

*FALLS HIGH SCHOOL
STUDENT HANDBOOK
2023-2024*



INDEX

Absences	7	Homebound Instruction.....	19
Academic Excellence Award	20	Honor Policy.....	14
Activities	20	Honor Roll.....	19
Ala Carte.....	16	Intimacy.....	13
Alcohol & Drugs	10	Leaving School Grounds	16
Annual Staff.....	21	Lock Down Drills	14
Assault.....	9	Lockers	15
Assemblies.....	15	Lunch Detention.....	8
Attendance	7	MCA Refusal to Participate.....	24
Attendance (Extra-Cir.).....	7	MCA Refusal to Part. Form.....	25
Background Check.....	18	Media Center.....	19
Behavior Contract	14	Medication.....	19
Books & Fines.....	18	MN Honor Society.....	21
Breakfast & Lunch.....	16	M.S.H.S.L.....	21
Bullying and Harassment.....	9	Music	20
Bullying Prohibition Policy.....	32	Obscenity	9
Bus Policy	23	Officers.....	22
Cafeteria.....	16	One Act Play.....	21
Canine Detection Services	14	Open Study Hall	14
Cheerleading	20	Out of Town Trips	15
Class Schedule	17	Parent/Teacher Conferences	17
Closed Noon Hour	16	Parking Regulations.....	15
Daily Announcement.....	17	Physical Education Class.....	19
Dances.....	17	Pre-Excused Absence	7
Data Privacy Act	7	Preface	3
Depositing Funds in Food Service.....	16	Prom	20
Detention.....	8	Protection & Privacy of Records.....	36
Directory Information	23	Race/Religious/Sexual Harass	21
Disciplinary Actions	13	Removal From Class	8
Disciplinary Guidelines.....	8	Safe Walking & Biking to School.....	22
Disorderly Conduct.....	8	School Calendar.....	5
Distribution of Lit./Posters.....	18	School Meals.....	49
Distribution of Non-School Material...52		Searches.....	15
District Harassment/Violence Policy...27		Speech.....	21
Dress Code.....	12	Student Council	18
Dropping Classes	14	Student on School Board	18
Early Dismissal Schedule.....	6	Suicide Lifeline.....	3
Electronic Devices.....	11	Suspension.....	8
Emergency Contact.....	17	Tardy Regulations.....	8
Extension List.....	4	Technology/WIFI Use.....	18
Fees	18	Terroristic Threat.....	11
Fire & Tornado Drills	14	Testing Plan & Procedures.....	62
Fundraising	18	Tobacco Violations	10
Grading System.....	20	Transportation Safety Policy.....	54
Grad. Requirements	19	Truancy	9
Hall Passes	17	Vandalism & Theft.....	10
Harassment & Violence Policy.....	27	Visitors.....	17
Harassment & Violence Form.....	31	Weapons	11
Hazing.....	17	Weather Policy	24
Health Service	19	Welcome.....	3

WELCOME TO FALLS HIGH SCHOOL

The staff at Falls High School is looking forward to making this a successful school year for all of our students. With parents and staff working together, we can assure a quality educational experience.

Part of our mission statement at FHS says that the school has the responsibility to provide broad educational opportunities for all students, and the student has the responsibility to take advantage of these opportunities, and demonstrate this responsibility by taking ownership of his/her own education. Let's work together to make our school the best it can be. Have a great school year!

Superintendent

Kevin Grover

Falls High School Principal

Tim Everson

Dean of Students

Don Rolando

Counselor

Thane Grewatz

Athletic Director

Timm Ringhofer



PREFACE

The purpose of this handbook is to present information needed by the student and his/her parent(s) or legal guardian(s). By working with school staff, the student will be provided with opportunities he/she needs to do well in high school and therefore be more ready for life and future educational opportunities.

This handbook should be kept available for students and parent(s)/guardian(s) to use and for referral when you have questions about rules, regulations, and procedures at Falls High School and Alternative Learning Center at Backus.

An overall rule and operational procedure is to be in the right place, at the right time, doing the best you can of what is expected. When you are uncertain or do not understand a rule/procedure, politely ask questions. If you have questions regarding Falls High School procedures and practices, please feel free to contact an administrator by calling 283-2571.

988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline:

Anyone can dial or text 988 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to reach crisis support or to use an online chat feature to connect with crisis support. Dial 988 if you need help or if someone else needs crisis support.

Koochiching County Mobile Mental Health Crisis Response Services 1-844-772-4724

ISD#361 Phone Extension and Room Assignment

EXT	NAME	ROOM	EXT	NAME	ROOM	EXT	NAME	ROOM
1107	Anderson, Charlie	FHS 218	1194	Grover, Stacy	FHS BusOfc	1152	Rudolph, Jeanna	FHS 209
1234	Anselmo, Joe	FES 112B	1123	Hall Monitor	FHS 206	1120	Sandberg, John	FHS 113
1282	Auran, Lisa	FES 106	1164	Hamers, Katie	FHS 217	1250	Scholler, Angela	FHS 118
1153	Awe, Will	FHS 210	1261	Hamilton, Jody	FES 103	1263	Schwartz, Angie	FES 108A
1231	Bacon, Leah - NURSE	FHS/FES	1257	Hayward, Laura	FES 100	1130	Sheasby, Molly	FHS 108
1281	Bacon, Leah	FHS 117	1169	Health Room	FHS 226	1125	Shermoen, Beth	FHS 202
1176	Balaski, Jenesa	FHS 116	1100	Heiss, Vicki	FHS Ofc	1127	Simon, Lisa	FHS 120
1147	Baron, Mandi	FES 2	1279	Hemstad, Chris	FHS 115	1275	Sinninghe, Samantha	FES Ofc
1149	Bennett, Kendra	FHS	1230	Hell, Jamie	FES Ofc	1189	Smith, Cory FHS Equip	FHS 163
1254	Bernard, Brittany	FES 101	1185	Holt, Tom	FHS Ofc	1186	Slatinski, Beth ComEd	FHS 118
1119	Blesi, Mike	FHS 221	1181	Hopkins, Michelle	FHS 156A	1148	Staples, Sarah	FHS 204
1175	Boiler Room	FHS 141	1128	Jaksa, Carol	FHS 121	1151	Stenberg, Casey	FHS 221
1312	Boyle, Jay	FHS 200	1183	Johnson, Barb	FHS Ofc	1124	Study Hall	FHS 114
1251	Boyle, Karli	FHS 203	1236	Johnson, Shawn	FES 108	1302	Sullivan, Anne	ALC
1103	Bright, Jordan	FES Ofc	1163	Kaviuk, Nick	FHS 104	1170	Swanson, Elsa	FHS229/FES109
1140	Casareto, Dominic	FHS 150A	1266	Kitchen FES	FES Caf	1264	Talmage, Julie	FES 107
1122	Casareto, Tony	FHS 102	1133	Kitchen FHS	FHS 135	1232	Tate, Melissa	FES Ofc
1231	Christensen, Cassidy NURSE	FHS/FES	1101	La Vigne, Kristie	FES 116	1268	Taylor, Jenny	FES 4
1271	Christianson, Ginger	FES Ofc	1160	Library-FHS	FHS LMC	1150	Telepresence Room	FHS 207
1161	Christianson, Rosa	FHS 213	1237	Library-FES	FES LMC	1191	Thompson, Heidi	FHS 101
1267	Christianson, Rosa	FES 112B	1105	Lindvall, JoDee	FHS Ofc	1172	True, Justin	FHS 24/FES
1186	Com Ed Activity Rm	FHS 224	1132	Line, Karla	FHS 130	1131	VanDamme, Tom	FHS 119
1001	Conf Room FHS	FHS Ofc	1247	Little, Jeanne	FES 200	1113	Vollom, Tom	FHS 214
1121	Copy Room FHS	FHS 133A	1154	Mannausau, Alex	FHS 212	1108	Walls, Missy	FES 1
1178	Copy Room WEE	FHS 100	1168	Mathews, Adam	FHS 205	1240	Wenberg, Jen	FES 206
1167	Cowman, Maria	FHS222	1245	McDonald, Kim	FES 115	1244	Wendt, Sara	FES 114
1265	Custodians FES	FES Cust	1166	McDonald, Michele	FHS 201	1243	Winkel, Katie	FES 113
1134	Custodians FHS	FHS 137	1273	McDonald, Tylyn	FES 207	1249	Wood, Nicci	FES 202
1193	Dowty, Derek	FHS 108	1259	Morrison, Jill	FES 102	1144	Wood, Norm	FHS 208
1262	Eldien, Brittany	FES 105	1238	Moss, Sasha	FES 203	1142	Wood Shop	FHS155shop
1102	Erickson, Jen	FHS Ofc	1270	Nelson, Rebecca	FES208B	1187	Wood Shop Ofc	FHS155ofc
1248	Erickson, Kevin	FES 201	1158	Nelson, Rebecca	FHS100A	1288	Youso, Laurie	FHS 112
1269	Ettestad, Seth	FES 208	1253	Nemec, Marci	FES 205	1255	Zahradka, Ariana	FES 104
1158	Ettestad, Seth	FHS 100A	1258	Ness, Chelsea	FES 4B	1252	Zika, Luke	FES 204
1104	Everson, Tim	FHS Ofc	1137	Olson, Dave	FHS 149			
1280	Faculty Lounge FES	FES Ofc	1139	Olson, Dave CaddRM	FHS 147			
1156	Faculty Lounge FHS	FHS 216	1283	OT/PT Sensory Rm	FES 3			
1118	Forsythe, Val	FHS 215	1239	Pavleck, Molly	FES 110			
1267	Forsythe, Val	FES 112B	1242	Peterson, Paul	FES 112			
1110	Glowack, Marc	FES 111	1135	Peterson, Sarah	FHS 140			
1106	Grewatz, Thane	FHS Ofc	1138	Ringhofer, TimmAI	FHS Ofc			
1112	Grover, Kevin	FHS Ofc	1126	Rolando, Don	FHS Ofc		updated 8/16/23	
Special Numbers / Fax Numbers								
Bronco Arena: (218) 283-2571 ext. 1301 / 1303			ALC: (218) 283-2571 ext.1302			Falls High School Fax: (218) 283-2384		
Bus Garage: (218) 283-2571 ext. 1300			Falls Elementary Fax: (218) 283-3133			Central Office Fax: (218) 283-8104		

