seven calendar days or less) of a covered military member;
  2. to attend military events and related activities of a covered military member;
  3. to address issues related to childcare and school activities of a covered military member's child;
  4. to address financial and legal arrangements for a covered military member;
  5. to attend counseling provided by someone other than a health care provider for oneself, a covered military member, or his/her child;
  6. to spend up to five days with a covered military member who is on short-term, temporary rest and recuperation leave during a period of deployment;
  7. to attend post-deployment activities related to a covered military member; and
  8. to address other events related to a covered military member that both the employee and school district agree is a qualifying exigency.
- G. "Serious health condition" means an illness, injury, impairment, or physical or mental condition that involves:
1. inpatient care in a hospital, hospice, or residential medical care facility; or
  2. continuing treatment by a healthcare provider.
- H. "Veteran" has the meaning given in 38 U.S.C. § 101.

#### IV. LEAVE ENTITLEMENT

- A. Twelve-week Leave
1. Eligible employees are entitled to a total of 12 work weeks of unpaid family or medical leave during the applicable 12-month period as defined below, plus any additional leave as required by law. Leave may be taken for one or more of the following reasons in accordance with applicable law:
    - a. birth of the employee's child and to care for such child;
    - b. placement of an adopted or foster child with the employee;
    - c. to care for the employee's spouse, son, daughter, or parent with a serious health condition;
    - d. the employee's serious health condition makes the employee unable to perform the functions of the employee's job; and/or
    - e. any qualifying exigency arising from the employee's spouse, son, daughter, or parent being on covered active duty, or notified of an impending call or order to covered active duty in the Armed Forces.
  2. For the purposes of this policy, "year" is defined as a rolling 12-month period measured

- backward from the date an employee's leave is to commence.
3. An employee's entitlement to FMLA leave for the birth, adoption, or foster care of a child expires at the end of the 12-month period beginning on the date of the birth or placement.
  4. A "serious health condition" typically requires either inpatient care or continuing treatment by or under the supervision of a health care provider, as defined by applicable law. Family and medical leave generally is not intended to cover short-term conditions for which treatment and recovery are very brief.
  5. A "serious injury or illness," in the case of a member of the Armed Forces, including a member of the National Guard or Reserves, means:
    - a. injury or illness that was incurred by the member in the line of duty on active duty in the Armed Forces (or that existed before the beginning of the member's active duty and was aggravated by service in the line of duty on active duty in the Armed Forces) and that may render the member medically unfit to perform the duties of the member's office, grade, rank, or rating; and
    - b. a "serious injury or illness," in the case of a veteran who was a member of the Armed Forces, including a member of the National Guard or Reserves, at any time, during the period of five years preceding the date on which the veteran undergoes the medical treatment, recuperation, or therapy, means a qualifying injury or illness that was incurred by the member in the line of duty on active duty in the Armed Forces (or that existed before the beginning of the member's active duty and was aggravated by service in the line of duty in the Armed Forces) and that manifested itself before or after the member became a veteran.
  6. Eligible spouses employed by the school district are limited to an aggregate of 12 weeks of leave during any 12-month period for the birth and care of a newborn child or adoption of a child, the placement of a child for foster care, or to care for a parent. This limitation for spouses employed by the school district does not apply to leave taken: by one spouse to care for the other spouse who is seriously ill; to care for a child with a serious health condition; because of the employee's own serious health condition; or pursuant to Paragraph IV.A.1.e. above.
  7. Depending on the type of leave, intermittent or reduced schedule leave may be granted in the discretion of the school district or when medically necessary. However, part-time employees are only eligible for a pro-rata portion of leave to be used on an intermittent or reduced schedule basis, based on their average hours worked per week. Where an intermittent or reduced schedule leave is foreseeable based on planned medical treatment, the school district may transfer the employee temporarily to an available alternative position for which the employee is qualified and which better accommodates recurring periods of leave than does the employee's regular position, and which has equivalent pay and benefits.
  8. If an employee requests a leave for the serious health condition of the employee or the employee's spouse, child, or parent, the employee will be required to submit sufficient medical certification. In such a case, the employee must submit the medical certification within 15 days from the date of the request or as soon as practicable under the circumstances.
  9. If the school district has reason to doubt the validity of a health care provider's certification, it may require a second opinion at the school district's expense. If the opinions of the first and second health care providers differ, the school district may require certification from a third health care provider at the school district's expense. An employee may also be required to present a certification from a health care provider indicating that the employee is able to return to work.
  10. Requests for leave shall be made to the school district. When leave relates to an employee's

spouse, son, daughter, parent, or covered servicemember being on covered active duty, or notified of an impending call or order to covered active duty pursuant to Paragraph IV.A.1.e. above, and such leave is foreseeable, the employee shall provide reasonable and practical notice to the school district of the need for leave. For all other leaves, employees must give 30 days' written notice of a leave of absence where practicable. The failure to provide the required notice may result in a delay of the requested leave. Employees are expected to make a reasonable effort to schedule leaves resulting from planned medical treatment so as not to disrupt unduly the operations of the school district, subject to and in coordination with the health care provider.

11. The school district may require that a request for leave under Paragraph IV.A.1.e. above be supported by a copy of the covered military member's active duty orders or other documentation issued by the military indicating active duty or a call to active duty status and the dates of active duty service. In addition, the school district may require the employee to provide sufficient certification supporting the qualifying exigency for which leave is requested.
12. During the period of a leave permitted under this policy, the school district will provide health insurance under its group health plan under the same conditions coverage would have been provided had the employee not taken the leave. The employee will be responsible for payment of the employee contribution to continue group health insurance coverage during the leave. An employee's failure to make necessary and timely contributions may result in termination of coverage. An employee who does not return to work after the leave may be required, in some situations, to reimburse the school district for the cost of the health plan premiums paid by it.
13. The school district may request or require the employee to substitute accrued paid leave for any part of the 12-week period. Employees may be allowed to substitute paid leave for unpaid leave by meeting the requirements set out in the administrative directives and guidelines established for the implementation of this policy, if any. Employees eligible for leave must comply with the family and medical leave directives and guidelines prior to starting leave. The superintendent shall be responsible to develop directives and guidelines as necessary to implement this policy. Such directives and guidelines shall be submitted to the school board for annual review. The school district shall comply with written notice requirements as set forth in federal regulations.
14. Employees returning from a leave permitted under this policy are eligible for reinstatement in the same or an equivalent position as provided by law. However, the employee has no greater right to reinstatement or to other benefits and conditions of employment than if the employee had been continuously employed during the leave.

**B. Six-week Leave**

An employee who does not qualify for parenting leave under Paragraphs IV.A.1.a. or IV.A.1.b. above may qualify for a six-week unpaid parenting leave for birth or adoption of a child. The employee may qualify if he or she has worked for the school district for at least 12 consecutive months and has worked an average number of hours per week equal to one-half of the full time equivalent. This leave is separate and exclusive of the family and medical leave described in the preceding paragraphs.

**C. Twenty-six-week Servicemember Family Military Leave**

1. An eligible employee who is the spouse, son, daughter, parent, or next of kin of a covered servicemember shall be entitled to a total of 26 work weeks of leave during a 12-month period to care for the servicemember. The leave described in this paragraph shall be available only during a single 12-month period. For purposes of this leave, the need to care for a servicemember includes both physical and psychological care.
2. During a single 12-month period, an employee shall be entitled to a combined total of

- 26 work weeks of leave under Paragraphs IV.A. and IV.C. above.
3. The 12-month period referred to in this section begins on the first day the eligible employee takes leave to care for a covered servicemember and ends 12 months after that date.
  4. Eligible spouses employed by the school district are limited to an aggregate of 26 weeks of leave during any 12-month period if leave is taken for birth of the employee's child or to care for the child after birth; for placement of a child with the employee for adoption or foster care or to care for the child after placement; to care for the employee's parent with a serious health condition; or to care for a covered servicemember with a serious injury or illness.
  5. The school district may request or require the employee to substitute accrued paid leave for any part of the 26-week period. Employees may be allowed to substitute paid leave for unpaid leave by meeting the requirements set out in the administrative directives and guidelines established for the implementation of this policy, if any. Employees eligible for leave must comply with the family and medical leave directives and guidelines prior to starting leave.
  6. An employee will be required to submit sufficient medical certification issued by the health care provider of the covered servicemember and other information in support of requested leave and eligibility for such leave under this section within 15 days from the date of the request or as soon as practicable under the circumstances.
  7. The provisions of Paragraphs IV.A.7., IV.A.10., IV.A.12., IV.A.13., and IV.A.14. above shall apply to leaves under this section.

#### V. SPECIAL RULES FOR INSTRUCTIONAL EMPLOYEES

- A. An instructional employee is one whose principal function is to teach and instruct students in a class, a small group, or an individual setting. This includes, but is not limited to, teachers, coaches, driver's education instructors, and special education assistants.
- B. Instructional employees who request foreseeable medically necessary intermittent or reduced work schedule leave greater than 20 percent of the work days in the leave period may be required to:
  1. take leave for the entire period or periods of the planned medical treatment; or
  2. move to an available alternative position for which the employee is qualified, and which provides equivalent pay and benefits, but not necessarily equivalent duties.
- C. Instructional employees who request continuous leave near the end of a semester may be required to extend the leave through the end of the semester. The number of weeks remaining before the end of a semester does not include scheduled school breaks, such as summer, winter, or spring break.
  1. If an instructional employee begins leave for any purpose more than five weeks before the end of a semester and it is likely the leave will last at least three weeks, the school district may require that the leave be continued until the end of the semester.
  2. If the employee begins leave for a purpose other than the employee's own serious health condition during the last five weeks of a semester, the school district may require that the leave be continued until the end of the semester if the leave will last more than two weeks or if the employee's return from leave would occur during the last two weeks of the semester.
  3. If the employee begins leave for a purpose other than the employee's own serious health condition during the last three weeks of the semester and the leave will last more than five working days, school district may require the employee to continue taking leave until the end of the semester.
- D. The entire period of leave taken under the special rules will be counted as leave. The school district will continue to fulfill the school district's leave responsibilities and obligations, including the obligation to continue the employee's health insurance and other benefits, if an instructional employee's leave entitlement ends before the involuntary leave period expires.

VI. OTHER

- A. The provisions of this policy are intended to comply with applicable law, including the FMLA and applicable regulations. Any terms used from the FMLA will have the same meaning as defined by the FMLA and/or applicable regulations. To the extent that this policy is ambiguous or contradicts applicable law, the language of the applicable law will prevail.
- B. The requirements stated in the collective bargaining agreement between employees in a certified collective bargaining unit and the school district regarding family and medical leaves (if any) shall be followed.

VII. DISSEMINATION OF POLICY

- A. This policy shall be conspicuously posted in each school district building in areas accessible to employees.
- B. This policy will be reviewed at least annually for compliance with state and federal law.

Legal References: Mum. Stat. §§ 181.940-181.944 (Parenting Leave)  
 10 U.S.C. § 101 et seq. (Armed Forces General Military Law)  
 29 U.S.C. § 2601 et seq. (Family and Medical Leave Act)  
 38 U.S.C. § 101 (Definitions)  
 29 C.F.R. Part 825 (Family and Medical Leave Act)

Cross References: MSBA Service Manual, Chapter 13, School Law Bulletin "M" (Statutory Provisions Which Grant Leaves to Licensed as well as Non-Licensed School District Employees- Family and Medical Leave Act Summary)

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**Braham Area Public Schools**  
**Ind. School Dist. #314**  
**Braham, MN 55006**

Adopted: 11/15/1993

Revised: November 17, 2014

**#413 HARASSMENT AND VIOLENCE**

**I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to maintain a learning and working environment that is free from harassment and violence on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, familial status, status with regard to public assistance, sexual orientation, or disability.

**II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

A. The policy of the school district is to maintain a learning and working environment that is free from harassment and violence on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, familial status, status with regard to public assistance, sexual orientation, or disability. The school district prohibits any form of harassment or violence on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, familial status, status with regard to public assistance, sexual orientation, or disability.

B. A violation of this policy occurs when any pupil, teacher, administrator, or other school personnel of the school district harasses a pupil, teacher, administrator, or other school personnel or group of pupils, teachers, administrators,

or other school personnel through conduct or communication based on a person's race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, familial status, status with regard to public assistance, sexual orientation, or disability, as defined by this policy. (For purposes of this policy, school personnel includes school board members, school employees, agents, volunteers, contractors, or persons subject to the supervision and control of the district.)