INTERNATIONAL FALLS, MINNESOTA
2023-24 FALLS HIGH SCHOOL CALENDAR

TUESDAY	AUGUST 29	TEACHER IN-SERVICE/WORK DAY
WEDNESDAY	AUGUST 30	TEACHER IN-SERVICE/WORK DAY
WEDNESDAY	AUGUST 30	FHS 6, 7, & 8 th Grade Orientation, 5:00 PM, FHS Cafeteria
WEDNESDAY	AUGUST 30	FHS Meet the Teacher Night 5:30-7:30PM
THURSDAY	AUGUST 31	TEACHER IN-SERVICE/WORK DAY
TUESDAY	SEPTEMBER 5	FIRST DAY OF CLASSES
WEDNESDAY	OCTOBER 4	FHS MID-TERM REPORTS, 1 st Quarter
MONDAY	OCTOBER 9	NO CLASSES – TEACHER WORK DAY
TUESDAY	OCTOBER 10	FHS PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES (5:00-8:00 p.m.)
WEDNESDAY	OCTOBER 11	FHS PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES (5:00-8:00 p.m.)
THURSDAY	OCTOBER 19	NO CLASSES-EDUCATION MINNESOTA BREAK
FRIDAY	OCTOBER 20	NO CLASSES-EDUCATION MINNESOTA BREAK
MONDAY	NOVEMBER 6	NO CLASSES
WEDNESDAY	NOVEMBER 8	END OF FIRST QUARTER
THURSDAY	NOVEMBER 23	NO CLASSES-THANKSGIVING RECESS
FRIDAY	NOVEMBER 24	NO CLASSES-THANKSGIVING RECESS
MONDAY	DECEMBER 11	FHS MID-TERM REPORTS, 2 nd Quarter
WEDNESDAY	DECEMBER 13	FHS PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES (5:00-8:00 p.m.)
FRIDAY	DECEMBER 25	NO CLASSES – START OF WINTER BREAK
WEDNESDAY	JANUARY 3	SCHOOL REOPENS
MONDAY	JANUARY 15	NO CLASSES - TEACHER IN SERVICE
MONDAY	JANUARY 22	END OF SECOND QUARTER/END OF FIRST SEMESTER
MONDAY	FEBRUARY 19	NO CLASSES - PRESIDENT’S DAY
TUESDAY	FEBRUARY 20	NO CLASSES
FRIDAY	FEBRUARY 23	FHS MID-TERM REPORTS, 3 rd Quarter
WEDESDAY	MARCH 6	FHS PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES (5:00-8:00 p.m.)
THURSDAY	MARCH 14	NO CLASSES – EXCHANGE DAY FOR CONFERENCES
FRIDAY	MARCH 15	NO CLASSES – EXCHANGE DAY FOR CONFERENCES
THURSDAY	MARCH 28	END OF THIRD QUARTER
FRIDAY	MARCH 29	NO CLASSES - GOOD FRIDAY
MONDAY	APRIL 1	NO CLASSES - SPRING BREAK
THURSDAY	APRIL 18	NO CLASSES
FRIDAY	APRIL 19	NO CLASSES
FRIDAY	MAY 3	FHS MID-TERM REPORTS, 4 th Quarter
MONDAY	MAY 27	NO CLASSES - MEMORIAL DAY
FRIDAY	MAY TBD	LAST DAY FOR SENIORS
TUESDAY	JUNE 4	LAST DAY OF CLASSES, END OF FOURTH QUARTER
WEDNESDAY	JUNE 5	TEACHER WORK DAY, LAST DAY FOR TEACHERS
SUNDAY	JUNE 2	2024 GRADUATION–3:00 PM

WEDNESDAY EARLY DISMISSAL SCHEDULE

Falls Elementary & West End Elementary Schools

School Day 8:30 AM - 3:10 PM M, T, Th, F
 School Day 8:30 AM - 2:30 PM **Wednesday**

Falls High School

School Day 8:30 AM - 3:20 PM M, T, Th, F
 School Day 8:30 AM - 2:40 PM **Wednesday**

Locate your child's regular drop off time in the first column and follow across to determine Wednesday adjusted time.

Normal Drop-Off Time M, T, TH, F	"Early Out" Drop-Off Time Wednesdays
3:20 PM	2:40 PM
3:22 PM	2:42 PM
3:24 PM	2:44 PM
3:26 PM	2:46 PM
3:28 PM	2:48 PM
3:30 PM	2:50 PM
3:32 PM	2:52 PM
3:34 PM	2:54 PM
3:36 PM	2:56 PM
3:38 PM	2:58 PM
3:40 PM	3:00 PM
3:42 PM	3:02 PM
3:44 PM	3:04 PM
3:46 PM	3:06 PM
3:48 PM	3:08 PM
3:50 PM	3:10 PM
3:52 PM	3:12 PM
3:54 PM	3:14 PM
3:56 PM	3:16 PM
3:58 PM	3:18 PM
4:00 PM	3:20 PM
4:02 PM	3:22 PM
4:04 PM	3:24 PM
4:06 PM	3:26 PM
4:08 PM	3:28 PM
4:10 PM	3:30 PM
4:12 PM	3:32 PM
4:14 PM	3:34 PM
4:16 PM	3:36 PM
4:18 PM	3:38 PM
4:20 PM	3:40 PM
4:22 PM	3:42 PM
4:24 PM	3:44 PM
4:26 PM	3:46 PM
4:28 PM	3:48 PM
4:30 PM	3:50 PM
4:32 PM	3:52 PM
4:34 PM	3:54 PM
4:36 PM	3:56 PM
4:38 PM	3:58 PM
4:40 PM	4:00 PM
4:42 PM	4:02 PM
4:44 PM	4:04 PM
4:46 PM	4:06 PM

DATA PRIVACY ACT Copies of the school district's full data privacy policy may be obtained from the superintendent's office.

ATTENDANCE

Parents are notified on a nightly basis with a recorded phone message of all absences not reported to the school. Parents are notified in writing by mail of all truants. Please clear absences immediately by calling the FHS office at 283-2571. After 3 days all absences not cleared will turn into truants. Please leave a detailed message anytime with the following information: Day of absence, Student's First and Last name, Grade, Reason for absence, and Parent/Guardian's First and Last name.

1. **Six (6) absences per semester in each class.** (Truancies are counted as absences.)

Students are allowed 6 nonexempt absences in each class per semester. The 7th and all subsequent absences not considered exempt in a given period during the semester will be counted as truants. Student will face disciplinary actions from the district for each truant.

2. **Three (3) truancies per school year.**

Truancy from one or more class periods on three different school days will result in a letter being mailed home outlining repercussions of continued truancy. Truancy from one or more class periods on seven different school days will result in child being referred to the Koochiching County Truancy Program.

Students will **NOT** be dropped from courses because of excess absences or truancies unless it is an action resulting from the county truancy program. In the event a student is removed from class and placed in ISS, they may be given work to ready themselves for MCA testing and achievement of the school academic goal.

Exceptions to the above rules may be made on an individual basis for extenuating circumstances over which the student has no control, such as the extended illness of the student or a death in the family.

The principal or his/her designee should be contacted by the parent or guardian if **special attendance problems** arise so that an agreement can be made to deal with the problem. A statement by the physician will be required in a case where a chronic or extended medical problem causes excessive absences. An attendance committee comprised of teachers, administrators, and staff will review chronic attendance problems and refer to the proper resource.

Attendance-Extracurricular Activities

Students participating in any extracurricular activity must be in attendance 1/2 day to participate or practice that day, unless prior approval has been obtained through the principal's office. This policy also applies to pre-excused absence.

Students will not be allowed to "sleep in" for a couple of hours the morning after an out-of-town game. Student athletes who fail to comply with this regulation will be rendered *ineligible* for the next game/contest. Exceptions will be made for extenuating circumstances. Any student who is invited or selected to participate in any post season tournament/all-star team must use their allotted absence days (6). Absence exemption will not be granted for participation in sports or other co-curricular activities not sponsored by the school district.

Absences

Students who arrive after 8:30 a.m. must first report to the office. Failure to report to the office could result in detention. Students that may need to leave campus during the school day must receive a pass, **PRIOR TO LEAVING**, from the office and **CHECK BACK IN** when they return. Failure to do so will result in detention/ISS.

Although parents have the right to keep their children home from school, **the school determines if an absence will count towards the allotted 6 per semester.** Students and their parents are requested to make arrangements **IN ADVANCE** if a personal absence is needed.

Exempt Absences (not counting towards allotted six (6) per semester) are: illness of the student, field trip, OSS, serious illness or death in the family, observance of a religious holiday, required presence in court, and medical or dental treatment. In addition, district policy includes participation in school activities as exempt absences. Two (2) campus visits are allowed for Junior's and Senior's per year. Written verification from schools attended is required.

Pre-Excused Absences: Students needing personal absence of three or more consecutive days are requested to fill out a pre-excused absence form available in the office. The form must be signed by a parent/guardian, filled in and signed by the student's teachers, and approved by the principal or his designee. Sixty percent (60%) will count against the six (6) allotted absence days per semester; forty percent (40%) will be exempt from the allotted absence days. Due dates for school work while absent should be worked out with the individual teachers. The pre-excused absence form must be turned into the office at least 2 school days in advance of the requested absence. Students, who have failing grades, incompletes, or detention, will not be approved. Pre-excused absence counts towards the maximum absence rule (6 per semester). Examples of pre-excused absences that may be approved are family vacations (including

hunting and fishing), participation in civic and religious events, and personal family business.

Tardy Regulations

A student who arrives at school after 8:30 a.m. must immediately report to the FHS office and get a tardy slip. Report to **class** if you are tardy period's 2-7. If you are more than ten (10) minutes late you become truant. One hour detention will be issued for students reaching tardy #3 and each tardy thereafter per semester.