C. A violation of this policy occurs when any pupil, teacher, administrator, or other school personnel of the school district inflicts, threatens to inflict, or attempts to inflict violence upon any pupil, teacher, administrator, or other school personnel or group of pupils, teachers, administrators, or other school personnel based on a person's race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, familial status, status with regard to public assistance, sexual orientation, or disability.

D. The school district will act to investigate all complaints, either formal or informal, verbal or written, of harassment or violence based on a person's race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, familial status, status with regard to public assistance, sexual orientation, or disability, and to discipline or take appropriate action against any pupil, teacher, administrator, or other school personnel who is found to have violated this policy.

### III. DEFINITIONS

A. "Assault" is:

1. an act done with intent to cause fear in another of immediate bodily harm or death;
2. the intentional infliction of or attempt to inflict bodily harm upon another; or
3. the threat to do bodily harm to another with present ability to carry out the threat.

B. "Harassment" prohibited by this policy consists of physical or verbal conduct, including, but not limited to, electronic communications, relating to an individual's or group of individuals' race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, familial status, status with regard to public assistance, sexual orientation, or disability when the conduct:

1. has the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working or academic environment;
2. has the purpose or effect of substantially or unreasonably interfering with an individual's work or academic performance; or
3. otherwise adversely affects an individual's employment or academic opportunities.

C. "Immediately" means as soon as possible but in no event longer than 24 hours.

D. Protected Classifications; Definitions

1. "Disability" means any condition or characteristic that renders a person a disabled person. A disabled person is any person who:
  - a. has a physical, sensory, or mental impairment which materially limits one or more major life activities;
  - b. has a record of such an impairment; or
  - c. is regarded as having such an impairment.
2. "Familial status" means the condition of one or more minors being domiciled with:
  - a. their parent or parents or the minor's legal guardian; or
  - b. the designee of the parent or parents or guardian with the written



permission of the parent or parents or guardian. The protections afforded against harassment on the basis of family status apply to any person who is pregnant or is in the process of securing legal custody of an individual who has not attained the age of majority.

3. "Marital status" means whether a person is single, married, remarried, divorced, separated, or a surviving spouse and, in employment cases, includes protection against harassment on the basis of the identity, situation, actions, or beliefs of a spouse or former spouse.
4. "National origin" means the place of birth of an individual or of any of the individual's lineal ancestors.
5. "Sex" includes, but is not limited to, pregnancy, childbirth, and disabilities related to pregnancy or childbirth.
6. "Sexual orientation" means having or being perceived as having an emotional, physical, or sexual attachment to another person without regard to the sex of that person or having or being perceived as having an orientation for such attachment, or having or being perceived as having a self-image or identity not traditionally associated with one's biological maleness or femaleness. "Sexual orientation" does not include a physical or sexual attachment to children by an adult.
7. "Status with regard to public assistance" means the condition of being a recipient of federal, state, or local assistance, including medical assistance, or of being a tenant receiving federal, state, or local subsidies, including rental assistance or rent supplements.

#### E. Sexual Harassment; Definition

1. Sexual harassment consists of unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, sexually motivated physical conduct or other verbal or physical conduct or communication of a sexual nature when:
  - a. submission to that conduct or communication is made a term or condition, either explicitly or implicitly, of obtaining employment or an education; or
  - b. submission to or rejection of that conduct or communication by an individual is used as a factor in decisions affecting that individual's employment or education; or
  - c. that conduct or communication has the purpose or effect of substantially or unreasonably interfering with an individual's employment or education, or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive employment or educational environment.
2. Sexual harassment may include, but is not limited to:
  - a. unwelcome verbal harassment or abuse;
  - b. unwelcome pressure for sexual activity;
  - c. unwelcome, sexually motivated, or inappropriate patting, pinching, or physical contact, other than necessary restraint of pupil(s) by teachers, administrators, or other school personnel to avoid physical harm to persons or property;
  - d. unwelcome sexual behavior or words, including demands for sexual favors, accompanied by implied or overt threats concerning an individual's employment or educational status;
  - e. unwelcome sexual behavior or words, including demands for sexual favors, accompanied by implied or overt promises of preferential treatment with regard to an individual's employment or educational status; or
  - f. unwelcome behavior or words directed at an individual because of gender.

#### F. Sexual Violence; Definition

1. Sexual violence is a physical act of aggression or force or the threat thereof which involves the touching of another's intimate parts, or forcing a person to touch any person's intimate parts. Intimate parts, as defined in Minn. Stat. § 609.341, includes the primary genital area, groin, inner thigh, buttocks, or breast, as well as the clothing covering these areas.
2. Sexual violence may include, but is not limited to:
  - a. touching, patting, grabbing, or pinching another person's intimate parts, whether that person is of the same sex or the opposite sex;
  - b. coercing, forcing, or attempting to coerce or force the touching of anyone's intimate parts;
  - c. coercing, forcing, or attempting to coerce or force sexual intercourse or a sexual act on another; or
  - d. threatening to force or coerce sexual acts, including the touching of intimate parts or intercourse, on another.

G. Violence; Definition

Violence prohibited by this policy is a physical act of aggression or assault upon another or group of individuals because of, or in a manner reasonably related to, race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, familial status, status with regard to public assistance, sexual orientation, or disability.

#### **IV. REPORTING PROCEDURES**

A. Any person who believes he or she has been the victim of harassment or violence on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, familial status, status with regard to public assistance, sexual orientation, or disability by a pupil, teacher, administrator, or other school personnel of the school district, or any person with knowledge or belief of conduct which may constitute harassment or violence prohibited by this policy toward a pupil, teacher, administrator, or other school personnel or group of pupils, teachers, administrators, or other school personnel should report the alleged acts immediately to an appropriate school district official designated by this policy. The school district encourages the reporting party or complainant to use the report form available from the principal of each building or available from the school district office, but oral reports shall be considered complaints as well. Nothing in this policy shall prevent any person from reporting harassment or violence directly to a school district human rights officer or to the superintendent.

B. In Each School Building. The building principal, the principal's designee, or the building supervisor (hereinafter building report taker) is the person responsible for receiving oral or written reports of harassment or violence prohibited by this policy at the building level. Any adult school district personnel who receives a report of harassment or violence prohibited by this policy shall inform the building report taker immediately. If the complaint involves the building report taker, the complaint shall be made or filed directly with the superintendent or the school district human rights officer by the reporting party or complainant. School district personnel who fail to inform the building report taker of a report of harassment or violence in a timely manner may be subject to disciplinary action.

C. Upon receipt of a report, the building report taker must notify the school district human rights officer immediately, without screening or investigating the report. The building report taker may request, but may not insist upon, a written complaint. A written statement of the facts alleged will be forwarded as soon as practicable by the building report taker to the human rights officer. If the report was given verbally, the building report taker shall personally reduce it to written form within 24 hours and forward it to the human rights officer. Failure to forward any harassment or violence report or complaint as provided herein may result in disciplinary action against the building report taker.

- D. In the District. The school board hereby designates **School Counselor** as the school district human rights officer(s) to receive reports or complaints of harassment or violence prohibited by this policy. If the complaint involves a human rights officer, the complaint shall be filed directly with the superintendent.
- E. The school district shall conspicuously post the name of the human rights officer(s), including mailing addresses and telephone numbers.
- F. Submission of a good faith complaint or report of harassment or violence prohibited by this policy will not affect the complainant or reporter's future employment, grades, or work assignments.
- G. Use of formal reporting forms is not mandatory.
- H. Reports of harassment or violence prohibited by this policy are classified as private educational and/or personnel data and/or confidential investigative data and will not be disclosed except as permitted by law. The school district will respect the privacy of the complainant(s), the individual(s) against whom the complaint is filed, and the witnesses as much as possible, consistent with the school district's legal obligations to investigate, to take appropriate action, and to comply with any discovery or disclosure obligations.

## **V. INVESTIGATION**

- A. By authority of the school district, the human rights officer, upon receipt of a report or complaint alleging harassment or violence prohibited by this policy, shall immediately undertake or authorize an investigation. The investigation may be conducted by school district officials or by a third party designated by the school district.
- B. The investigation may consist of personal interviews with the complainant, the individual(s) against whom the complaint is filed, and others who may have knowledge of the alleged incident(s) or circumstances giving rise to the complaint. The investigation may also consist of any other methods and documents deemed pertinent by the investigator.
- C. In determining whether alleged conduct constitutes a violation of this policy, the school district should consider the surrounding circumstances, the nature of the behavior, past incidents or past or continuing patterns of behavior, the relationships between the parties involved, and the context in which the alleged incidents occurred. Whether a particular action or incident constitutes a violation of this policy requires a determination based on all the facts and surrounding circumstances.
- D. In addition, the school district may take immediate steps, at its discretion, to protect the complainant, pupils, teachers, administrators, or other school personnel pending completion of an investigation of alleged harassment or violence prohibited by this policy.
- E. The investigation will be completed as soon as practicable. The school district human rights officer shall make a written report to the superintendent upon completion of the investigation. If the complaint involves the superintendent, the report may be filed directly with the school board. The report shall include a determination of whether the allegations have been substantiated as factual and whether they appear to be violations of this policy.

## **VI. SCHOOL DISTRICT ACTION**

- A. Upon completion of the investigation, the school district will take appropriate action. Such action may include, but is not limited to, warning, suspension, exclusion, expulsion, transfer, remediation, termination, or discharge. School district action taken for violation of this policy will be consistent with requirements of applicable collective bargaining agreements, Minnesota and federal law, and school district policies.

B. The result of the school district's investigation of each complaint filed under these procedures will be reported in writing to the complainant by the school district in accordance with state and federal law regarding data or records privacy.

## **VII. REPRISAL**

The school district will discipline or take appropriate action against any pupil, teacher, administrator, or other school personnel who retaliates against any person who makes a good faith report of alleged harassment or violence prohibited by this policy or any person who testifies, assists, or participates in an investigation, or who testifies, assists, or participates in a proceeding or hearing relating to such harassment or violence. Retaliation includes, but is not limited to, any form of intimidation, reprisal, harassment, or intentional disparate treatment.

## **VIII. RIGHT TO ALTERNATIVE COMPLAINT PROCEDURES**

These procedures do not deny the right of any individual to pursue other avenues of recourse which may include filing charges with the Minnesota Department of Human Rights, initiating civil action, or seeking redress under state criminal statutes and/or federal law.

## **IX. HARASSMENT OR VIOLENCE AS ABUSE**

A. Under certain circumstances, alleged harassment or violence may also be possible abuse under Minnesota law. If so, the duties of mandatory reporting under Minn. Stat. § 626.556 may be applicable.

B. Nothing in this policy will prohibit the school district from taking immediate action to protect victims of alleged harassment, violence, or abuse.

## **X. DISSEMINATION OF POLICY AND TRAINING**

A. This policy shall be conspicuously posted throughout each school building in areas accessible to pupils and staff members.

B. This policy shall be given to each school district employee and independent contractor at the time of entering into the person's employment contract.

C. This policy shall appear in the student handbook.

D. The school district will develop a method of discussing this policy with students and employees.

E. The school district may implement violence prevention and character development education programs to prevent and reduce policy violations. Such programs may offer instruction on character education including, but not limited to, character qualities such as attentiveness, truthfulness, respect for authority, diligence, gratefulness, self-discipline, patience, forgiveness, respect for others, peacemaking, and resourcefulness.

F. This policy shall be reviewed at least annually for compliance with state and federal law.

**Legal References:** Minn. Stat. § 120B.232 (Character Development Education)  
Minn. Stat. § 121A.03, Subd. 2 (Sexual, Religious, and Racial Harassment and Violence Policy)  
Minn. Stat. Ch. 363A (Minnesota Human Rights Act)  
Minn. Stat. § 609.341 (Definitions)  
Minn. Stat. § 626.556 *et seq.* (Reporting of Maltreatment of Minors)  
20 U.S.C. §§ 1681-1688 (Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972)  
29 U.S.C. § 621 *et seq.* (Age Discrimination in Employment Act)

29 U.S.C. § 794 (Rehabilitation Act of 1973, § 504)  
42 U.S.C. § 1983 (Civil Action for Deprivation of Rights)  
42 U.S.C. § 2000d *et seq.* (Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964)  
42 U.S.C. § 2000e *et seq.* (Title VII of the Civil Rights Act)  
42 U.S.C. § 12101 *et seq.* (Americans with Disabilities Act)

**Cross References:** MSBA/MASA Model Policy 102 (Equal Educational Opportunity)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 401 (Equal Employment Opportunity)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 402 (Disability Nondiscrimination Policy)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 403 (Discipline, Suspension, and Dismissal of School District Employees)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 406 (Public and Private Personnel Data)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 414 (Mandated Reporting of Child Neglect or Physical or Sexual Abuse)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 415 (Mandated Reporting of Maltreatment of Vulnerable Adults)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 506 (Student Discipline)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 515 (Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 521 (Student Disability Nondiscrimination)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 522 (Student Sex Nondiscrimination)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 524 (Internet Acceptable Use and Safety Policy)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 525 (Violence Prevention)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 528 (Student Parental, Family, and Marital Status Nondiscrimination)  
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**Braham Area Public Schools**  
**Ind. School Dist. #314**  
**Braham, MN 55006**  
Adopted: **November 17, 2014**  
Revised:

**#414 - MANDATED REPORTING OF CHILD NEGLECT OR PHYSICAL OR SEXUAL ABUSE**

**I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to make clear the statutory requirements of school personnel to report suspected child neglect or physical or sexual abuse.

**II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

- A. The policy of the school district is to fully comply with Minn. Stat. § 626.556 requiring school personnel to report suspected child neglect or physical or sexual abuse.
- B. A violation of this policy occurs when any school personnel fails to immediately report instances of child neglect or physical or sexual abuse when the school personnel knows or has reason to believe a child is being neglected or physically or sexually abused or has been neglected or physically or sexually abused within the preceding three years.

**III. DEFINITIONS**

- A. “Accidental” means a sudden, not reasonably foreseeable, and unexpected occurrence or event which:
  - 1. is not likely to occur and could not have been prevented by exercise of due care; and
  - 2. if occurring while a child is receiving services from a facility, happens when the facility and the employee or person providing services in the facility are in compliance with the laws and rules relevant to the occurrence of event.
- B. “Child” means one under age 18 and, for purposes of Minn. Stat. Ch. 260C (Child Protection) and Minn. Stat. Ch. 260D (Child in Voluntary Foster Care for Treatment), includes an individual under age 21 who is in foster care pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 260C.451 (Foster Care Benefits Past Age 18).

- C. “Immediately” means as soon as possible but in no event longer than 24 hours.
- D. “Mandated reporter” means any school personnel who knows or has reason to believe a child is being neglected or physically or sexually abused, or has been neglected or physically or sexually abused within the preceding three years.
- E. “Neglect” means the commission or omission of any of the acts specified below, other than by accidental means:
1. failure by a person responsible for a child’s care to supply a child with necessary food, clothing, shelter, health, medical, or other care required for the child’s physical or mental health when reasonably able to do so, including a growth delay, which may be referred to as a failure to thrive, that has been diagnosed by a physician and is due to parental neglect;
  2. failure to protect a child from conditions or actions that seriously endanger the child’s physical or mental health when reasonably able to do so;
  3. failure to provide for necessary supervision or child care arrangements appropriate for a child after considering factors such as the child’s age, mental ability, physical condition, length of absence, or environment, when the child is unable to care for his or her own basic needs or safety or the basic needs or safety of another child in his or her care;
  4. failure to ensure that a child is educated in accordance with state law, which does not include a parent’s refusal to provide his or her child with sympathomimetic medications;
  5. prenatal exposure to a controlled substance used by the mother for a nonmedical purpose, as evidenced by withdrawal symptoms in the child at birth, results of a toxicology test performed on the mother at delivery or the child’s birth, or medical effects or developmental delays during the child’s first year of life that medically indicate prenatal exposure to a controlled substance or the presence of a fetal alcohol spectrum disorder;
  6. medical neglect as defined by Minn. Stat. § 260C.007, Subd. 4, Clause (5);
  7. chronic and severe use of alcohol or a controlled substance by a parent or person responsible for the care of the child that adversely affects the child’s basic needs and safety; or
  8. emotional harm from a pattern of behavior which contributes to impaired emotional functioning of the child which may be demonstrated by a substantial and observable effect in the child’s behavior, emotional response, or cognition that is not within the normal range for the child’s age and stage of development, with due regard to the child’s culture.

Neglect does not include spiritual means or prayer for treatment or care of disease where the person responsible for the child’s care in good faith has selected and depended on those means for treatment or care of disease, except where the lack of medical care may cause serious danger to the child’s health.

- F. “Non-maltreatment mistake” means: (1) at the time of the incident, the individual was performing duties identified in the center’s child care program plan required under Minn. Rules Part 9503.0045; (2) the individual has not been determined responsible for a similar incident that resulted in a finding of maltreatment for at least seven years; (3) the individual has not been determined to have committed a similar non-maltreatment mistake under this paragraph for at least four years; (4) any injury to a child resulting from the incident, if treated, is treated only with remedies that are available over the counter, whether ordered by a medical professional or not; and (5) except for the period when the incident occurred, the facility and the individual providing services were both in compliance with all licensing requirements relevant to the incident. This definition only applies to child care centers licensed under Minn. Rules Ch. 9503.
- G. “Physical abuse” means any physical injury, mental injury, or threatened injury, inflicted by a person responsible for the child’s care other than by accidental means; or any physical or mental injury that cannot reasonably be explained by the child’s history of injuries or any aversive or

deprivation procedures, or regulated interventions, that have not been authorized by Minn. Stat. § 121A.67 or § 245.825.

Abuse does not include reasonable and moderate physical discipline of a child administered by a parent or legal guardian which does not result in an injury. Abuse does not include the use of reasonable force by a teacher, principal, or school employee as allowed by Minn. Stat. § 121A.582.

Actions which are not reasonable and moderate include, but are not limited to, any of the following that are done in anger or without regard to the safety of the child: (1) throwing, kicking, burning, biting, or cutting a child; (2) striking a child with a closed fist; (3) shaking a child under age three; (4) striking or other actions which result in any non-accidental injury to a child under 18 months of age; (5) unreasonable interference with a child's breathing; (6) threatening a child with a weapon, as defined in Minn. Stat. § 609.02, Subd. 6; (7) striking a child under age one on the face or head; (8) purposely giving a child poison, alcohol, or dangerous, harmful, or controlled substances which were not prescribed for the child by a practitioner, in order to control or punish the child, or giving the child other substances that substantially affect the child's behavior, motor coordination, or judgment or that result in sickness or internal injury, or subject the child to medical procedures that would be unnecessary if the child were not exposed to the substances; (9) unreasonable physical confinement or restraint not permitted under Minn. Stat. § 609.379 including, but not limited to, tying, caging, or chaining; or (10) in a school facility or school zone, an act by a person responsible for the child's care that is a violation under Minn. Stat. § 121A.58.

- H. "School personnel" means professional employee or professional's delegate of the school district who provides health, educational, social, psychological, law enforcement, or child care services.
- I. "Sexual abuse" means the subjection of a child by a person responsible for the child's care, by a person who has a significant relationship to the child (as defined in Minn. Stat. § 609.341, Subd. 15), or by a person in a position of authority (as defined in Minn. Stat. § 609.341, Subd. 10) to any act which constitutes a violation of Minnesota statutes prohibiting criminal sexual conduct. Such acts include sexual penetration as well as sexual contact. Sexual abuse also includes any act involving a minor which constitutes a violation of Minnesota statutes prohibiting prostitution, or use of a minor in a sexual performance. Sexual abuse includes threatened sexual abuse which includes the status of a parent or household member who has committed a violation which requires registration under Minn. Stat. § 243.166, Subd. 1b(a) or (b) (Registration of Predatory Offenders).
- J. "Mental injury" means an injury to the psychological capacity or emotional stability of a child as evidenced by an observable or substantial impairment in the child's ability to function within a normal range of performance and behavior with due regard to the child's culture.
- K. "Person responsible for the child's care" means (1) an individual functioning within the family unit and having responsibilities for the care of the child such as a parent, guardian, or other person having similar care responsibilities, or (2) an individual functioning outside the family unit and having responsibilities for the care of the child such as a teacher, school administrator, other school employees or agents, or other lawful custodian of a child having either full-time or short-term care responsibilities including, but not limited to, day care, babysitting whether paid or unpaid, counseling, teaching, and coaching.
- L. "Threatened injury" means a statement, overt act, condition, or status that represents a substantial risk of physical or sexual abuse or mental injury. Threatened injury includes, but is not limited to, exposing a child to a person responsible for the child's care who has subjected the child to,

or failed to protect a child from, egregious harm, or a person whose parental rights were involuntarily terminated, been found palpably unfit, or one from whom legal and physical custody of a child has been involuntarily transferred to another.

#### **IV. REPORTING PROCEDURES**

- A. A mandated reporter as defined herein shall immediately report the neglect or physical or sexual abuse, which he or she knows or has reason to believe is happening or has happened within the preceding three years to the local welfare agency, police department, county sheriff, or agency responsible for assisting or investigating maltreatment.
- B. If the immediate report has been made orally, by telephone or otherwise, the oral report shall be followed by a written report within 72 hours (exclusive of weekends and holidays) to the appropriate police department, the county sheriff, local welfare agency, or agency responsible for assisting or investigating maltreatment. The written report shall identify the child, any person believed to be responsible for the abuse or neglect of the child if the person is known, the nature and extent of the abuse or neglect and the name and address of the reporter.
- C. Regardless of whether a report is made, as soon as practicable after a school receives information regarding an incident that may constitute maltreatment of a child in a school facility, the school shall inform the parent, legal guardian, or custodian of the child that an incident has occurred and may constitute maltreatment of the child, when the incident occurred, and the nature of the conduct that may constitute maltreatment.
- D. A mandated reporter who knows or has reason to know of the deprivation of parental rights or the kidnapping of a child shall report the information to the local police department or the county sheriff.
- E. With the exception of a healthcare professional or a social service professional who is providing the woman with prenatal care or other health care services, a mandated reporter shall immediately report to the local welfare agency if the person knows or has reason to believe that a woman is pregnant and has used a controlled substance for a nonmedical purpose during the pregnancy, including, but not limited to, tetrahydrocannabinol, or has consumed alcoholic beverages during the pregnancy in any way that is habitual or excessive.
- F. A person mandated by Minnesota law and this policy to report who fails to report may be subject to criminal penalties and/or discipline, up to and including termination of employment.
- G. Submission of a good faith report under Minnesota law and this policy will not adversely affect the reporter's employment, or the child's access to school.
- H. Any person who knowingly or recklessly makes a false report under the provisions of applicable Minnesota law or this policy shall be liable in a civil suit for any actual damages suffered by the person or persons so reported and for any punitive damages set by the court or jury, and the reckless making of a false report may result in discipline. The court may also award attorney's fees.

#### **V. INVESTIGATION**

- A. The responsibility for investigating reports of suspected neglect or physical or sexual abuse rests with the appropriate county, state, or local agency or agencies. The agency responsible for assessing or investigating reports of child maltreatment has the authority to interview the child, the person or persons responsible for the child's care, the alleged perpetrator, and any other person with knowledge of the abuse or neglect for the purpose of gathering the facts, assessing safety and risk to the child, and formulating a plan. The investigating agency may interview the child at school. The interview may take place outside the presence of a school official. The investigating agency, not the school, is responsible for either notifying or withholding notification of the interview to the parent, guardian or person responsible for the child's care. School officials may not disclose to the parent, legal custodian, or guardian the contents of the notification or any other related information regarding



the interview until notified in writing by the local welfare or law enforcement agency that the investigation or assessment has been concluded.

- B. When the investigating agency determines that an interview should take place on school property, written notification of intent to interview the child on school property will be received by school officials prior to the interview. The notification shall include the name of the child to be interviewed, the purpose of the interview, and a reference to the statutory authority to conduct an interview on school property.
- C. Except where the alleged perpetrator is believed to be a school official or employee, the time and place, and manner of the interview on school premises shall be within the discretion of school officials, but the local welfare or law enforcement agency shall have the exclusive authority to determine who may attend the interview. The conditions as to time, place, and manner of the interview set by the school officials shall be reasonable and the interview shall be conducted not more than 24 hours after the receipt of the notification unless another time is considered necessary by agreement between the school officials and the local welfare or law enforcement agency. Every effort must be made to reduce the disruption of the educational program of the child, other students, or school employees when an interview is conducted on school premises.
- D. Where the alleged perpetrator is believed to be a school official or employee, the school district shall conduct its own investigation independent of MDE and, if involved, the local welfare or law enforcement agency.
- E. Upon request by MDE, the school district shall provide all requested data that are relevant to a report of maltreatment and are in the possession of a school facility, pursuant to an assessment or investigation of a maltreatment report of a student in school. The school district shall provide the requested data in accordance with the requirements of the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minn. Stat. Ch. 13, and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. § 1232g.