Suspension

Out-of-school suspension may be assigned when deemed necessary. Examples of behaviors that result in suspension are insubordination, failure to serve detention, fighting, bullying, harassment, substance violations, vandalism, assault, and causing a false alarm. In many cases, a referral is made to the juvenile officer.

Students serving in-school suspension will receive 2 bathroom breaks, are required to eat lunch in the cafeteria in an assigned area, and will abide by the ISS classroom rules. ISS will be assigned 2 days after the incident has occurred or the office becomes aware of it. The ISS date to serve will be assigned by the ISS Monitor or Administration. Students serving ISS may be assigned work to help them pass their MCA tests and achieve the school academic goal. **Students in ISS will turn their cell phones in to the ISS Monitor** as soon as they enter the ISS room.

Students assigned ISS or OSS will **not be eligible to participate or attend any co-curricular or extra-curricular activities on the day(s) of the suspension**. Students who habitually do not serve detention may be put on room restriction and lose hall passes until detention is served.

Detention

After-school detention is a disciplinary measure which is frequently used as a deterrent to several school rule infractions. When a student is assigned to detention, he/she is expected to have the time served on or before the date specified by the principal, or teacher. Students will follow all school rules while serving detention which includes no hats, electronic devices, and sleeping. Students are required to bring school work, and following directions of the detention supervisor. **If a student doesn't complete the specified hours of detention by the date due, he/she will be assigned a day of In School Suspension. Detention may be served from 7:40-8:20 am (1hr) or 7:50-8:20 am (30 min) in the FHS office. Detention may be served from 3:30-4:20 pm in the FHS Library.** Students who habitually do not serve detention may be put on room restriction and loose hall passes until detention is served.

Lunch Detention

Lunch detention may be used for individuals that typically do not serve their assigned detention. This option may only be determined by the assistant principal, principal, school monitor, teacher or superintendent. In the ISS room all detention rules apply which includes no electronic devices and sleeping. Students are required to bring school work, and following directions of the detention supervisor.

Removal from Class

Removal from class is the short term exclusion of the student from class during which time the school retains custody of the student.

The following is the procedure for the removal from class:

- a. The initial right and responsibility for the removal of a student from class is that of the classroom teacher. After the initial removal from the class, the student will be sent to the office or ISS room for the remainder of the hour.
- b. If a second removal from a class occurs, an informational administrative conference will be held between the teacher and the principal or the principal's designee. At this conference a decision will be reached as to the length of the time that the student will be removed from class.
- c. The student shall be returned to the class upon completion of the terms of re-admittance established at the informational administrative conference including, but not limited to, completion of any makeup work and/or a behavior contract.
- d. Per direction of the classroom teacher, the student is to report directly to the office or ISS room, when sent out of class. Failure to do so could result in further disciplinary action. Students sent to ISS may be assigned classroom work by the teacher or work to help them pass their MCA tests and achieve the school academic goal.

Disciplinary Guidelines

(Rules Apply to Full Time and Post-Secondary Students)

- I. **Disorderly Conduct:** insubordination, loud profanity, fighting, creating a disturbance or any inappropriate behavior.
 - A. 1-10 day suspension OSS/ISS.
 - B. 2 game/2 week suspension from extracurricular events (whichever is greater) whether participating or a spectator.
 - C. Complaint filed with the juvenile officer.
 - D. Hearing with the juvenile officer, administrator, student, parent/guardian or any combination thereof.

II. Obscenity: a student using obscene gestures, language, signs, pictures and/or publications.

- A. Assigned detention or ISS
- B. Possible suspension.
- C. Parent conference.
- D. Possible referral to juvenile officer.

III. Assault: attack another person without being provoked.

First Offense:

- A. 3-10 day suspension OSS/ISS.
- B. 2 game/2week suspension from extracurricular events (whichever is greater) whether participating or a spectator.
- C. Defender must file charges with county attorney.
- D. Hearing with juvenile officer, administrator, student, parent/guardian or any combination thereof
- E. Disciplinary action against defender will be determined based on circumstances.

Second Offense:

- A. Assaulter will be excluded from high school for the remainder of the school year.
- B. Assaulter will be referred to an alternative learning source.
- C. Defender must file charge with the county attorney.
- D. Additional suspension or expulsion will be administered when any school employee is assaulted or injured by a student.

IV. Bullying and Harassment: This includes the fear, victimization of a student, or malicious and sadistic conduct inhibiting a student's learning experience and learning environment, relating but not limited to: religious, racial, verbal, cyber, sexual or physical harassment and/or bullying behaviors. NOTE: In harassment cases, the victim has an obligation to report the incident.

Malicious and sadistic conduct involving race, color, creed, national origin, sex, age, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, disability, religion, sexual harassment, sexual orientation, and sexual exploitation by a district or school staff member or student against another staff member or student is strictly forbidden. "Malicious and sadistic conduct" means creating a hostile learning environment by acting with the intent to cause harm by intentionally injuring another without just cause or reason or engaging in extreme or excessive cruelty or delighting in cruelty.

First Offense:

- A. Administrator and/or juvenile officer resolve.
- B. Detention or ISS (to be determined by administration)
- C. 2 game/2week suspension from extracurricular events (whichever is greater) whether participating or a spectator.
- D. Suspension (ISS/OSS)

Second Offense:

- A. Suspension (ISS/OSS)
- B. Hearing involving administrator, juvenile officer, students, parents/guardian or any combination thereof.
- C. 3 game/6 week suspension from extracurricular events (whichever is greater) whether participating or a spectator.

Third Offense:

- A. Perpetrator(s) excluded from high school for the remainder of the school year.
- B. Petition filed by juvenile officer against perpetrator(s).
- C. Referral to alternative learning source.

V. Truancy:

First Offense:

- A. One hour of detention per hour skipped, up to three (3) hours.
- B. One day of ISS per four (4) to six (6) hours of truancy.
- C. Referral to Juvenile Officer/School Social Worker.
- D. Parent/guardian notification

Second Offense:

- A. One hour of detention per hour skipped, up to three (3) hours.
- B. One day of ISS per four (4) to seven (7) hours of truancy.
- C. Parent/guardian notification

Third and Subsequent Offenses:

- A. One hour of detention per hour skipped, up to three (3) hours.
- B. One day of ISS per four (4) to seven (7) hours of truancy.
- C. Informational letter sent home regarding Koochiching County Truancy Program.
- D. Parent/guardian notification.

NOTE: If parents/guardians fail to clear a student's pending absence within three (3) school days, the absence will be recorded as truant. Please clear absences, immediately, by calling the FHS office 283-2571. (Absent on Monday – must be cleared by the end of the day on Wednesday). Please leave a detailed message anytime with the following information: day of absence, student's first and last name, grade, reason for absence, and parent/guardian's first and last name.

VI. Vandalism and Theft:

- A. Suspension (ISS/OSS)
- B. Parent/guardian conference.
- C. Restitution.
- D. Referral to the juvenile officer or city attorney (adult).

VII. Tobacco Violations: (*Use or possession of any tobacco products (including e-cigarettes) on school property.*) Smoking or use of any other tobacco products by students (regardless of age) on school premises or at school events or activities is prohibited. Possession of tobacco products on school premises is also prohibited. **Falls High School is Tobacco-Free.** An American Indian student may carry a medicine pouch containing loose tobacco intended as observance of traditional spiritual or cultural practices.

First Offense:

- A. One half day of ISS and one half day of INDEPTH intervention training provided by the American Lung Association.
- B. Referral to the juvenile officer/confiscation of devices or products
- C. 2 game/2 week suspension from extracurricular events (whichever is longer) whether participating or a spectator when offense occurs outside the school day at a district function
- D. Meeting will be held with administration, the student, and the INDEPTH Program facilitator.

Second Offense:

- A. One day of ISS
- B. Referral to the juvenile officer/confiscation of devices or products
- C. Parent conference with INDEPTH facilitator and administration to provide parent education on addiction and resources to be used at home
- D. Student athlete will lose eligibility for the next 6 consecutive games or 3 weeks (21 calendar days), whichever is greater from extracurricular events whether participating or a spectator when offense occurs outside the school day at a district function

Third and Subsequent Offenses:

- A. Two days of ISS
- B. Referral to the juvenile officer/confiscation of devices or products
- C. Parent conference with INDEPTH facilitator and administration to provide parent education on addiction and resources to be used at home
- D. Student athlete will lose eligibility for the next 12 consecutive contests or 4 weeks (28 calendar days), whichever is greater whether participating or a spectator when offense occurs outside the school day at a district function

Tobacco offenses accumulate for school career

VIII. Alcoholic Beverages and Drugs:

- A. Use or possession of alcoholic beverages shall not be permitted on school property or at school activities. Any student using or possessing alcoholic beverages during the school day shall be charged with the violation and receive Out of School Suspension (OSS) and/or In School Suspension (ISS). Any student using or possessing alcoholic beverages outside the school day at a district function will be charged and receive a 2 game/2 week suspension from extracurricular events (whichever is longer) whether participating or a spectator. Any student caught violating this rule a second time will again be charged and will be suspended from school for up to ten (10) days.
- B. Illegal use or possession of drugs or drug paraphernalia (including but not limited to; Delta 8, Delta10, cannabis....) shall not be permitted on school property or at any school event or activity. Any student using or possessing an illegal drug or drug paraphernalia will be charged with the violation and will be suspended from school for up to ten (10) days or expelled from school for one (1) year. Violations will result in 2 game/2 week suspension from extracurricular events (whichever is greater) whether participating or a spectator. Any student caught violating this rule a second time will again be charged and expelled from school for one (1) year.
- C. Any student caught in possession of drugs on school property and caught selling drugs will be expelled from school for one calendar year.
- D. Regulations pertaining to the use or possession of drugs and/or alcoholic beverages apply to all students enrolled in school regardless of age.

IX. Weapons and Articles:

- A. **It is unlawful for any person to bring to school or have in their possession any weapons:** guns, knives, cigarette lighters, explosive devices (fake or real, makes no difference), fire crackers, stink bombs, stun gun, pepper spray, or anything construed by the school to be dangerous or cause alarm or fear in any person in the school or on school property.
- B. Some chains may also be considered dangerous weapons. A notification will be given and documented. Further wear will result in suspension and/or expulsion proceedings.
- C. Violation of said article will result in immediate suspension until a hearing can be arranged with school, parents, and law enforcement personnel.
- D. A student who brings a weapon to school shall be expelled for a period of one (1) year. The principal, under appropriate circumstances, may recommend and the board may impose a lesser penalty. The student may also have charges filed against him/her by a law enforcement agency.
- E. School Board Policy 501, School Weapons Policy: IV. EXCEPTIONS A. A student who finds a weapon on the way to school or in a school location, or a student who discovers that he or she accidentally has a weapon in his or her possession and takes the weapon immediately to the principal's office shall not be considered to possess a weapon. If it would be impractical or dangerous to take the weapon to the principal's office, a student shall not be considered to possess a weapon if he or she immediately turns the weapon over to an administrator, teacher or head coach or immediately notifies an administrator, teacher or head coach of the weapon's location.

X. Possession and/or misuse of other devices or other potentially dangerous devices, including but limited to, laser pointers, drones, taser, mace, or pepper spray.

First Offense: Written warning and device confiscated for the day, and parent/guardian must come in to the school to pick up the device.

Second & Third Offense: 1 hour detention, device confiscated *and* parent/guardian must come in to the school to pick up the device.

Fourth & Fifth Offense: One day of ISS, parent/guardian must come in to the school to pick up the device.

Sixth and Subsequent Offenses: The device will be kept for one (1) week and two (2) days of ISS, parent/guardian must come to the school to pick up the device.

XI. Terrorist Threat: A terrorist threat is defined as a threat, including but not limited to, verbal and physical threats made either directly or indirectly with the purpose to terrorize another or others. Charges may be filed with law enforcement.

A. Inappropriate Comment: General comment not directed at individual or group.

- 1. Mandatory counselor appointment (Anger Management)
- 2. Parent meeting with administrator, student, and juvenile officer
- 3. Detention/ISS
- 4. Locker search

B. Threatening statement directed at person or small group.

- 1. Parent meeting, juvenile officer
- 2. Mandatory counseling and follow-up
- 3. ISS/OSS/Expulsion
- 4. Possible charges

C. Pre-meditated [thought out] plan or comment of terroristic activity directed at individual or group.

- 1. Parent meeting and juvenile officer
- 2. Mandatory counseling and follow-up
- 3. ISS/OSS/Expulsion
- 4. Possible charges

XII. Electronic Devices:

CELL PHONES, ear buds, iPod, gaming/music devices, laptop, iPad, etc. can be disruptive to the educational process and may not be used during the school day (8:30 am - 3:20 pm) with the exception of assigned lunch period and "passing time" between classes. These types of devices must be shut off and are suggested to be kept in the school locker during the periods that they are not to be used. Ear buds may not be worn in classrooms. Students caught using electronic devices during the school day (not counting assigned lunch and passing time) will have the device confiscated by the classroom teacher until the end of the school day. If a student refuses or is argumentative, 1 day of ISS/OSS will automatically be assigned and the device will be confiscated. The school will **not** be responsible for lost or stolen items.

First Offense: Written warning and taken away for the day.

Second & Third Offense: 1 hour detention, device taken away for the day.

Fourth & Fifth Offense: One day of ISS, parent/guardian must come to the school to pick up the device.

Sixth and Subsequent Offenses: The electronic device will be kept for one (1) week **OR** two (2) days of ISS, parent/guardian must come to the school to pick up the device.

*** Recording events/taking pictures at school is not allowed without administrator approval and will result in disciplinary action. Posting video or pictures to computer sites that were taken at the school without proper approval is not allowed and will result in disciplinary action regardless of when the posting occurred. Consequences will be at the discretion of Administration.**

***Any device with camera capability and similar devices are not permitted to be used in the locker rooms or bathrooms of ISD 361 at any time. Use of such items in the locker room or bathroom will result in disciplinary action. Consequences will be at the discretion of Administration.**

***Sexting – the act of sending sexually explicit messages or photographs, primarily between mobile phones. Students involved in such activities will be referred to law enforcement and may face school sanctions if it is determined that any part of the event took place during school hours.**

XIII. Dress Code:

Falls High School recognizes that the primary responsibility for a student's attire resides with the student and his/her parents or guardians. However, as part of the District's commitment to creating a safe and inclusive environment to learn, work, and succeed, a Dress Code is necessary for the following purposes:

1. To protect the health and safety of staff and students,
2. To ensure students are prepared to fully participate in the class or activity; and
3. To establish a respectful and positive school environment free of hostility, intimidation, marginalization, or oppression.

Generally, students should be given the most choice possible in how they dress for school for their own comfort and self-expression. Restrictions shall be made only to support the overall educational goals of the school and will be explained within the dress code. Dress code enforcement shall not reinforce or increase marginalization or oppression of any group based on race, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion, cultural observance, household income, or body maturity/type/size.

1. **Basic Principle:** Certain body parts must be covered for all students at all times. Clothes must be worn in a way such that genitals, buttocks, and nipples are fully covered with non-transparent (opaque) fabric. All items listed in the "must wear" and "may wear" categories below must meet this basic principle.

2. **Students Must Wear***, while following the Basic Principle:

- Shirt,
- Bottom (pants/sweatpants/shorts/skirt/dress/leggings), AND
- Shoes.

*Certain courses may have additional requirements for attire in order for the student to fully participate in the curriculum for safety or assignment-specific reasons (for example, PE, lab sciences, tech ed, public speaking, field trips, etc).

3. **Students May Wear**, as long as these items do not violate the Basic Principle above or Section 4 below:

- Religious headwear
- Hats, bandanas, hoods, and other headwear as long as face and ears remain visible in the high school area **FHS has a NO HAT rule for grades 6-8 which does not allow head covering including hats, scarves, and hoods during school hours, 8:30am – 3:20pm**
- Fitted pants, including opaque leggings, yoga pants and "skinny jeans"
- Pajamas
- Ripped jeans, as long as underwear and buttocks are not exposed
- Tank tops, including spaghetti straps
- Halter tops
- Athletic attire
- Midriff baring shirts
- Visible waistbands/straps on undergarments worn under other clothing
- Strapless shirts

4. **Students Cannot Wear:**

- Violent language or images.

- Images or language depicting or promoting drugs or alcohol (or any illegal item or activity).
- Hate speech, profanity, pornography.
- Images or language that creates a hostile or intimidating environment based on any protected class.
- Visible undergarments. Visible waistbands or straps on undergarments worn under other clothing are not a violation.
- Swimsuits (except as required in class, in which case, one- or two-piece swimsuits are acceptable).
- Accessories that could be considered dangerous or could be used as a weapon.

First Offense: Written/verbal warning and student will correct violation for remainder of the day (ex: turn shirt inside out, change clothing, etc.).

Second Offense: 1 hour detention and student will correct violation for remainder of the day (ex: turn shirt inside out, change clothing, etc.).

Third and Subsequent offenses: Parent/guardian contacted, detention/ISS, and student will correct violation for remainder of the day (ex: turn shirt inside out, change clothing, etc.).

XIV. Intimacy:

Intimacy is a private matter. No kissing, hugging, or other forms of body contact will be allowed in school. Violations will be dealt with in the following manner:

First Offense:

- Referral to an administrator
- Verbal warning

Second Offense:

- Referral to an administrator
- Parent contact/conference
- Detention

Third and Subsequent Offenses: Detention/Suspension (ISS/OSS).

Keep intimacy a private matter and show respect for each other in public.

NOTICE: No written policy can adequately address each and every specific situation regarding pupil conduct. In general, a student may be subject to disciplinary action for willful violation of school rules; **willful conduct which materially and substantially disrupts the rights of other pupils or the property of the school.**

Disciplinary Actions

DEPENDING UPON THE SEVERITY OF THE INCIDENT, ADMINISTRATION MAY IMMEDIATELY INITIATE A HIGHER LEVEL OF DISCIPLINE.

LEVEL 1

A teacher may select, but is not limited to, one of the following punishments when a violation occurs:

- Detention before or after school. Work supervised by assigning teacher.
- Parent-teacher-student conference.
- Phone call to parents or note (referral) to the administrator.
- Meeting with school social worker or counselor
- Removal from class. This step will require a conference before student is re-admitted.
- Parent requested to sit in class (s).
- ISS

Failure to comply, subjects the student to Level 2.

LEVEL 2

Meeting of the teacher, student, parent/guardian, administrator, school social worker, counselor or any combination thereof to determine disciplinary action.

Failure to comply, subjects the student to Level 3.

LEVEL 3

- Involvement of additional authority, law enforcement, juvenile officer (court), superintendent.
- Up to ten (10) days of suspension may be assigned, or other disciplinary action deemed appropriate.
- For serious or repetitive offenses a teacher may omit Level 1 and refer the student to Level 2 or Level 3 after conferring with an administrator.

Failure to comply, subjects the student to Level 4.

LEVEL 4

The student will be subjected to the expulsion procedures of School District #361 in accord with MN Statutes.

Discipline Complaint Procedure: If you have concerns that district policies on discipline are not being followed, information and necessary forms to report this are available in the FES and FHS offices.

Canine Detection Services

The International Falls School District has entered into an agreement with Interquest Detection Canines, Inc. to provide trained detection canines to conduct random, unannounced inspections of all campus locations within the district. This does include school and district events taking place off campus. These canines are trained to detect the presence of illicit drugs, alcohol, and gunpowder based items. Campus buildings, parking lots, and grounds will be randomly inspected for prohibited items. This includes the school safety zone extending beyond the school property line which is 300 feet or one block whichever is greater. If prohibited items are detected and found, the district will initiate the appropriate disciplinary action. These canines are non-aggressive retrieving breeds such as Golden and Labrador retrievers. They are trained to discriminate specific scents of contraband items and indicate the area where the scent is detected. Interquest provides service to over 1,200 public school districts across the nation. With the recent publicity concerning the dramatic increase in teenage drug use and school violence, the International Falls School District is taking every reasonable precaution to insure a safe and healthy learning environment for all concerned.