## **VI. MAINTENANCE OF SCHOOL RECORDS CONCERNING ABUSE OR POTENTIAL ABUSE**

- A. When a local welfare or local law enforcement agency determines that a potentially abused or abused child should be interviewed on school property, written notification of the agency's intent to interview on school property must be received by school officials prior to the interview. The notification shall include the name of the child to be interviewed, the purpose of the interview, and a reference to the statutory authority to conduct the interview. The notification shall be private data. School officials may not disclose to the parent, legal custodian, or guardian the contents of the notice or any other related information regarding the interview until notified in writing by the local welfare or law enforcement agency that the investigation has been concluded.
- B. All records regarding a report of maltreatment, including any notification of intent to interview which was received by the school as described above in Paragraph A., shall be destroyed by the school only when ordered by the agency conducting the investigation or by a court of competent jurisdiction.

## **VII. PHYSICAL OR SEXUAL ABUSE AS SEXUAL HARASSMENT OR VIOLENCE**

Under certain circumstances, alleged physical or sexual abuse may also be sexual harassment or violence under Minnesota law. If so, the duties relating to the reporting and investigation of such harassment or violence may be applicable.

## **VIII. DISSEMINATION OF POLICY AND TRAINING**

- A. This policy shall appear in school personnel handbooks.
- B. The school district will develop a method of discussing this policy with school

personnel.

C. This policy shall be reviewed at least annually for compliance with state law.

**Legal References:** Minn. Stat. Ch. 13 (Minnesota Government Data Practices Act)

- Minn. Stat. § 121A.58 (Corporal Punishment)
- Minn. Stat. § 121A.582 (Student Discipline; Reasonable Force)
- Minn. Stat. § 121A.67 (Aversive and Deprivation Procedures)
- Minn. Stat. § 243.166, Subd. 1b(a)(b) (Registration of Predatory Offenders)
- Minn. Stat. § 245.825 (Use of Aversive or Deprivation Procedures)
- Minn. Stat. § 260C.007, Subd. 4, Clause (5) (Child in Need of Protection)
- Minn. Stat. § 260C.451 (Foster Care Benefits Past Age 18)
- Minn. Stat. Ch. 260D (Child in Voluntary Foster Care for Treatment)
- Minn. Stat. § 609.02, Subd. 6 (Definitions – Dangerous Weapon)
- Minn. Stat. § 609.341, Subd. 10 (Definitions – Position of Authority)
- Minn. Stat. § 609.341, Subd. 15 (Definitions – Significant Relationship)
- Minn. Stat. § 609.379 (Reasonable Force)
- Minn. Stat. § 626.556 *et seq.* (Reporting of Maltreatment of Minors)
- Minn. Stat. § 626.5561 (Reporting of Prenatal Exposure to Controlled Substances)
- 20 U.S.C. § 1232g (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act)

**Cross References:** MSBA/MASA Model Policy 415 (Mandated Reporting of Maltreatment of Vulnerable Adults)

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**Braham Area Public Schools**

**Ind. School Dist. #314**

**Braham, MN 55006**

Adopted: November 17, 2014

**#415 MANDATED REPORTING OF MALTREATMENT OF VULNERABLE ADULTS**

**I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to make clear the statutory requirements of school personnel to report suspected maltreatment of vulnerable adults.

**II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

A. The policy of the school district is to fully comply with Minn. Stat. § 626.557 requiring school personnel to report suspected maltreatment of vulnerable adults.

B. It shall be a violation of this policy for any school personnel to fail to report suspected maltreatment of vulnerable adults when the school personnel has reason to believe that a vulnerable adult is being or has been maltreated, or has knowledge that a vulnerable adult has sustained a physical injury which is not reasonably explained.

**III. DEFINITIONS**

A. "Mandated Reporters" means any school personnel who has reason to believe that a vulnerable adult is being or has been maltreated.

B. "Maltreatment" means the neglect, abuse, or financial exploitation of a vulnerable adult.

C. "Neglect" means the failure or omission by a caregiver to supply a vulnerable adult with care or services, including but not limited to, food, clothing, shelter, health care, or supervision which is: (I) reasonable and necessary to obtain or maintain the vulnerable adult's physical or

mental health or safety, considering the physical and mental capacity or dysfunction of the vulnerable adult; and (2) which is not the result of an accident or therapeutic conduct. Neglect also includes the absence or likelihood of absence of care or services, including but not limited to, food, clothing, shelter, health care, or supervision necessary to maintain the physical and mental health of the vulnerable adult which a reasonable person would deem essential to obtain or maintain the vulnerable adult's health, safety, or comfort considering the physical or mental capacity or dysfunction of the vulnerable adult. Neglect does not include actions specifically excluded by Minn. Stat. § 626.5572, Subd. 17.

D. "Abuse" means: (a) An act against a vulnerable adult that constitutes a violation of, an attempt to violate, or aiding and abetting a violation of: (1) assault in the first through fifth degrees as defined in sections 609.221 to 609.224; (2) the use of drugs to injure or facilitate crime as defined in section 609.235; (3) the solicitation, inducement, and promotion of prostitution as defined in section 609.322; and (4) criminal sexual conduct in the first through fifth degrees as defined in sections 609.342 to 609.345!. A violation includes any action that meets the elements of the crime, regardless of whether there is a criminal proceeding or conviction. (b) Conduct which is not an accident or therapeutic conduct as defined in this section, which produces or could reasonably be expected to produce physical pain or injury or emotional distress including, but not limited to, the following: (1) hitting, slapping, kicking, pinching, biting, or corporal punishment of a vulnerable adult; (2) use of repeated or malicious oral, written, or gestured language toward a vulnerable adult or the treatment of a vulnerable adult which would be considered by a reasonable person to be disparaging, derogatory, humiliating, harassing, or threatening; (3) use of any aversive or deprivation procedure, unreasonable confinement, or involuntary seclusion, including the forced separation of the vulnerable adult from other persons against the will of the vulnerable adult or the legal representative of the vulnerable adult; and (4) use of any aversive or deprivation procedures for persons with developmental disabilities or related conditions not authorized under section 245.825. (c) Any sexual contact or penetration as defined in section 609.341, between a facility staff person or a person providing services in the facility and a resident, patient, or client of that facility. (d) The act of forcing, compelling, coercing, or enticing a vulnerable adult against the vulnerable adult's will to perform services for the advantage of another. Abuse does not include actions specifically excluded by Minn. Stat. § 626.5572, Subd. 2.

E. "Financial Exploitation" means a breach of a fiduciary duty by an actor's unauthorized expenditure of funds entrusted to the actor for the benefit of the vulnerable adult or by an actor's failure to provide food, clothing, shelter, health care, therapeutic conduct or supervision, the failure of which results or is likely to result in detriment to the vulnerable adult. Financial exploitation also includes: the willful use, withholding or disposal of funds or property of a vulnerable adult; the obtaining of services for wrongful profit or advantage which results in detriment to the vulnerable adult; the acquisition of a vulnerable adult's funds or property through undue influence, harassment, duress, deception or fraud; and the use of force, coercion, or enticement to cause a vulnerable adult to perform services against the vulnerable adult's will for the profit or advantage of another.

F. "Vulnerable Adult" means any person 18 years of age or older who: (1) is a resident or inpatient of a facility; (2) receives services at or from a licensed facility which serves adults as set forth in Minn. Stat. § 626.5572, Subd. 21(a)(2); (3) receives services from a licensed home care provider or home care provider service; or (4) regardless of residence or type of service received possesses a physical or mental infirmity or other physical, mental, or emotional dysfunction that impairs the individual's ability to adequately provide the person's own care without assistance or supervision and, because of the dysfunction or infirmity and need for care

or services, has an impaired ability to protect the individual's self from maltreatment.

G. "Caregiver" means an individual or facility who has responsibility for the care of a vulnerable adult as a result of a family relationship, or who has assumed responsibility for all or a portion of the care of a vulnerable adult voluntarily, by contract, or by agreement.

H. "School Personnel" means professional employees or their delegates of the school district engaged in providing health, educational, social, psychological, law enforcement, or other caretaking services of vulnerable adults.

I. "Immediately" means as soon as possible, but no longer than 24 hours from the time initial knowledge that the incident occurred has been received.

#### **IV. REPORTING PROCEDURES**

A. A mandated reporter as defined herein shall immediately report the suspected maltreatment to the designated county entity.

B. Whenever a mandated reporter, as defined herein, knows or has reason to believe that an individual made an error in the provision of therapeutic conduct to a vulnerable adult which results in injury or harm, which reasonably requires the care of a physician, such information shall be reported immediately to the designated county agency. The mandated reporter also may report a belief that the error did not constitute neglect and why the error does not constitute Neglect.

C. The reporter shall to the extent possible identify the vulnerable adult, the caregiver, the nature and extent of the suspected maltreatment, any evidence of previous maltreatment, the name and address of the reporter, the time, date, and location of the incident, and any other information that the reporter believes might be helpful in investigating the suspected abuse or neglect. A mandated reporter may disclose not public data as defined under Minn. Stat. § 13.02 to the extent necessary to comply with the above reporting requirements.

D. A person mandated to report suspected maltreatment of a vulnerable adult who negligently or intentionally fails to report is liable for damages caused by the failure. A negligent or intentional failure to report may result in discipline. A mandatory reporter who intentionally fails to make a report, who knowingly provides false or misleading information in reporting, or who intentionally fails to provide all the material circumstances surrounding the reported incident may be guilty of a misdemeanor.

E. Retaliation against a person who makes a good faith report under Minnesota law and this policy, or against vulnerable adult who is named in a report is prohibited.

F. Any person who intentionally makes a false report under the provisions of applicable Minnesota law or this policy shall be liable in a civil suit for any actual damages suffered by the person or persons so reported and for any punitive damages set by the court or jury. The intentional making of a false report may result in discipline.

#### **V. INVESTIGATION**

The responsibility for investigating reports of suspected maltreatment of a vulnerable adult rests with the entity designated by the county for receiving reports.

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**Braham Area Public Schools**

**Ind. School Dist. #314**

**Braham, MN 55006**

Adopted: April 16, 2007

Revised: November 17, 2014 **August 22, 2016**

**#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; violation of School District and building policy in regard to use of any tablet type device supplied by the district. Also, any device brought into the district through the building's "Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) 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. **The teacher of record shall have the general control and government of the classroom.**

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. *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 pre-assessment 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 pre-assessment 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 (6<sup>th</sup>) consecutive day of suspension or the tenth (10<sup>th</sup>) 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. 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.)

8. 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.
9. 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.
10. 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.

In addition, the school district must report, through the MDE electronic reporting system, each physical assault of a school district employee by a student within thirty (30) days of the assault. This report must include a statement of the alternative educational services or other sanction, intervention, or resolution given to the student in response to the assault and the reason for, the effective date, and the duration of the exclusion or expulsion or other sanction, intervention, or resolution. The report must also include the student's age, grade, gender, race, and special education status.

## **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 seventeen (17) 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. § 122A.42 (General Control of Schools)**
- 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)

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**Braham Area Public Schools**

**Ind. School Dist. #314**

**Braham, MN 55006**

**Adopted: August 18, 2014**

**#514 BULLYING PROHIBITION POLICY**

**I. PURPOSE**

A safe and civil environment is needed for students to learn and attain high academic standards and to promote healthy human relationships. Bullying, like other violent or disruptive behavior, is conduct that interferes with a student's ability to learn and/or a teacher's ability to educate students in a safe environment. The school district cannot monitor the activities of students at all times and eliminate all incidents of bullying between students, particularly when students are not under the direct supervision of school personnel. However, to the extent such conduct affects the educational environment of the school district and the rights and welfare of its students and is within the control of the school district in its normal operations, the school district intends to prevent bullying and to take action to investigate, respond to, and to remediate and discipline for those acts of bullying which have not been successfully prevented. The purpose of this policy is to assist the school district in its goal of preventing and responding to acts of bullying, intimidation, violence, reprisal, retaliation, and other similar disruptive and detrimental behavior.

## **II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

- A. An act of bullying, by either an individual student or a group of students, is expressly prohibited on school premises, on school district property, at school functions or activities, or on school transportation. This policy applies not only to students who directly engage in an act of bullying but also to students who, by their indirect behavior, condone or support another student's act of bullying. This policy also applies to any student whose conduct at any time or in any place constitutes bullying or other prohibited conduct that interferes with or obstructs the mission or operations of the school district or the safety or welfare of the student or other students, or materially and substantially interferes with a student's educational opportunities or performance or ability to participate in school functions or activities or receive school benefits, services, or privileges. This policy also applies to an act of cyberbullying regardless of whether such act is committed on or off school district property and/or with or without the use of school district resources.
- B. No teacher, administrator, volunteer, contractor, or other employee of the school district shall permit, condone, or tolerate bullying.
- C. Apparent permission or consent by a student being bullied does not lessen or negate the prohibitions contained in this policy.
- D. Retaliation against a victim, good faith reporter, or a witness of bullying is prohibited.
- E. False accusations or reports of bullying against another student are prohibited.
- F. A person who engages in an act of bullying, reprisal, retaliation, or false reporting of bullying or permits, condones, or tolerates bullying shall be subject to discipline or other remedial responses for that act in accordance with the school district's policies and procedures, including the school district's discipline policy (See MSBA/MASA Model Policy 506). The school district may take into account the following factors:
1. The developmental ages and maturity levels of the parties involved;
  2. The levels of harm, surrounding circumstances, and nature of the behavior;
  3. Past incidences or past or continuing patterns of behavior;
  4. The relationship between the parties involved; and
  5. The context in which the alleged incidents occurred.

Consequences for students who commit prohibited acts of bullying may range from remedial responses or positive behavioral interventions up to and including suspension and/or expulsion. The school district shall employ

research-based developmentally appropriate best practices that include preventative and remedial measures and effective discipline for deterring violations of this policy, apply throughout the school district, and foster student, parent, and community participation.

Consequences for employees who permit, condone, or tolerate bullying or engage in an act of reprisal or intentional false reporting of bullying may result in disciplinary action up to and including termination or discharge.

Consequences for other individuals engaging in prohibited acts of bullying may include, but not be limited to, exclusion from school district property and events.

G. The school district will act to investigate all complaints of bullying reported to the school district and will discipline or take appropriate action against any student, teacher, administrator, volunteer, contractor, or other employee of the school district who is found to have violated this policy.

### **III. DEFINITIONS**

For purposes of this policy, the definitions included in this section apply.

A. “Bullying” means intimidating, threatening, abusive, or harming conduct that is objectively offensive and:

1. an actual or perceived imbalance of power exists between the student engaging in the prohibited conduct and the target of the prohibited conduct, and the conduct is repeated or forms a pattern; or
2. materially and substantially interferes with a student’s educational opportunities or performance or ability to participate in school functions or activities or receive school benefits, services, or privileges.

The term, “bullying,” specifically includes cyberbullying as defined in this policy.

B. “Cyberbullying” means bullying using technology or other electronic communication, including, but not limited to, a transfer of a sign, signal, writing, image, sound, or data, including a post on a social network Internet website or forum, transmitted through a computer, cell phone, or other electronic device. The term applies to prohibited conduct which occurs on school premises, on school district property, at school functions or activities, on school transportation, or on school computers, networks, forums, and mailing lists, or off school premises to the extent that it substantially and materially disrupts student learning or the school environment.

C. “Immediately” means as soon as possible but in no event longer than 24 hours.

D. “Intimidating, threatening, abusive, or harming conduct” means, but is not limited to, conduct that does the following:

1. Causes physical harm to a student or a student’s property or causes a student to be in reasonable fear of harm to person or property;
2. Under Minnesota common law, violates a student’s reasonable expectation of privacy, defames a student, or constitutes intentional infliction of emotional distress against a student; or
3. Is directed at any student or students, including those based on a person’s actual or perceived race, ethnicity, color, creed, religion, national origin, immigration status, sex, marital status, familial status, socioeconomic status, physical appearance, sexual orientation including gender identity and expression, academic status related to student performance, disability, or status with regard to public assistance, age, or any additional

characteristic defined in the Minnesota Human Rights Act (MHRA). However, prohibited conduct need not be based on any particular characteristic defined in this paragraph or the MHRA.

E. “On school premises, on school district property, at school functions or activities, or on school transportation” means all school district buildings, school grounds, and school property or property immediately adjacent to school grounds, 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 grounds, premises, or events, and all school-related functions, school-sponsored activities, events, or trips. School district property also may mean a student’s walking route to or from school for purposes of attending school or school-related functions, activities, or events. While prohibiting bullying at these locations and events, the school district does not represent that it will provide supervision or assume liability at these locations and events.

F. “Prohibited conduct” means bullying or cyberbullying as defined in this policy or retaliation or reprisal for asserting, alleging, reporting, or providing information about such conduct or knowingly making a false report about bullying.

G. “Remedial response” means a measure to stop and correct prohibited conduct, prevent prohibited conduct from recurring, and protect, support, and intervene on behalf of a student who is the target or victim of prohibited conduct.

H. “Student” means a student enrolled in a public school or a charter school.

#### **IV. REPORTING PROCEDURE**

A. Any person who believes he or she has been the target or victim of bullying or any person with knowledge or belief of conduct that may constitute bullying or prohibited conduct under this policy shall report the alleged acts immediately to an appropriate school district official designated by this policy. A person may report bullying anonymously. However, the school district may not rely solely on an anonymous report to determine discipline or other remedial responses.

B. The school district encourages the reporting party or complainant to use the report form available from the principal or building supervisor of each building or available in the school district office, but oral reports shall be considered complaints as well.

C. The building principal, the principal’s designee, or the building supervisor (hereinafter the “building report taker”) is the person responsible for receiving reports of bullying or other prohibited conduct at the building level. Any person may report bullying or other prohibited conduct directly to a school district human rights officer or the superintendent. If the complaint involves the building report taker, the complaint shall be made or filed directly with the superintendent or the school district human rights officer by the reporting party or complainant.

The building report taker shall ensure that this policy and its procedures, practices, consequences, and sanctions are fairly and fully implemented and shall serve as the primary contact on policy and procedural matters. The building report taker or a third party designated by the school district shall be responsible for the investigation. The building report taker shall provide information about available community resources to the target or victim of the bullying or other prohibited conduct, the perpetrator, and other affected individuals as appropriate.

D. A teacher, school administrator, volunteer, contractor, or other school employee shall be particularly alert to possible situations, circumstances, or events that might include bullying. Any such person who witnesses, observes, receives a report of, or has other knowledge or belief of conduct that may constitute bullying or other prohibited conduct shall make reasonable efforts to address and resolve the bullying or prohibited conduct and shall inform the building report taker immediately. School district personnel who fail to inform the building report taker of conduct

that may constitute bullying or other prohibited conduct or who fail to make reasonable efforts to address and resolve the bullying or prohibited conduct in a timely manner may be subject to disciplinary action.

E. Reports of bullying or other prohibited conduct are classified as private educational and/or personnel data and/or confidential investigative data and will not be disclosed except as permitted by law. The building report taker, in conjunction with the responsible authority, shall be responsible for keeping and regulating access to any report of bullying and the record of any resulting investigation.

F. Submission of a good faith complaint or report of bullying or other prohibited conduct will not affect the complainant's or reporter's future employment, grades, work assignments, or educational or work environment.

G. The school district will respect the privacy of the complainant(s), the individual(s) against whom the complaint is filed, and the witnesses as much as possible, consistent with the school district's obligation to investigate, take appropriate action, and comply with any legal disclosure obligations.

## **V. SCHOOL DISTRICT ACTION**

A. Within three days of the receipt of a complaint or report of bullying or other prohibited conduct, the school district shall undertake or authorize an investigation by the building report taker or a third party designated by the school district.

B. The building report taker or other appropriate school district officials may take immediate steps, at their discretion, to protect the target or victim of the bullying or other prohibited conduct, the complainant, the reporter, and students or others, pending completion of an investigation of the bullying or other prohibited conduct, consistent with applicable law.

C. The alleged perpetrator of the bullying or other prohibited conduct shall be allowed the opportunity to present a defense during the investigation or prior to the imposition of discipline or other remedial responses.

D. Upon completion of an investigation that determines that bullying or other prohibited conduct has occurred, the school district will take appropriate action. Such action may include, but is not limited to, warning, suspension, exclusion, expulsion, transfer, remediation, termination, or discharge. Disciplinary consequences will be sufficiently severe to try to deter violations and to appropriately discipline prohibited conduct. Remedial responses to the bullying or other prohibited conduct shall be tailored to the particular incident and nature of the conduct and shall take into account the factors specified in Section II.F. of this policy. School district action taken for violation of this policy will be consistent with the requirements of applicable collective bargaining agreements; applicable statutory authority, including the Minnesota Pupil Fair Dismissal Act; the student discipline policy (See MSBA/MASA Model Policy 506) and other applicable school district policies; and applicable regulations.

E. The school district is not authorized to disclose to a victim private educational or personnel data regarding an alleged perpetrator who is a student or employee of the school district. School officials will notify the parent(s) or guardian(s) of students who are targets of bullying or other prohibited conduct and the parent(s) or guardian(s) of alleged perpetrators of bullying or other prohibited conduct who have been involved in a reported and confirmed bullying incident of the remedial or disciplinary action taken, to the extent permitted by law.

F. In order to prevent or respond to bullying or other prohibited conduct committed by or directed against a child with a disability, the school district shall, when determined appropriate by the child's individualized education program (IEP) team or Section 504 team, allow the child's IEP or Section 504 plan to be drafted to address the skills and proficiencies the child needs as a result of the child's disability to allow the child to respond to or not to engage in bullying or other prohibited conduct.



## **VI. RETALIATION OR REPRISAL**

The school district will discipline or take appropriate action against any student, teacher, administrator, volunteer, contractor, or other employee of the school district who commits an act of reprisal or who retaliates against any person who asserts, alleges, or makes a good faith report of alleged bullying or prohibited conduct, who provides information about bullying or prohibited conduct, who testifies, assists, or participates in an investigation of alleged bullying or prohibited conduct, or who testifies, assists, or participates in a proceeding or hearing relating to such bullying or prohibited conduct. Retaliation includes, but is not limited to, any form of intimidation, reprisal, harassment, or intentional disparate treatment. Disciplinary consequences will be sufficiently severe to deter violations and to appropriately discipline the individual(s) who engaged in the prohibited conduct. Remedial responses to the prohibited conduct shall be tailored to the particular incident and nature of the conduct and shall take into account the factors specified in Section II.F. of this policy.

## **VII. TRAINING AND EDUCATION**

A. The school district shall discuss this policy with school personnel and volunteers and provide appropriate training to school district personnel regarding this policy. The school district shall establish a training cycle for school personnel to occur during a period not to exceed every three school years. Newly employed school personnel must receive the training within the first year of their employment with the school district. The school district or a school administrator may accelerate the training cycle or provide additional training based on a particular need or circumstance. This policy shall be included in employee handbooks, training materials, and publications on school rules, procedures, and standards of conduct, which materials shall also be used to publicize this policy.

B. The school district shall require ongoing professional development, consistent with Minn. Stat. § 122A.60, to build the skills of all school personnel who regularly interact with students to identify, prevent, and appropriately address bullying and other prohibited conduct. Such professional development includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1. Developmentally appropriate strategies both to prevent and to immediately and effectively intervene to stop prohibited conduct;
2. The complex dynamics affecting a perpetrator, target, and witnesses to prohibited conduct;
3. Research on prohibited conduct, including specific categories of students at risk for perpetrating or being the target or victim of bullying or other prohibited conduct in school;
4. The incidence and nature of cyberbullying; and
5. Internet safety and cyberbullying.

C. The school district annually will provide education and information to students regarding bullying, including information regarding this school district policy prohibiting bullying, the harmful effects of bullying, and other applicable initiatives to prevent bullying and other prohibited conduct.

D. The administration of the school district is directed to implement programs and other initiatives to prevent bullying, to respond to bullying in a manner that does not stigmatize the target or victim, and to make resources or referrals to resources available to targets or victims of bullying.

E. The administration is encouraged to provide developmentally appropriate instruction and is directed to review programmatic instruction to determine if adjustments are necessary to help students identify and prevent or reduce bullying and other prohibited conduct, to value diversity in school and society, to develop and improve students'

knowledge and skills for solving problems, managing conflict, engaging in civil discourse, and recognizing, responding to, and reporting bullying or other prohibited conduct, and to make effective prevention and intervention programs available to students.

The administration must establish strategies for creating a positive school climate and use evidence-based social-emotional learning to prevent and reduce discrimination and other improper conduct.

The administration is encouraged, to the extent practicable, to take such actions as it may deem appropriate to accomplish the following:

1. Engage all students in creating a safe and supportive school environment;
  2. Partner with parents and other community members to develop and implement prevention and intervention programs;
  3. Engage all students and adults in integrating education, intervention, and other remedial responses into the school environment;
  4. Train student bystanders to intervene in and report incidents of bullying and other prohibited conduct to the schools' primary contact person;
  5. Teach students to advocate for themselves and others;
  6. Prevent inappropriate referrals to special education of students who may engage in bullying or other prohibited conduct; and
  7. Foster student collaborations that, in turn, foster a safe and supportive school climate.
- F. The school district may implement violence prevention and character development education programs to prevent or reduce policy violations. Such programs may offer instruction on character education including, but not limited to, character qualities such as attentiveness, truthfulness, respect for authority, diligence, gratefulness, self-discipline, patience, forgiveness, respect for others, peacemaking, and resourcefulness.
- G. The school district shall inform affected students and their parents of rights they may have under state and federal data practices laws to obtain access to data related to an incident and their right to contest the accuracy or completeness of the data. The school district may accomplish this requirement by inclusion of all or applicable parts of its protection and privacy of pupil records policy (See MSBA/MASA Model Policy 515) in the student handbook.