Honor Policy

Any student guilty of any form of cheating, including plagiarism and assisting another student to cheat, will receive no credit for the work involved. **Such conduct will require the notification of an administrator and the teacher will contact the student's parent/guardian.** Repeated violation may result in loss of credit for the class. "What is plagiarism? Plagiarism is the act of taking someone else's ideas, thoughts, or writings and claiming them for one's own. This may occur either through ignorance, carelessness, or laziness. Most typically, the student will copy from a source (book, magazine, pamphlet, encyclopedia, or Internet) word for word and neglect to give any source credit for the materials. Whether this happens accidentally or deliberately, it is an illegal and unacceptable practice."

Open Study Hall

Open Study Hall is a privilege that allows juniors and seniors the option of leaving school or reporting to designated areas during their open hour. A student who has been approved for open study hall and receives ISS or OSS will lose their open study hall privilege; 1st offense 2 weeks and 2nd offense the remainder of the semester. If a student exhibits poor or unsafe behavior(s) during open study hall, is failing a class, or is not credit competent for his/her academic year, administration reserves the right to revoke the open study hall privilege until deemed appropriate to reinstitute. Open Study Hall Applications may be picked up in the high school office the first week of school. Parents must stop in the FHS office to complete the form or a student may take the form with them to be notarized and returned to the office. The student must meet with Dean of Students to go over the form before open study hall is granted.

Dropping Classes (Electives)

1. A student may not change classes they have registered for unless there are extenuating circumstances. In the event of extenuating circumstances a student shall have five (5) school days from the beginning of any course/semester to drop/add a class with no penalty. Students may drop/add after the five (5) day period only with the permission of the instructor or extenuating circumstances. Dropping without teacher approval after five (5) days will result in an "F". PSEO and Online learner withdrawal after five (5) days will result in an "F" on your high school transcript and coinciding mark on postsecondary transcript. The permission of the parent/guardian is needed before a student is allowed to drop a class. A form will be given to the student to take home for his/her parent's/guardian's signature.
2. It is the student's responsibility to contact the counselor concerning the dropping of a course, taking the form home to be signed by the parent/guardian, and returning the signed form to the counselor before the deadline date for each semester.
3. Concurrent Enrollment Students may transition into high school classes to maintain high school credit if the course work becomes too difficult.
4. Parents/guardians are urged to contact the Principal's Office or the Counselor's Office if they have questions regarding the process for dropping classes or the athletic eligibility of their students by calling 283-2571.

Behavior Contract

A behavior contract is a **disciplinary** agreement between a student and a teacher. The agreement specifies the conditions that must be met to remain in class or participate in a school field trip. **Failure to follow the conditions will result in removal from the class and/or trip and the grade will be recorded as "NC", No Credit.** Students removed from class or a trip will be assigned to ISS and may be provided classroom assignments or work to strengthen their ability on the MCA tests and school academic goal.

Fire and Tornado Drills

Fire and tornado drills are held each year and monitored by local officials. It is the teachers' responsibility to instruct students in proper evacuation procedures. It is the students' responsibility to know the specific directions for leaving each of the rooms in which he/she has classes. An exit plan is posted in each room. False alarms shall not be given, signaled or transmitted or caused or permitted to be given, signaled or transmitted in any manner. Charges could be filed by the fire or police department. Students who

do not follow fire and/or tornado drill procedures and rules will be subject to a meeting with administration and detention will be assigned.

Lock Down Drills

Lockdown drills are held each year to practice emergency procedures and are required by law. It is the teacher's responsibility to instruct students in proper procedures in their classroom. It is the students' responsibility to know what they need to do in each of their classes in the event of a lockdown. In the event a student is outside of their assigned class when a lockdown occurs, enter the closest room immediately. In the event you are in the bathroom or lobby area, go to the office immediately. Students who do not follow the lock down drill procedures and rules will be subject to a meeting with administration and detention will be assigned.

Lockers

School lockers are the property of School District #361. At no time does the school district relinquish its exclusive control of lockers provided for the convenience of students. Inspection of the interior of lockers may be conducted by school authorities for any reason at any time without notice, without student consent, and without a search warrant. The personal possessions of students within a school locker may be searched only when school authorities have a reasonable suspicion that the search will uncover evidence of a violation of a law or school rules. As soon as practicable after the search of a student's personal possessions, the school authorities must provide notice of the search to students whose lockers were searched, unless disclosure would impede an ongoing investigation by police or school officials.

Students must remain in their assigned locker and must report any malfunctions to the office immediately. If the locker/lock is ruled unfixable, a new lock will be assigned. Jamming your lock is not allowed. For safety reasons, backpacks, purses and jackets are to be left in lockers. At no time is a student to share his/her combination with another student. Students are responsible for the contents of their lockers. Lockers will be emptied by custodians the day after school releases for the summer. Remaining items in lockers will be disposed of that day.

Searches

We are always concerned about providing a safe educational environment for our students. The site administrator or his/her designee has the authority to conduct a search. The scope of the search may include a student's person and areas over which he/she has control, including but not limited to cell phones, computer files, purses, backpacks, any locker assigned the student by the school, and the student's vehicle. The administrator must have reasonable suspicion to believe that under the circumstances, the student may have concealed evidence of misconduct in areas under his/her control. This includes measures taken to keep the school free of chemicals/drugs and/or weapons. Therefore, at times designated by the administration, searches will be conducted to determine the presence of any chemicals/drugs or related paraphernalia and/or weapons. These searches may be conducted on all school property and may utilize law enforcement resources including K-9's.

Out of Town Trips

All pertinent school rules are in effect during school sponsored out-of-town trips. On such events students are representing Falls High School and the community as a whole so they are expected to exhibit the "Bronco Power" PBIS initiative (Proud ~ Optimistic ~ Welcoming ~ Engaged ~ Respectful) and "PUT THEIR BEST FOOT FORWARD" at all times. Students who are participating in out-of-town events must be transported in a school vehicle.

If parents wish to have their **own** child ride home with them, parents/guardians must send a note to school in advance. Only the principal/designee(s) or activities director for MSHSL activities may grant permission.

Parking Regulations

Students are to park **ONLY** in the school lot east of the swimming pool, being careful to avoid parking too close to the swimming pool doors. ***Blocking the emergency lane may result in vehicles being towed away at the owner's expense. Students are NOT to park in the lot to the south of the building or on 11th Street in front of the school.*** Cars parked in the student lot must have parking stickers attached to a window. Parking stickers may be obtained in the office at no cost to the student. Failure to display parking stickers may result in detention, suspension, or towing of the vehicle at owner's expense. Students must park their vehicles appropriately aligned to make room for students and guests. Student vehicles parked inappropriately, blocking in vehicles, making it difficult to enter/exit, causing safety concerns or taking up space will be subject to disciplinary action and/or law enforcement referral. Snowmobiles, ATV's, motorcycles are to be parked in the east parking lot of Bronco Arena; failure to do so may result in detention. Snowmobiles are not to be run on district facility grounds. Disciplinary action will be enforced for the safety and upkeep of district property. **The parking lot is school district property, therefore, student vehicles in the lot may be subject to search by administration if circumstances warrant.**

Assemblies

Assemblies (Grades 6-12) for speakers, pep fests, and special events (PBIS, homecoming, winter sports week) will be conducted as long as student behavior is not disruptive. An indication of the cultural level of the school is the conduct of its student body at an assembly. Unacceptable behavior may result in the removal, disciplinary action and/or suspending of assemblies for the remainder of the school year.

Closed Noon Hour/Leaving School Grounds

FHS has a closed campus for all age levels, excluding FHS JUNIORS and SENIORS who have authorized permission. Students are to **eat** their noon lunches **in the cafeteria**. Those who do not wish to purchase a school lunch that is served daily may bring lunches from home to be **eaten in the cafeteria**. Students who leave the building without prior permission may be regarded as truant or skipping and will be disciplined. Habitual violators will be suspended. Students called out for lunch by a parent/guardian must stop in the office before leaving the building to receive a pass. Students are to remain in the cafeteria, lobby, gymnasium or KAPE room, during lunch period. Roaming the halls or in the parking lot is not allowed and may result in disciplinary action. Students may leave with a parent/guardian for lunch if notification is given prior to a student's lunch period.

Cafeteria

Students who enroll in the District will be issued a food service account. Each student is assigned a unique four digit pin number along with a finger id using a touchpad finger reader. Do not share your pin number with other students. The student pin number needs to remain confidential as it allows the student to purchase food in the FHS Cafeteria. The finger id is a unique secure code to help ensure purchases are only made by the student assigned to the account. Anyone attempting to use an account number not their own will be subject to disciplinary measures. If you suspect your account privacy has been jeopardized, please contact the office to obtain a new pin number.

Students can check their food service account balance and purchases via Student Access in Skyward. Parents can view their student's food service account balance and purchases using Family Access in Skyward. District contact information for the Food Service Department is on the Districts website under Food Service.

Depositing Funds to Food Service Account

Funds may be put on a student(s) meal account electronically via credit/debit or e-check through Family Access or the District's web store. Cash or check will be accepted in the FHS office Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 3:45 pm. Payments are posted and available to student accounts each day at 7:00 am, 11:00 am, 12:00 pm, 2:00 pm and 5:00 pm. Refer to the School Board Policy – 534 Unpaid Meal Charges for information regarding account balances, notifications and collections. This policy is located on the Districts Website under School Board – Policies - Students.

Ala Carte

To purchase ala carte items a student must have a money available in their meal account. Ala cart items are not included with the state funded free breakfast and lunch program. Purchases for ala carte items will be refused by the cashier when there is not enough money in the student(s) account to pay for the entire ala carte purchase. Ala carte items are considered to be beverages including a second milk, snacks, a 2nd entrée or a 2nd meal purchase. Students who do not have access to Student Access online may inquire about their account balance in the FHS office or with the cashier before making an ala carte purchase.

Breakfast & Lunch

Each student is entitled to one breakfast and one lunch at no charge each school day.

Parents, families or guardians are asked to complete the MN Dept of Education Application for Educational Benefits even though a breakfast and a lunch are provided daily to each student by the state, free of charge. The District receives assistance from the state and federal grants based on the number of qualifying meal applications on file. This funding is very important for the District as it enables additional funding for educational programs like the Title I program and decreases sports/activities fees for qualifying students.