## **VIII. NOTICE**

- A. The school district will give annual notice of this policy to students, parents or guardians, and staff, and this policy shall appear in the student handbook.
- B. This policy or a summary thereof must be conspicuously posted in the administrative offices of the school district and the office of each school.
- C. This policy must be given to each school employee and independent contractor who regularly interacts with students at the time of initial employment with the school district.

D. Notice of the rights and responsibilities of students and their parents under this policy must be included in the student discipline policy (See MSBA/MASA Model Policy 506) distributed to parents at the beginning of each school year.

E. This policy shall be available to all parents and other school community members in an electronic format in the language appearing on the school district's or a school's website.

F. The school district shall provide an electronic copy of its most recently amended policy to the Commissioner of Education.

## IX. POLICY REVIEW

To the extent practicable, the school board shall, on a cycle consistent with other school district policies, review and revise this policy. The policy shall be made consistent with Minn. Stat. § 121A.031 and other applicable law. Revisions shall be made in consultation with students, parents, and community organizations.

**Legal References:** Minn. Stat. Ch. 13 (Minnesota Government Data Practices Act)  
Minn. Stat. § 120A.05, Subds. 9, 11, 13, and 17 (Definition of Public School)  
Minn. Stat. § 120B.232 (Character Development Education)  
Minn. Stat. § 121A.03 (Sexual, Religious and Racial Harassment and Violence)  
Minn. Stat. § 121A.031 (School Student Bullying Policy)  
Minn. Stat. § 121A.0311 (Notice of Rights and Responsibilities of Students and Parents under the Safe and Supportive Minnesota Schools Act)  
Minn. Stat. §§ 121A.40-121A.56 (Pupil Fair Dismissal Act)  
Minn. Stat. § 121A.69 (Hazing Policy)  
Minn. Stat. § ~~124D.10~~ Ch.124E (Charter School)  
Minn. Stat. Ch. 363A (Minnesota Human Rights Act)  
20 U.S.C. § 1232g *et seq.* (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act)  
34 C.F.R. §§ 99.1 - 99.67 (Family Educational Rights and Privacy)

**Cross References:** MSBA/MASA Model Policy 403 (Discipline, Suspension, and Dismissal of School District Employees)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 413 (Harassment and Violence)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 414 (Mandated Reporting of Child Neglect or Physical or Sexual Abuse)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 415 (Mandated Reporting of Maltreatment of Vulnerable Adults)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 423 (Employee-Student Relationships)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 501 (School Weapons Policy)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 506 (Student Discipline)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 507 (Corporal Punishment)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 515 (Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 521 (Student Disability Nondiscrimination)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 522 (Student Sex Nondiscrimination)  
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 529 (Staff Notification of Violent Behavior by Students)  
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)

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**Braham Area Public Schools  
Ind. School Dist. #314  
Braham, MN 55006**

Adopted: July 21, 2014

## **#522 STUDENT SEX NONDISCRIMINATION**

### **I. PURPOSE**

Students are protected from discrimination on the basis of sex pursuant to Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and the Minnesota Human Rights Act. The purpose of this policy is to provide equal educational opportunity for all students and to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex.

### **II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

A. The school district provides equal educational opportunity for all students, and does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of sex. No student will be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise subjected to discrimination under any educational program or activity operated by the school district on the basis of sex.

B. ~~It is the responsibility of~~ Every school district employee shall be responsible for ~~to~~ complying with this policy.

C. The school board hereby designates **ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR, 531 ELMHURST AVE S, BRAHAM, MN 55006 OFFICE PHONE: 320-396-5209** as its Title IX coordinator. This employee coordinates the school district's efforts to comply with and carry out its responsibilities under Title IX.

D. Any student, parent or guardian having questions regarding the application of Title IX and its regulations and/or this policy should discuss them with the Title IX coordinator. Questions relating solely to Title IX and its regulations may be referred to the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights of the United States Department of Education. In the absence of a specific designee, an inquiry or complaint should be referred to the superintendent or the school district human rights officer.

### **III. REPORTING GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES**

A. Any student who believes he or she has been the victim of unlawful sex discrimination by a teacher, administrator or other school district personnel, or any person with knowledge or belief of conduct which may constitute unlawful sex discrimination toward a student should report the alleged acts immediately to an appropriate school district official designated by this policy or may file a grievance. The school district encourages the reporting party or complainant to use the report form available from the principal of each building or available from the school district office, but oral reports shall be considered complaints as well. Nothing in this policy shall prevent any person from reporting unlawful sex discrimination toward a student directly to a school district human rights officer or to the superintendent.

B. In Each School Building. The building principal is the person responsible for receiving oral or written reports or grievances of unlawful sex discrimination toward a student at the building level. Any adult school district personnel who receives a report of unlawful sex discrimination toward a student shall inform the building principal immediately.

C. Upon receipt of a report or grievance, the principal must notify the school district human rights officer immediately, without screening or investigating the report. The principal may request, but may not insist upon a written complaint. A written statement of the facts alleged will be forwarded as soon as practicable by the principal to the human rights officer. If the report was given verbally, the principal shall personally reduce it to written form within 24 hours and forward it to the human rights officer. Failure to forward any report or complaint of unlawful sex discrimination toward a student as provided herein may result in disciplinary action against the principal. If the complaint involves the building principal, the complaint shall be made or filed directly with the superintendent or the school district human rights officer by the reporting party or complainant.

D. The school board hereby designates **SCHOOL COUNSELOR, 531 ELMHURST AVE S, BRAHAM, MN 55006 OFFICE PHONE: 320-396-5215** as the school district human rights officer(s) to receive reports, complaints or grievances of unlawful sex discrimination toward a student. If the complaint involves a human rights officer, the complaint shall be filed directly with the superintendent.

E. The school district shall conspicuously post the names of the Title IX coordinator and human rights officer(s), including office ~~mailing~~ addresses and telephone numbers and work email addresses.

F. Submission of a good faith complaint, grievance or report of unlawful sex discrimination toward a student will not affect the complainant or reporter's future employment, grades or work assignments.

G. Use of formal reporting forms is not mandatory.

H. The school district will respect the privacy of the complainant, the individual(s) against whom the complaint is filed, and the witnesses as much as possible, consistent with the school district's legal obligations to investigate, to take appropriate action, and to conform with any discovery or disclosure obligations.

#### **IV. INVESTIGATION**

A. By authority of the school district, the human rights officer, upon receipt of a report, complaint or grievance alleging unlawful sex discrimination toward a student shall promptly undertake or authorize an investigation. The investigation may be conducted by school district officials or by a third party designated by the school district.

B. The investigation may consist of personal interviews with the complainant, the individual(s) against whom the complaint is filed, and others who may have knowledge of the alleged incident(s) or circumstances giving rise to the complaint. The investigation may also consist of any other methods and documents deemed pertinent by the investigator.

C. In determining whether alleged conduct constitutes a violation of this policy, the school district should consider the surrounding circumstances, the nature of the behavior, past incidents or past or continuing patterns of behavior, the relationships between the parties involved and the context in which the alleged incidents occurred. Whether a particular action or incident constitutes a violation of this policy requires a determination based on all the facts and surrounding circumstances.

D. In addition, the school district may take immediate steps, at its discretion, to protect the complainant,

pupils, teachers, administrators or other school personnel pending completion of an investigation of alleged unlawful sex discrimination toward a student.

E. The investigation will be completed as soon as practicable. The school district human rights officer shall make a written report to the superintendent upon completion of the investigation. If the complaint involves the superintendent, the report may be filed directly with the school board. The report shall include a determination of whether the allegations have been substantiated as factual and whether they appear to be violations of this policy.

## **V. SCHOOL DISTRICT ACTION**

A. Upon conclusion of the investigation and receipt of a report, the school district will take appropriate action. Such action may include, but is not limited to, warning, suspension, exclusion, expulsion, transfer, remediation, termination or discharge. School district action taken for violation of this policy will be consistent with requirements of applicable collective bargaining agreements, Minnesota and federal law and school district policies.

B. The result of the school district's investigation of each complaint filed under these procedures will be reported in writing to the complainant by the school district in accordance with state and federal law regarding data or records privacy.

## **VI. REPRISAL**

The school district will discipline or take appropriate action against any pupil, teacher, administrator or other school personnel who retaliates against any person who reports alleged unlawful sex discrimination toward a student or any person who testifies, assists or participates in an investigation, or who testifies, assists or participates in a proceeding or hearing relating to such unlawful sex discrimination. Retaliation includes, but is not limited to, any form of intimidation, reprisal or harassment.

## **VII. RIGHT TO ALTERNATIVE COMPLAINT PROCEDURES**

These procedures do not deny the right of any individual to pursue other avenues of recourse which may include filing charges with the Minnesota Department of Human Rights, initiating civil action or seeking redress under state criminal statutes and/or federal law, or contacting the Office of Civil Rights for the United States Department of Education.

## **VIII. DISSEMINATION OF POLICY AND EVALUATION**

A. This policy shall be made available to all students, parents/guardians of students, staff members, employee unions and organizations.

B. The school district shall review this policy and the school district's operation for compliance with state and federal laws prohibiting discrimination on a continuous basis.

**Legal References:** Minn. Stat. § 121A.04 (Athletic Programs; Sex Discrimination)  
Minn. Stat. Ch. 363A (Minnesota Human Rights Act)  
20 U.S.C. §§ 1681-1688 (Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972)

**Cross References:** MSBA/MASA Model Policy 102 (Equal Educational Opportunity)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 413 (Harassment and Violence)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 528 (Student Parental, Family, and Marital Status Nondiscrimination)

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**Braham Area Public Schools**

**Ind. School Dist. #314**

**Braham, MN 55006**

*Adopted:* March 15, 1999

*Revised:* **November 17, 2014; September 21, 2015**

**#524 INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE AND SAFETY POLICY**

**I. PURPOSE**

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

**II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

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

**III. LIMITED EDUCATIONAL PURPOSE**

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

**IV. USE OF SYSTEM IS A PRIVILEGE**

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

suspension, expulsion, exclusion, or termination of employment; or civil or criminal liability under other applicable laws.

## **V. UNACCEPTABLE USES**

A. The following uses of the school district system and Internet resources or accounts are considered unacceptable:

1. Users will not use the school district system to access, review, upload, download, store, print, post, receive, transmit, or distribute:
  - a. pornographic, obscene, or sexually explicit material or other visual depictions that are harmful to minors;
  - b. obscene, abusive, profane, lewd, vulgar, rude, inflammatory, threatening, disrespectful, or sexually explicit language;
  - c. materials that use language or images that are inappropriate in the education setting or disruptive to the educational process;
  - d. information or materials that could cause damage or danger of disruption to the educational process;
  - e. materials that use language or images that advocate violence or discrimination toward other people (hate literature) or that may constitute harassment or discrimination.
2. Users will not use the school district system to knowingly or recklessly post, transmit, or distribute false or defamatory information about a person or organization, or to harass another person, or to engage in personal attacks, including prejudicial or discriminatory attacks.
3. Users will not use the school district system to engage in any illegal act or violate any local, state, or federal statute or law.
4. Users will not use the school district system to vandalize, damage, or disable the property of another person or organization, will not make deliberate attempts to degrade or disrupt equipment, software, or system performance by spreading computer viruses or by any other means, will not tamper with, modify, or change the school district system software, hardware, or wiring or take any action to violate the school district's security system, and will not use the school district system in such a way as to disrupt the use of the system by other users.
5. Users will not use the school district system to gain unauthorized access to information resources or to access another person's materials, information, or files without the implied or direct permission of that person.
6. Users will not use the school district system to post private information about another person, personal contact information about themselves or other persons, or other personally identifiable information, including, but not limited to, addresses, telephone numbers, school addresses, work addresses, identification numbers, account numbers, access codes or passwords, labeled photographs, or other information that would make the individual's identity easily traceable, and will not repost a message that was sent to the user privately without permission of the person who sent the message.



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

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

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

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

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

c. These prohibitions specifically prohibit a user from utilizing the school district system to post personal information about a user or another individual on social networks, including, but not limited to, social networks such as “MySpace” and “Facebook” or any other social media website currently present or developed in the future.

7. Users must keep all account information and passwords on file with the designated school district official. Users will not attempt to gain unauthorized access to the school district system or any other system through the school district system, attempt to log in through another person’s account, or use computer accounts, access codes, or network identification other than those assigned to the user. Messages and records on the school district system may not be encrypted without the permission of appropriate school authorities.

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

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

10. Users will not use the school district system to engage in bullying or cyberbullying in violation of the school district’s Bullying Prohibition Policy (MSBA/MASA Model Policy 514). This prohibition includes using any technology or other electronic communication off school premises to the extent that student learning or the school environment is substantially and materially disrupted.

B. A student or employee engaging in the foregoing unacceptable uses of the Internet when off school district premises also may be in violation of this policy as well as other school district policies. Examples of such violations include, but are not limited to, situations where the school district system is compromised or if a school district employee or student is negatively impacted. If the school district receives a report of an unacceptable use originating from a non-school computer or resource, the school district may investigate such reports to the best of its ability. Students or employees may be subject to disciplinary action for such conduct, including, but not limited to, suspension or cancellation of the use or access to the school district computer system and the Internet and discipline under other appropriate school district policies, including suspension, expulsion, exclusion, or termination of employment.

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

## **VI. FILTER**

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

1. Obscene;
2. Child pornography; or
3. Harmful to minors.

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

1. Taken as a whole and with respect to minors, appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sex, or excretion; or
2. Depicts, describes, or represents, in a patently offensive way with respect to what is suitable for minors, an actual or simulated sexual act or sexual contact, actual or simulated normal or perverted sexual acts, or a lewd exhibition of the genitals; and
3. Taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value as to minors.

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

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

E. The school district will educate students about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms and cyberbullying awareness and response.

## **VII. CONSISTENCY WITH OTHER SCHOOL POLICIES**

Use of the school district computer system and use of the Internet shall be consistent with school district policies and the mission of the school district.

## **VIII. LIMITED EXPECTATION OF PRIVACY**

- A. By authorizing use of the school district system, the school district does not relinquish control over materials on the system or contained in files on the system. Users should expect only limited privacy in the contents of personal files on the school district system.
- B. Routine maintenance and monitoring of the school district system may lead to a discovery that a user has violated this policy, another school district policy, or the law.
- C. An individual investigation or search will be conducted if school authorities have a reasonable suspicion that the search will uncover a violation of law or school district policy.
- D. Parents have the right at any time to investigate or review the contents of their child's files and email files. Parents have the right to request the termination of their child's individual account at any time. Any request to review or terminate a student's account shall be through the building principal in writing.
- E. School district employees should be aware that the school district retains the right at any time to investigate or review the contents of their files and e-mail files. In addition, school district employees should be aware that data and other materials in files maintained on the school district system may be subject to review, disclosure or discovery under Minn. Stat. Ch. 13 (the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act).
- F. The school district will cooperate fully with local, state and federal authorities in any investigation concerning or related to any illegal activities or activities not in compliance with school district policies conducted through the school district system.

**IX. INTERNET USE AGREEMENT**

- A. The proper use of the Internet, and the educational value to be gained from proper Internet use, is the joint responsibility of students, parents, and employees of the school district.
- B. This policy requires the permission of and supervision by the school's designated professional staff before a student may use a school account or resource to access the Internet.
- C. All students will be granted access to the schools internet. If a parent or guardian does not want their child to have access to the internet in school, they will have to notify the school district in writing so their account can be shut down.

**X. LIMITATION ON SCHOOL DISTRICT LIABILITY**

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

**XI. USER NOTIFICATION**

- A. All users shall be notified of the school district policies relating to Internet use.
- B. This notification shall include the following:
  - 1. Notification that Internet use is subject to compliance with school district policies.
  - 2. Disclaimers limiting the school district's liability relative to:
    - a. Information stored on school district diskettes, hard drives, or virtual servers.
    - b. Information retrieved through school district computers, networks, or online resources.
    - c. Personal property used to access school district computers, networks, or online resources.
    - d. Unauthorized financial obligations resulting from use of school district resources/accounts to access the Internet.
  - 3. A description of the privacy rights and limitations of school sponsored/managed Internet accounts.
  - 4. Notification that, even though the school district may use technical means to limit student Internet access, these limits do not provide a foolproof means for enforcing the provisions of this acceptable use policy.
  - 5. Notification that goods and services can be purchased over the Internet that could potentially result in unwanted financial obligations and that any financial obligation incurred by a student through the Internet is the sole responsibility of the student and/or the student's parents.
  - 6. Notification that the collection, creation, reception, maintenance, and dissemination of data via the Internet, including electronic communications, is governed by Policy 406, Public and Private Personnel Data, and Policy 515, Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records.
  - 7. Notification that, should the user violate the school district's acceptable use policy, the user's access privileges may be revoked, school disciplinary action may be taken and/or appropriate legal action may be taken.
  - 8. Notification that all provisions of the acceptable use policy are subordinate to local, state, and federal laws.

## **XII. PARENTS' RESPONSIBILITY; NOTIFICATION OF STUDENT INTERNET USE**

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

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

1. A copy of the user notification form provided to the student user.
2. A description of parent/guardian responsibilities.
3. A notification that the parents have the option to request alternative educational activities not requiring Internet access and the material to exercise this option.
4. A statement that the Internet Use Agreement must be signed by the user, the parent or guardian, and the supervising teacher prior to use by the student.
5. A statement that the school district's acceptable use policy is available for parental review.

### **XIII. IMPLEMENTATION; POLICY REVIEW**

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

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

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

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

E. The school district reserves the right to monitor all activity of the school network without prior notification to student, parents, guardian or school district staff.

**Legal References:** 15 U.S.C. § 6501 *et seq.* (Children's Online Privacy Protection Act)

17 U.S.C. § 101 *et seq.* (Copyrights)

20 U.S.C. § 6751 *et seq.* (Enhancing Education through Technology Act of 2001)

47 U.S.C. § 254 (Children's Internet Protection Act of 2000 (CIPA))

47 C.F.R. § 54.520 (FCC rules implementing CIPA)

Minn. Stat. § 121A.0695 (School Board Policy; Prohibiting Intimidation and Bullying)

Minn. Stat. § 125B.15 (Internet Access for Students)

Minn. Stat. § 125B.26 (Telecommunications/Internet Access Equity Act)

*Tinker v. Des Moines Indep. Cmty. Sch. Dist.*, 393 U.S. 503, 89 S.Ct. 733, 21 L.Ed.2d 731 (1969)

*United States v. Amer. Library Assoc.*, 539 U.S. 194, 123 S.Ct. 2297, 56 L.Ed.2d 221 (2003)

*Doninger v. Niehoff*, 527 F.3d 41 (2<sup>nd</sup> Cir. 2008)

*R.S. v. Minnewaska Area Sch. Dist. No. 2149*, No. 12-588, 2012 WL 3870868 (D. Minn. 2012)

*Tatro v. Univ. of Minnesota*, 800 N.W.2d 811 (Minn. App. 2011), *aff'd* on other grounds 816 N.W.2d 509 (Minn. 2012)

*S.J.W. v. Lee's Summit R-7 Sch. Dist.*, 696 F.3d 771 (8<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2012)

*Kowalski v. Berkeley County Sch.*, 652 F.3d 656 (4<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2011)

*Layshock v. Hermitage Sch. Dist.*, 650 F.3d 205 (3<sup>rd</sup> Cir. 2011)

*Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, Inc. v. Camdenton R-III Sch. Dist.*, 853 F.Supp.2d 888 (W.D. Mo. 2012)

*M.T. v. Cent. York Sch. Dist.*, 937 A.2d 538 (Pa. Commw. Ct. 2007)

- Cross References:** MSBA/MASA Model Policy 403 (Discipline, Suspension, and Dismissal of School District Employees)
- MSBA/MASA Model Policy 406 (Public and Private Personnel Data)
- MSBA/MASA Model Policy 505 (Distribution of Non-school-Sponsored Materials on School Premises by Students and Employees)
- MSBA/MASA Model Policy 506 (Student Discipline)
- MSBA/MASA Model Policy 514 (Bullying Prohibition Policy)**
- MSBA/MASA Model Policy 515 (Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records)
- MSBA/MASA Model Policy 519 (Interviews of Students by Outside Agencies)
- MSBA/MASA Model Policy 521 (Student Disability Nondiscrimination)
- MSBA/MASA Model Policy 522 (Student Sex Nondiscrimination)
- MSBA/MASA Model Policy 603 (Curriculum Development)
- MSBA/MASA Model Policy 604 (Instructional Curriculum)
- MSBA/MASA Model Policy 606 (Textbooks and Instructional Materials)
- MSBA/MASA Model Policy 806 (Crisis Management Policy)
- MSBA/MASA Model Policy 904 (Distribution of Materials on School District Property by Non-school Persons)
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**Braham Area Public Schools**  
**Ind. School District #314**  
**Braham, MN 55006**  
 Adopted: August 17, 2015

**#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. “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.
- B. “Graduation Standards” means the 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.C.** “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.

##### **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) (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 October 1st 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. 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~~ Assessment Coordinator (if different from “a.” above)

5. Translation services should be provided to the extent appropriate and practicable.

~~5.~~ 6. 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.

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 to review~~ instruction and curriculum, ~~review process~~ cultural competencies, including cultural awareness and cross-cultural communication, and student achievement at the school site. 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. F. Reporting. Consistent with Minn. Stat. § 120B.36, Subd. 1, the school board shall publish a report in the local newspaper with the largest circulation in the district, by mail, or by electronic means 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 cultural competency 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 in their native languages, where appropriate and practicable, about their connection to and level of satisfaction with school. The school district shall include the results of this evaluation in its published reports and in its summary report to the Commissioner.

**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 3501.0640-3501.0655 (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 3501.1300-3501.1345 (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)

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**Braham Area Public Schools**

**Ind. School Dist. #314**

**Braham, MN 55006**

Adopted: December 18, 2006

Revised: **August 17, 2015**

**#806 CRISIS MANAGEMENT POLICY**

**I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this Model Crisis Management Policy is to act as a guide for school district and building administrators, school employees, students, school board members, and community members to address a wide range of potential crisis situations in the school district. For purposes of this Policy, the term, “school districts,” shall include charter schools. The step-by-step procedures suggested by this Policy will provide guidance to each school building in drafting crisis management plans to coordinate protective actions prior to, during, and after any type of emergency or potential crisis situation. Each school district should develop tailored building-specific crisis management plans for each school building in the school district, and sections or procedures may be added or deleted in those crisis management plans based on building needs.

The school district will, to the extent possible, engage in ongoing emergency planning within the school district and with emergency responders and other relevant community organizations. The school district will ensure that relevant emergency responders in the community have access to their building-specific crisis management plans and will provide training to school district staff to enable them to act appropriately in the event of a crisis.

**II. GENERAL INFORMATION**

**A. The Policy and Plans**

The school district’s Crisis Management Policy has been created in consultation with local community response agencies and other appropriate individuals and groups that would likely be involved in the event of a school emergency. It is designed so that each building administrator can tailor a building-specific crisis management plan to meet that building’s specific situation and needs.

The school district's administration and/or the administration of each building shall present tailored building-specific crisis management plans to the school board for review and approval. The building-specific crisis management plans will include general crisis procedures and crisis-specific procedures. Upon approval by the school board, such crisis management plans shall be an addendum to this Crisis Management Policy. This Policy and the plans will be maintained and updated on an annual basis.

B. Elements of the District Crisis Management Policy

1. General Crisis Procedures. The Crisis Management Policy includes general crisis procedures for securing buildings, classroom evacuation, building evacuation, campus evacuation, and sheltering. The Policy designates the individual(s) who will determine when these actions will be taken. These district-wide procedures may be modified by building administrators when creating their building-specific crisis management plans. A communication system will be in place to enable the designated individual to be contacted at all times in the event of a potential crisis, setting forth the method to contact the designated individual, the provision of at least two designees when the contact person is unavailable, and the method to convey contact information to the appropriate staff persons. The alternative designees may include members of the emergency first responder response team. A secondary method of communication should be included in the plan for use when the primary method of communication is inoperable. Each building in the school district will have access to a copy of the Comprehensive School Safety Guide (2011 Edition) to assist in the development of building-specific crisis management plans.