Breakfast is served from 8:00 am – 8:25 am at the high school each school day; Lunch times vary depending on class schedule.

Food will be served in the cafeteria before 8:25 a.m. and at designated lunch hours only.

Behavior and appearance in the cafeteria are a reflection of the cultural level of our student body. Please abide by these guidelines:

- A. No pushing, shoving or getting ahead in line.
- B. Keep the condiment cart clean and dispose of wrappers.
- C. Students are responsible for keeping the area where they sit clean and for removing all lunch items from the table.
- D. Do not throw trays in the garbage.
- E. No throwing of food is allowed.
- F. Food is to be eaten in the cafeteria.
- G. Students must remain in the cafeteria, lobby, front entrance, or library during lunch.
- H. Students are allowed to purchase food and drinks from the cafeteria between classes. All wrappers and bottles must be disposed of properly. If wrappers, bottles, and other garbage are left in the hallways, students will not be allowed to purchase food items between classes.
- I. Ala carte purchases will be permitted for students with positive balances in their meal accounts.
- J. Students are not allowed to order food to be delivered to the school for lunch.
- K. Be respectful to cafeteria staff.

****Violations of the above guidelines may result in cleaning duty, detention, and/or suspension.**

Emergency Contacts (listed in Skyward)

In the event the school is unable to contact the Parents/Guardians listed we will then try the Emergency contacts that you have provided the school with. When listing an Emergency Contact(s) for your child(ren), please be aware that this is giving the school permission to contact them in case your child(ren) becomes ill or injured during school hours and may need to be picked up from school. The school will only release students to guardians or emergency contacts listed in skyward. **Therefore it is very imperative you keep the school up to date with the emergency contact information.** The emergency contact listed will also receive Emergency outreach calls. For example if the school closes due to inclement weather conditions an automatic phone message will go to all numbers listed in skyward including all guardian and emergency numbers listed.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent-Teacher conferences are held periodically at designated times. Parents are encouraged to make additional appointments with teachers or other school personnel if they feel the need to do so. The school phone number is 283-2571.

Visitors

Anyone other than students or school employees who enters the building during the school day must report to the Main High School Office Door #1 for a Visitor's Pass before going anywhere in the building. Visitors will be asked to provide a driver's license, if possible, before a pass is printed. Violators may be subject to trespassing charges. Student visitors who wish to attend classes for a day must give a two-day notice and have written permission from teachers and administration. **No visitors will be allowed during the first two or last two weeks of school.** Exceptions may be made on an individual basis.

Hazing Prohibition

The purpose of this policy is to maintain a safe learning environment for students and staff that is free from hazing. "Hazing" means committing an act against a student, or coercing a student into committing an act, that creates a substantial risk of harm to a person, in order for the student to be initiated into or affiliated with a student organization, or for any other purpose. "Student organization" means a group, club, or organization having students as its primary members or participants. It includes grade levels, classes, teams, activities, or particular school events. A student organization does not have to be an official school organization to come within the terms of this definition.

Daily FHS Announcements

Daily announcements will be electronically available on the school webpage. The bulletin contains information pertinent to students and staff. Notices intended for the bulletin should be written, approved by Principal Everson, and given to Jen Erickson. Daily live announcements can be viewed on the Falls High Journalism YouTube page.

Hall Passes

Once classes start, students may not be in the halls unless they have a pass. Students can be expected to be asked for passes by teachers, the Principals, Dean of Students or the hall monitor. Misuse of a pass will result in the loss of pass privilege and possible room restriction or detention.

Dances

All dances will be held at the high school with the exception of Harvest Ball, Snowball, and Prom. Dances are limited to current Falls High School students. Exception: out of town students in grades 11-12 may apply in advance to attend dances.

2023-2024 Class Schedule

(The warning bell at 8:25 a.m. is a signal for students to go to their first hour class)

Class Schedule (Mon./Tues./Thurs./Fri.)

Class Schedule (Wednesday only)

PERIOD	START TIME	END TIME	MINUTES
1	8:30	9:20	50
2	9:25	10:15	50
3	10:20	11:10	50
4	11:15	12:05	50
5	12:10	1:29	
1st Lunch	12:10	12:39	29
2nd Lunch	12:35	1:04	29
3rd Lunch	1:00	1:29	29
6	1:35	2:25	50
7	2:30	3:20	50

PERIOD	START TIME	END TIME	MINUTES
1	8:30	9:14	44
2	9:19	10:03	44
3	10:08	10:52	44
4	10:57	11:41	44
5	11:46	1:00	
1st Lunch	11:46	12:15	29
2nd Lunch	12:08	12:37	29
3rd Lunch	12:31	1:00	29
6	1:05	1:50	45
7	1:55	2:40	45

2023--2024 STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBERS

Advisor: Jenesa Balaski

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS:

President: Mitchell Erickson

Treasurer: Lachlan Reiners

Vice President: Lila Wood

Historian: Karsen Korpi

Secretary: Jillian Bilben

<i>~Falls High Student Council Members~</i>						
<i>6th GRADE</i>	<i>7TH GRADE</i>	<i>8TH GRADE</i>	<i>9TH GRADE</i> <i>Freshmen</i>	<i>10TH GRADE</i> <i>Sophomores</i>	<i>11TH GRADE</i> <i>Juniors</i>	<i>12TH GRADE</i> <i>Seniors</i>
Joe Dunbar	Liam Minnick	Wesley Weyrauch	Max Youso	Cheznee Skrien	Lila Wood	Mitchell Erickson
Carly Morin	Gabriela Christianson	Leah Boe	Andy Davenport	Lachlan Reiners	Landan Snyder	Jillian Bilben
Sophie Krzoska	McKynlee Skrien	Mackenzie Minnick	Linnaea Yount	Olivia Spry	Emerald Estabrooks	Keira Hesseldahl
	Ava Gutormson	Savannah Lane	Alyana Koenig	Cheznee Skrin	Brendyn Scholler	Kelby Anderson
	Lauren Snyder		Neva Kokesh		Grace Flesland	Karsen Korpi
	Kelly Koerbitz		Cullen Erickson		William Ginter	Adley Deedrick
	Hunter Spry		Mariah Hostetter			
	Kayla Dowty		Brooklyne Dowty			

Student Council

Falls High Student Council is composed of students elected from the student body. Council members represent their class and their school, and are encouraged to work toward open communication between teachers, administration, and the community. Student Council is involved in school projects, activities, community service, and school issues. Elections are held in the spring of each year.

Student on the School Board

School District #361 offers a unique opportunity for a Falls High student to be represented on the School Board. One student from grades 10-12 will be chosen by the Student Council to represent the student body on the School Board. The position is for one year and is non-voting.

Fundraising Activities

No fundraising activities will be allowed on school property without permission of the school principal or designee. A general guideline is that fundraising must be done by an organized school group and pertain to school sponsored activities. Fundraising events must be submitted to the Principal's office for prior approval.

Background Check/Criminal History

In accord with Minnesota Law 123B.03 BACKGROUND CHECK, all district employees and volunteers specifically assigned to duties of direct student supervision will have a criminal history background check on file with ISD#361.

Technology/WIFI Use

The intent of our acceptable use policy is to establish and administer guidelines for the use of ISD #361 technology resources by staff, students, and any other users. Technology resources include all voice, video, and data systems such as telephones, televisions, computers, networks, and supplies. The use of technology and the Internet is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate or unauthorized use will result in disciplinary action, including the termination of those privileges. The complete version of our acceptable use policy can be found on the Internet at www.isd361.org via the School Board Policies tab.

ISD#361 has completed installation of a wireless network at Falls High School. Some ISD 361 computer devices use the wireless network while other devices are using our wired network. All ISD #361 devices are filtered. This means all activity is audited and can be monitored. **If you connect your personal device to the ISD #361 guest network, keep in mind that it, too, will run through the filter and all activity is audited and can be monitored.**

Distribution of Literature/Posters

There will be no distribution of non-school printed materials on school property without permission of the school principal or his/her designee. All posters must be cleared by an administrator. Posters are to be displayed only in the stairwells and lobby areas. The complete version of this policy 505 Distribution of Non-school sponsored materials on school premises by students and employees is posted on the website. Full policy is on page 38.

Books and Fines

Students who lose or damage textbooks or other school property must compensate the school for the loss or damage. Willful acts of vandalism to school property will result in charges being filed with law enforcement officials. Conflicts regarding fines and fees will be settled in conciliation court. Non-payment of a fine or fee will result in referral to Collection Agency. The school will charge an appropriate replacement fee for textbooks, workbooks, or library books lost or destroyed by students.

Fees

Fees are charged in certain classes to cover costs that are above and beyond the allowed costs of materials for student projects.

Classroom projects will not be allowed to leave the classroom until all fees have been paid. A fee is charged for each extra-curricular activity a student participates in. A maximum out-of-pocket expense for each family is intended to reduce the financial burden on any one family. Students should not be discouraged from participating in school activities because of cost, as the school district can help students and parents/guardians find alternate sources to help pay fees. Contact the Activities Director at 283-2571 ext.1138 for information on activity fees.

Physical Education Class

A student may, when it is necessary, be excused from Physical Education classes. A student shall not be excused from physical education unless he/she presents a written excuse from one of the following:

Doctor.....this excuse must include the length of time for non-participation.

Nurse.....the school nurse evaluate the student's illness or injury.

Parent.....this is valid for one class meeting in a case where the student cannot immediately obtain a doctor's excuse or where the student had just returned to school after a sustained illness. If a student is excused from participation in physical education he/she shall remain in the physical education area if the excuse is for two weeks or less. He/she may be programmed into a study hall if the excuse is longer.

Media Center

The Falls High School Media Center is located on the 2nd floor and is open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on school days. During the school day, students must have a signed pass by his/her teacher. During lunch, students must sign in as they enter the LMC, **leaving the library via the emergency exit during a non-emergency will result in detention/suspension**. Students not using the library for the purpose of studying, reading, or using the computers will be asked to leave the library.

The purpose of the Media Center is to support the school's curriculum and educational programs, and to provide educational and recreational reading opportunities.

PRINT MATERIALS include magazines, books and newspapers.

12 NETWORKED COMPUTERS with internet access allow easy access to a variety of networked resources and databases.

BOOKS may be checked out for 21 days. REFERENCE MATERIALS can be checked out for 3 days while, MAGAZINES AND NEWSPAPERS are to be used in the library only.

While in the Library/Media Center, students should be quiet, respectful of others, and constructively occupied.

Medication

Medication is given to students at school, or they are allowed to self-administer it per policy, only when their health or learning would be jeopardized without it. Written consent from parents and a health care provider are always required for staff to give medication to students at school. Parents need to contact the school nurse before any medication can be given at school. It must be checked out by the nurse first. All medication must be supplied in a properly labeled bottle. Please contact the nurse (283-2571 ext. 1131) if you feel your student requires medicine at school or stop in the school. *School personnel are not allowed to dispense over-the-counter medication to students from their personal supply, students must supply their own.* The school nurse will assist students who must take prescribed medication regularly during school hours. A consent form signed by a health care provider and parent is needed for prescribed medication.

Health Service

The school nurse is available on certain days each week and upon request. Services available include health counseling, vision screening, and medication arrangements.

Homebound Instruction

Upon the recommendation of a doctor and with the approval of the principal or designee(s), home and hospital instruction is provided for students who are ill or seriously injured, causing them to miss school for an extended time. Homebound is arranged through the Principal's office (283-2571).

Graduation Requirement 24 Credits

Students begin earning credits in ninth grade. Included in these credits must be four (4) English, four (4) social studies, three (3) sciences, and three (3) math. In addition, one (1) Music/Art, and one (1) Technology/FACS credits are required. Health/PE is required in ninth grade and a .5 PE credit is required in grades 10-12. 6.5 additional credits are needed to meet academic rigor and graduation requirements. A course description and registration booklet is given to students. Students must have earned the required number of credits to receive a diploma and participate in the graduation ceremony. Extenuating circumstances may be appealed to the Principal. A student must have a minimum of two credits per semester to be considered for the honor roll.

Honor Roll

Graduating with honors requires a cumulative GPA of 3.85 or higher through their senior year in 2024 and a cumulative GPA of 3.80 or higher in 2025 and beyond.

There are three honor rolls established by the principal's office.

Principal's List	4.000	GPA
"A" Honor Roll	3.700 - 3.999	
"B" Honor Roll	3.000 - 3.699	

An honor roll is issued following each marking period.
Semester 1
Semester 2

Grading System

7th through 12th grade students are assigned letter grades each quarter. A quarter and cumulative GPA is listed on each report card as follows:

A	=	4.0	B	=	3.0	C	=	2.0	D	=	1.0
A-	=	3.7	B-	=	2.7	C-	=	1.7	D-	=	0.6
B+	=	3.3	C+	=	2.3	D+	=	1.3	F	=	0

Academic Excellence Award

All 9th – 12th graders with a cumulative GPA of 3.7 or higher may apply. Information with sample criteria and an application are mailed to eligible students in the spring. Those students meeting the guidelines of 300 points or higher are recognized during an Academic Excellence Award ceremony with an “*Award of Excellence*” certificate, which enables them to purchase a Greek award to be applied to a letterman’s jacket. The “*Academic Excellence*” designation is also added to their transcript for each year they qualify.

Activities

In addition to the regular curriculum, School District #361 attempts to provide students with opportunities for a well-rounded educational experience. Eligibility papers must be signed before you are allowed to practice your given sport. All fees must be paid before the first official game.

I. Athletics

• Boys' Sports:

<u>Fall</u>	<u>Winter</u>	<u>Spring</u>
Football	Basketball	Track
Cross-Country	Hockey	Baseball
Trap	Swimming	Golf
		Trap

• Girls' Sports:

<u>Fall</u>	<u>Winter</u>	<u>Spring</u>
Volleyball	Basketball	Track
Cross-Country	Hockey	Softball
Swimming		Golf
Trap		Trap

II. Cheerleading

There is a cheerleading squad for each of the following sports: football, boys’ basketball and hockey. Try-outs are held in the spring. Falls High eligibility and MSHL rules apply.

III. Prom-Junior & Senior

The planning of the prom and post prom is done by the Prom Committee (students in junior and senior class) and its advisor(s). All aspects including but not limited to: planning, fundraising, decorating, selling of tickets, and collecting of the Grand March admittance fee are the responsibilities of the Prom committee, the advisor(s), and volunteers. Prom attendees must be an active FHS junior or senior student **by credit** at the end of the first semester and in good standing at the time of the event. Tenth grade students can attend prom but only if asked by a FHS junior or senior student; the 10th grader must be the date of an 11th or 12th grade student. Out of town students may apply in advance to attend prom with a FHS student. Guests attending cannot be exceed the age of 19 as of the prom date. Guests must be in good academic and community standing at the time of the event. With a couple, one of the attendees must be an active student of FHS. Prom is an event that is a privilege to attend. Students who are serving or would qualify to be serving a Minnesota State High School League chemical violation suspension are not considered in good standing and will not be allowed to attend. Students on out-of-school suspension or expulsion are also not able to attend.

IV. Music

Falls High School has a very fine music department, providing students who have an interest in music opportunities to develop their talents. Music activities include band, and chorus. Performing at games, concerts, competitions, and special events are part of participating in a music group. Elective credit is also earned, and students may qualify for a school letter.

V. Speech

As a member of the speech team, students have the opportunity to build self-confidence in a full schedule of interscholastic competition sponsored by the MSHS League.

VI. Annual Staff

This group works closely with an advisor in planning and producing the annual. The staff consists of an editor-in-chief, class editors, layout people, computer operators, and photographers. The annual is a student production which reflects the interests and activities of student life. The annual is produced in the graphic production class, a one credit elective. Mr. Anderson is the advisor.

VII. Minnesota Honor Society

The Minnesota Honor Society is an organization formed to create enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote leadership, and to develop character in the students of secondary schools. Selection for membership is by a Faculty Council and is based on outstanding scholarship, character, leadership, and service.

VIII. One Act Play

The One Act Play provides a drama opportunity for students under the guidance of an advisor. Students will be involved in acting/performing, stage set up, lighting and costume design.

Minnesota State High School League

Falls High School is a member of the Minnesota State High School League, an association of secondary schools formed to govern interscholastic contests in athletics, debate, speech, drama, and music. All players and contestants are subject to the rules and regulations of the League. FHS is a member of Region 7 and various other conferences which brings our school into competition with many area schools. Students and players are reminded that at all contests and festivals promote sportsmanship and school pride and are the basis for good competition and behavior.

School Colors
Purple and Gold

School Mascot
Bronco

School Song

Come On Falls High, Come on Falls High,
Fight, Fight, Fight, Fight, Fight!
Score those points and keep a goin'
Show them who's got might, Rah, Rah, Rah!
Keep a footin', Keep a rootin'
Plow through their whole team!
And when you're in that goal sight,
Fight, Fight, Fight!

Yeah team, fight team fight
Yeah team, fight team fight
Team, Team, Team!
(Repeat first part)

Sportsmanship

Come on let's raise our voices loud and strong.
Let's give a cheer to boost our team along.
We'll teach our boys to fight with all their might;
We'll win a victory in sportsmanship tonight.
And be it win or lose, we'll never fuss,
We'll make our Alma Mater proud of us.
With a loud and lusty hip hooray, our friendly foes we'll play.
(Repeat entire verse)

Religious, Racial and Sexual Harassment

Everyone at District 361 has a right to feel respected and safe. Consequently, we want you to know about our policy to prevent religious, racial or sexual harassment and violence of any kind.

1. A harasser may be a student or an adult. Harassment may include the following when related to religion, race, sex or gender:
 - A. name calling, jokes or rumors
 - B. pulling on clothing
 - C. graffiti

- D. notes or cartoons
 - E. unwelcome touching of a person or clothing
 - F. offensive or graphic posters or book covers
 - G. any words or actions that make you feel uncomfortable, embarrass you, hurt your feelings or make you feel bad.
 - H. digital harassment in any of the above forms
2. If any words or actions make you feel uncomfortable or fearful, you need to tell a teacher, counselor, the principal or the Human Rights Officer.
 3. You may also make a written report. It should be given to a teacher, counselor, the principal or the Human Rights Officer.
 4. Your right to privacy will be respected as much as possible.
 5. We take seriously all reports of religious, racial or sexual harassment or violence and will take all appropriate actions based on your report.
 6. The School District will also take action if anyone tries to intimidate you or take action to harm you because you have reported an incident.
 7. This is a summary of the School District policy against religious, racial and sexual harassment and violence. Complete policies are available in the Superintendent's office upon request or online on the district website.

RELIGIOUS, RACIAL AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND VIOLENCE ARE AGAINST THE LAW. DISCRIMINATION IS AGAINST THE LAW.

SAFE WALKING OR BIKING TO SCHOOL

We encourage students to walk or ride their bikes to school when the weather permits. Walking and biking to school are healthy ways to get to and from school and can contribute to the recommended 60 minutes of physical activity kids need each day. We want our students to be careful and arrive to school safely when walking or biking.

Here are some tips for students to keep them safe as they walk to school:

- Plan your route and share it with your family.
- Walk facing traffic so you can react quickly.
- Always use sidewalks and off-road, multiuse paths when possible.
- Stay off street and bike lanes when walking to avoid danger.
- Make sure you stick to a safe route to school and cross streets at marked crosswalks.
- If you need to cross any streets on the way to school, practice safe street crossing before the start of school.
- Teach yourself how to cross at designated intersections. Most pedestrian deaths happen mid-block, not at intersections.
- Ideally, walk together with at least one neighbor child or older sibling.
- Make sure you know how to say “no” if someone you don’t know offers a ride, and that you yell and run for help if needed.

Here are some tips for students to keep them safe as they ride their bikes to school:

- Always wear a helmet.
- Check your bike before riding it.
- Ride on the right side of the road.
- Use hand signals when turning.
- Stop at all stop signs and obey traffic signals.
- Look left, right, and left again before entering an intersection.
- Ride in a straight line and don’t swerve between parked cars.
- Make eye contact with drivers before crossing in front of them.
- Wear bright colors or reflective clothing if you’re riding in the dark.