All general crisis procedures will address specific procedures for the safe evacuation of children and employees with special needs such as physical, sensory, motor, developmental, and mental health challenges.

a. Lock-Down Procedures. Lock-down procedures will be used in situations where harm may result to persons inside the school building, such as a shooting, hostage incident, intruder, trespass, disturbance, or when determined to be necessary by the building administrator or his or her designee. The building administrator or designee will announce the lock-down over the public address system or other designated system. Code words will not be used. Provisions for emergency evacuation will be maintained even in the event of a lock-down. Each building administrator will submit lock-down procedures for their building as part of the building-specific crisis management plan.

b. Evacuation Procedures. Evacuations of classrooms and buildings shall be implemented at the discretion of the building administrator or his or her designee. Each building's crisis management plan will include procedures for transporting students and staff a safe distance from harm to a designated safe area until released by the building administrator or designee. Safe areas may change based upon the specific emergency situation. The evacuation procedures should include specific procedures for children with special needs, including children with limited mobility (wheelchairs, braces, crutches, etc.), visual impairments, hearing impairments, and other sensory, developmental, or mental health needs. The evacuation procedures should also address transporting necessary medications for students that take medications during the school day.

c. Sheltering Procedures. Sheltering provides refuge for students, staff, and visitors within the school building during an emergency. Shelters are safe areas that maximize the safety of inhabitants. Safe areas may change based upon the specific emergency. The building administrator or his or her designee will announce the need for sheltering over the public address system or other designated system. Each building administrator will submit sheltering procedures for his or her building as part of the building-specific crisis management plan.

2. Crisis-Specific Procedures. The Crisis Management Policy includes crisis-specific procedures for crisis situations that may occur during the school day or at school-sponsored events and functions. These

district-wide procedures are designed to enable building administrators to tailor response procedures when creating building-specific crisis management plans.

3. School Emergency Response Teams

a. Composition. The building administrator in each school building will select a school emergency response team that will be trained to respond to emergency situations. All school emergency response team members will receive on-going training to carry out the building's crisis management plans and will have knowledge of procedures, evacuation routes, and safe areas. For purposes of student safety and accountability, to the extent possible, school emergency response team members will not have direct responsibility for the supervision of students. Team members must be willing to be actively involved in the resolution of crises and be available to assist in any crisis situation as deemed necessary by the building administrator. Each building will maintain a current list of school emergency response team members which will be updated annually. The building administrator, and his or her alternative designees, will know the location of that list in the event of a school emergency. A copy of the list will be kept on file in the school district office, or in a secondary location in single building school districts.

b. Leaders. The building administrator or his or her designee will serve as the leader of the school emergency response team and will be the primary contact for emergency response officials. In the event the primary designee is unavailable, the designee list should include more than one alternative designee and may include members of the emergency response team. When emergency response officials are present, they may elect to take command and control of the crisis. It is critical in this situation that school officials assume a resource role and be available as necessary to emergency response officials.

### **III. PREPARATION BEFORE AN EMERGENCY**

#### **A. Communication**

1. District Employees. Teachers generally have the most direct contact with students on a day-to-day basis. As a result, they must be aware of their role in responding to crisis situations. This also applies to non-teaching school personnel who have direct contact with students. All staff shall be aware of the school district's Crisis Management Policy and their own building's crisis management plan. Each school's building-specific crisis management plan shall include the method and dates of dissemination of the plan to its staff. Employees will receive a copy of the relevant building-specific crisis management plans and shall receive periodic training on plan implementation.

2. Students and Parents. Students and parents shall be made aware of the school district's Crisis Management Policy and relevant tailored crisis management plans for each school building. Each school district's building-specific crisis management plan shall set forth how students and parents are made aware of the district and school-specific plans. Students shall receive specific instruction on plan implementation and shall participate in a required number of drills and practice sessions throughout the school year.

#### **B. Planning and Preparing for Fire**

1. Designate a safe area at least 50 feet away from the building to enable students and staff to evacuate. The safe area should not interfere with emergency responders or responding vehicles and should not be in an area where evacuated persons are exposed to any products of combustion. (Depending on the wind direction, where the building on fire is located, the direction from which the fire is arriving, and the location of fire equipment, the distance may need to be extended.)

2. Each building's facility diagram and site plan shall be available in appropriate areas of the building and shall identify the most direct evacuation routes to the designated safe areas both inside and outside of the building. The facility diagram and site plan must identify the location of the fire alarm control panel, fire alarms, fire extinguishers, hoses, water spigots, and utility shut offs.
3. Teachers and staff will receive training on the location of the primary emergency evacuation routes and alternate routes from various points in the building. During fire drills, students and staff will practice evacuations using primary evacuation routes and alternate routes.
4. Certain employees, such as those who work in hazardous areas in the building, will receive training on the locations and proper use of fire extinguishers and protective clothing and equipment.
5. Fire drills will be conducted periodically without warning at various times of the day and under different circumstances, e.g., lunchtime, recess, and during assemblies. State law requires a minimum of five fire drills each school year, consistent with Minn. Stat. § 299F.30. See Minn. Stat. § 121A.035.
6. A record of fire drills conducted at the building will be maintained in the building administrator's office.
7. The school district will have prearranged sites for emergency sheltering and transportation as needed.
8. The school district will determine which staff will remain in the building to perform essential functions if safe to do so (e.g., switchboard, building engineer, etc.). The school district also will designate an administrator or his or her designee to meet local fire or law enforcement agents upon their arrival.

#### C. Facility Diagrams and Site Plans

All school buildings will have a facility diagram and site plan that includes the location of primary and secondary evacuation routes, exits, designated safe areas inside and outside of the building, and the location of fire alarm control panel, fire alarms, fire extinguishers, hoses, water spigots, and utility shut offs. All facility diagrams and site plans will be updated regularly and whenever a major change is made to a building. Facility diagrams and site plans will be maintained by the building administrator and will be easily accessible and on file in the school district office. Facility diagrams and site plans will be provided to first responders, such as fire and law enforcement personnel.

#### D. Emergency Telephone Numbers

Each building will maintain a current list of emergency telephone numbers and the names and addresses of local, county, and state personnel who may be involved in a crisis situation. The list will include telephone numbers for local police, fire, ambulance, hospital, the Poison Control Center, county and state emergency management agencies, local public works departments, local utility companies, the public health nurse, mental health/suicide hotlines, and the county welfare agency. A copy of this list will be kept on file in the school district office, or at a secondary location for single building school districts, and updated annually.

School district employees will receive training on how to make emergency contacts, including 911 calls, when the school district's main telephone number and location is electronically conveyed to emergency personnel instead of the specific building in need of emergency services.

School district plans will set forth a process to internally communicate an emergency, using telephones in classrooms, intercom systems, or two-way radios, as well as the procedure to enable the staff to rapidly convey emergency information to a building designee. Each plan will identify a primary and secondary method of communication for both internal and secondary use. It is recommended that the plan include several methods of communication because

computers, intercoms, telephones, and cell phones may not be operational or may be dangerous to use during an emergency.

#### E. Warning and Notification Systems

The school district shall maintain a warning system designed to inform students, staff, and visitors of a crisis or emergency. This system shall be maintained on a regular basis under the maintenance plan for all school buildings. The school district should consider an alternate notification system to address the needs of staff and students with special needs, such as vision or hearing.

The building administrator shall be responsible for informing students and employees of the warning system and the means by which the system is used to identify a specific crisis or emergency situation. Each school's building-specific crisis management plan will include the method and frequency of dissemination of the warning system information to students and employees.

#### F. Early School Closure Procedures

The superintendent will make decisions about closing school or buildings as early in the day as possible. The early school closure procedures will set forth the criteria for early school closure (e.g., weather-related, utility failure, or a crisis situation), will specify how closure decisions will be communicated to staff, students, families, and the school community (designated broadcast media, local authorities, e-mail, or district or school building web sites), and will discuss the factors to be considered in closing and reopening a school or building.

Early school closure procedures also will include a reminder to parents and guardians to listen to designated local radio and TV stations for school closing announcements, where possible.

#### G. Media Procedures

The superintendent has the authority and discretion to notify parents or guardians and the school community in the event of a crisis or early school closure. The superintendent will designate a spokesperson who will notify the media in the event of a crisis or early school closure. The spokesperson shall receive training to ensure that the district is in strict compliance with federal and state law relative to the release of private data when conveying information to the media.

#### H. Behavioral Health Crisis Intervention Procedures

Short-term behavioral health crisis intervention procedures will set forth the procedure for initiating behavioral health crisis intervention plans. The procedures will utilize available resources including the school psychologist, counselor, community behavioral health crisis intervention, or others in the community. Counseling procedures will be used whenever the superintendent or the building administrator determines it to be necessary, such as after an assault, a hostage situation, shooting, or suicide. The behavioral health crisis intervention procedures shall include the following steps:

1. Administrator will meet with relevant persons, including school psychologists and counselors, to determine the level of intervention needed for students and staff.
2. Designate specific rooms as private counseling areas.
3. Escort siblings and close friends of any victims as well as others in need of emotional support to the counseling areas.
4. Prohibit media from interviewing or questioning students or staff.
5. Provide follow-up services to students and staff who receive counseling.
6. Resume normal school routines as soon as possible.

## I. Long-Term Recovery Intervention Procedures

Long-term recovery intervention procedures may involve both short-term and long-term recovery planning:

1. Physical/structural recovery.
2. Fiscal recovery.
3. Academic recovery.
4. Social/emotional recovery.

## IV. PROCEDURES TO BE INCLUDED IN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S PLAN

The following various hazards/emergency procedures are to be part of the school district's adopted Crisis Management Plan:

- A. Fire
- B. Hazardous Materials
- C. Severe Weather: Tornado/Severe Thunderstorm/Flooding
- D. Medical Emergency
- E. Fight/Disturbance
- F. Assault
- G. Intruder
- H. Weapons
- I. Shooting
- J. Hostage
- K. Bomb Threat
- L. Chemical or Biological Threat
- M. Checklist for Telephone Threats
- N. Demonstration
- O. Suicide
- P. Lock-down Procedures
- Q. Shelter-In-Place Procedures
- R. Evacuation/Relocation
- S. Media Procedures
- T. Post-Crisis Procedures
- U. School Emergency Response Team
- V. Emergency Phone Numbers
- W. Highly Contagious Serious Illness or Pandemic Flu

## V. MISCELLANEOUS PROCEDURES

- A. Chemical Accidents

Procedures for reporting chemical accidents shall be posted at key locations such as chemistry labs, art rooms, swimming pool areas, and janitorial closets.

- B. Visitors

The school district shall implement procedures mandating visitor sign in and visitors in school buildings. See MSBA/MASA Model Policy 903 (Visitors to School District Buildings and Sites).

The school district shall implement procedures to minimize outside entry into school buildings except at designated check-in points and assure that all doors are locked prior to and after regular building hours.

C. Student Victims of Criminal Offenses at or on School Property

The school district shall establish procedures allowing student victims of criminal offenses on school property the opportunity to transfer to another school within the school district.

**Legal References:** *Minn. Stat. Ch. 12 (Emergency Management)*

*Minn. Stat. Ch. 12A (Natural Disaster; State Assistance)*

*Minn. Stat. § 121A.035 (Crisis Management Policy)*

*Minn. Stat. § 121A.06 (Reports of Dangerous Weapon Incidents in School Zones)*

*Minn. Stat. § 299F.30 (Fire Drill in School)*

*Minn. Stat. § 326B.02, Subd. 6 (Powers)*

*Minn. Stat. § 326B.106 (General Powers of Commissioner of Labor and Industry)*

*Minn. Stat. § 609.605, Subd. 4 (Trespasses on School Property)*

*Minn. Rules Ch. 7511 (Fire Safety)*

*20 U.S.C. § 1681, et seq. (Title IX)*

*20 U.S.C. § 6301, et seq. (No Child Left Behind)*

*20 U.S.C. § 7912 (Unsafe School Choice Option)*

*42 U.S.C. § 5121 et seq. (Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance)*

**Cross References:** *MSBA/MASA Model Policy 407 (Employee Right to Know – Exposure to Hazardous Substances)*

*MSBA/MASA Model Policy 413 (Harassment and Violence)*

*MSBA/MASA Model Policy 501 (School Weapons Policy)*

*MSBA/MASA Model Policy 506 (Student Discipline)*

*MSBA/MASA Model Policy 532 (Use of Peace Officers and Crisis Teams to Remove Students with IEPs from School Grounds)*

*MSBA/MASA Model Policy 903 (Visitors to School District Buildings and Sites)*

<https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/sfm/documents/2011comprehensiveschoolsafetyguide.pdf>

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20. Reminder of the September Regular School Board meeting.

The September Regular School Board meeting is set for Monday, September 19, 2016, 7:00 pm, B100 – Community Room.

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21. Adjourn.

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