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #361

International Falls Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, nation-al origin, sex, sexual orientation, religion, and disability, receipt of public assistance, marital status or age.

Section 504 Officer (Gr. K-5)
 Melissa Tate, Elementary Principal
 1414 11th Avenue, International Falls, MN 56649
 218-283-2571 ext. 1232
 Alternate: Don Rolando, Dean of Students Gr. 6-12

Section 504 Officer (Gr. 6-12)
 Don Rolando, Dean of Students 6-12
 1515 11th Street, International Falls, MN 56649
 218-283-2571 ext. 1110
 Alternate: Melissa Tate, Elementary Principal

Title IX Officer (District-wide)
 Kevin Grover Superintendent of Schools

Title IX Officer (Alternate)
 Tim Everson, FHS Principal

1515 11th Street, International Falls, MN 56649
218-283-2571 ext. 1112

Human Rights Officer
Tim Everson, FHS Principal
1515 11th Street, International Falls, MN 56649
218-283-2571 ext. 1104

1515 11th Street, International Falls, MN 56649
218-283-2571 ext. 1104

Human Rights Officer (Alternate)
Missy Tate, FES Principal
1414 11th Avenue, International Falls, MN 56649
218-283-2571 ext. 1232

Directory Information

Directory information means information contained in an education record of a student which would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed. It includes, but is not limited to: the student's name, address, telephone listing, date and place of birth, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received and the most recent previous educational agency or institution attended. Directory information does not include personally identifiable data which references religion, race, color, social position or nationality. The school district may disclose directory information from the education records of a student without prior written consent of the parent of the student or eligible student, except as provided herein. Prior to such disclosure the school district shall:

Annually give public notice by any means that are reasonably likely to inform the parents and eligible students of:

1. the types of personally identifiable information that the school district has designated as directory information;
2. the parent's or eligible student's right to refuse to let the school district designate any or all of those types of information about the student as directory information.

Bus Policy District 361 Transportation Department Bus Garage: 283-2050

In the interest of the safety and comfort of bus students, ISD #361 has a student management and bus suspension policy that is fair to all students. The bus driver has the authority to assign seats on the bus as he/she feels is necessary. When a student breaks a ridership rule the transportation coordinator will enter the infraction on the student management system. It will then be determined if the infraction deserves a warning, (minor offense) or if needs more of a discipline action, a (major offense) will be given to the student. The transportation coordinator may consult the transportation director and building principal on the severity of the infraction, but the transportation director, building principal and the transportation coordinator will have final say on the allocation of disciplinary actions.

The student management system uses minor and major offenses for recording behavior. Some examples of Minor offenses are: Minor Defiance and Minor Disruption. Some examples of Major offenses are: Defiance, Fighting, Lying/Cheating, and Vandalism.

When a student reaches four minor offenses the four minor offenses change to one major which equals one detention.

(This schedule and discipline policy may be adjusted to accommodate students with disabilities.)

First Offense:

- A. Transportation Director and Coordinator resolve.
- B. Detention or ISS (to be determined by Director and Coordinator)
- C. Suspension (ISS/OSS)

Second Offense:

- A. Detention or Suspension (ISS/OSS)
- B. Hearing involving transportation director and coordinator and a building administrator, juvenile officer, students, parents/guardian, student or any combination thereof.
- C. Loss of bus riding privileges', time decided by transportation director and coordinator.

Third Offense:

- A. Suspension (ISS/OSS)
- B. Petition filed by juvenile officer against perpetrator(s).
- C. Loss of bus privileges', time to be decided by transportation director and coordinator.

For flagrant violations or incidents that endanger other students, an immediate suspension will occur. The suspension is from all school buses. The suspension is for bus riding only. Attendance at school is still required.

The 1994 legislature established that riding a school bus is a privilege, not a right. Bus riding privileges may be revoked for failing to demonstrate knowledge of school bus safety principles.

Student safety at the bus stops and on the bus is our number one concern. Students that make the bus ride unsafe will be dealt with immediately and disciplined accordingly.

Weather Policy

Closing Schools Due to Inclement Weather

Closing schools due to bad weather is a difficult decision under the best of circumstances. There are school districts which use hard and fast criteria such as temperature and wind chill, and other school districts will use a combination of factors. In most school districts, the governing policy is to direct the superintendent to execute a decision based upon the best interest of the students and their families.

ISD 361 administration employs a three-part system to determine school closings due to weather: (1) road surface conditions, (2) visibility, and (3) actual air temperature. Common sense dictates that if the roads are iced over and with little opportunity to gravel and salt on the bus routes, school closes regardless of temperature and visibility. By the same token, if the roads are clear and dry, but visibility is under a quarter of mile in a sustained manner, we would close school regardless of temperature.

Closing schools based solely on temperature is the most difficult criterion to use. Factors such as length of bus routes, availability of spare buses on an immediate basis, and temperatures moderating through the day are all part of the decision to close school. It is also important to determine where and when temperatures would be taken. ISD 361 utilizes the automatic weather service at Falls International Airport. This system gives constant updates on visibility, wind, and temperature. Our history in ISD 361 is not to establish by school district policy a predetermined temperature for school closing. Administratively the "close school" decision would be triggered by a -40 F ambient temperature if there were little chance of moderation during the day. This decision would be made by 5:30 A.M.

Parent cooperation is essential for any inclement weather condition. Children need to be dressed for the conditions. It is not uncommon to see students come to school with short skirts, bare legs, sweat shirts or light jackets, no hats, no gloves, or boots. Some districts have very stringent policies covering student winter dress before the student is allowed on a district school bus. ISD 361 has not considered this policy due primarily to difficulty of enforcement.

No school closing decision will be universally accepted. Issues of family schedules, day care, and a host of other problems are always created when a school closes with little notice to parents. Issues of student safety are paramount and this essentially lies in the parent's decision making. A parent always reserves the right to keep their child home and this would be treated as an excused absence. Excessive absences will be handled with the school attendance policy.

Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCA) Refusal to Participate

Parents have the right to refuse to have their student participate in the state-required standardized assessments. Parents need to complete and return the attached form to the school no later than January 15th if they wish to opt their student out of testing in the spring.

We encourage parents to allow their students to participate in the MCA testing in the spring at our school. This is a way that we can measure how well the academic standards have been aligned to our curriculum and daily instruction. Having our students participate in the assessments and then analyzing the results is an effective way to measure how well we are doing as a school and helps us to make necessary changes to help improve our instruction.

More information regarding MCA testing can be found at the following website: <http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/fam/tests/index.htm>

Statewide Assessments: Parent/Guardian Participation Guide and Refusal Information

Your student's participation in statewide assessments is important as it allows your school and district to ensure all students have access to a high-quality education. In the past, students with disabilities and English learners were often excluded from statewide assessments. By requiring that all students take statewide assessments, schools and teachers have more information to see how all students are doing. This helps schools to continuously improve the education they provide and to identify groups, grades, or subjects that may need additional support.

Assessments Connect to Standards

Statewide assessments are based on the [Minnesota Academic Standards](#) or the [WIDA English Language Development Standards](#). These standards define the knowledge and skills students should be learning in K–12 public and charter schools. Minnesota prioritizes high-quality education, and statewide assessments gives educators and leaders an opportunity to evaluate student and school success.

Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCA) and Minnesota Test of Academic Skills (MTAS)

MCA and MTAS are the annual assessments in reading, mathematics and science that measure a snapshot of student learning of the Minnesota K–12 Academic Standards.

ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS for English Learners

The ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS are the annual assessments for English learners that provide information about their progress in learning academic English based on the WIDA English Language Development Standards.

Statewide Assessments Help Families and Students

Participating in statewide assessments helps families see a snapshot of their student's learning so they can advocate for their success in school. High school students can use MCA results:

- For course placement at a Minnesota State college or university. If students receive a college-ready score, they may not need to take a remedial, noncredit course for that subject.
- For Postsecondary Enrollment Options (PSEO) and College in the Schools programs.

English learners who take the ACCESS or Alternate ACCESS and meet certain requirements have the opportunity to exit from English learner programs.

Taking Statewide Assessments Helps Your Student's School

Statewide assessments provide information to your school and district about how all students are engaging with the content they learn in school. This information helps:

- Educators evaluate their instructional materials.
- Schools and districts identify inequities between groups, explore root causes and implement supports.
- School and district leaders make decisions about how to use money and resources to support all students.

Student Participation in Statewide Assessments

Student participation in state and locally required assessments is a parent/guardian choice. If you choose to have your student not participate in a statewide assessment, please provide a reason for your decision on the form. Contact your student's school to learn more about locally required assessments.

Consequences of Not Participating in Statewide Assessments

- The student will not receive an individual score. For ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS, the student would not have the opportunity to exit their English learner program.
- School and district assessment results will be incomplete, making it more difficult to have an accurate picture of student learning.
- Since all eligible students are included in some calculations even when they do not participate, school and district accountability results are impacted. This may affect the school's ability to be identified for support or recognized for success.

Check with your local school or district to see if there are any other consequences for not participating.



(education.mn.gov >
Students and Families >
Programs and Initiatives >
Statewide Testing)

Additional Information

- On average, students spend less than 1 percent of instructional time taking statewide assessments each year.
- Minnesota statutes limit the total amount of time students can spend taking other district- or school-wide assessments to 11 hours or less each school year, depending on the grade.
- School districts and charter schools are required to publish an assessment calendar on their website by the beginning of each school year. Refer to your district or charter school's website for more information on assessments.

(Note: This form is only applicable for the 20__ to 20__ school year.)



Statewide Assessment: Parent/Guardian Decision Not to Participate

By completing this form, you are acknowledging that your student will not participate in statewide assessments and will not receive individual assessment results. This form must be returned to your student's school before the applicable test administration.

Student Information

First Name: _____ Middle Initial: _____ Last Name: _____

Date of Birth: ____/____/____ Current Grade in School: _____

School: _____ District: _____

Parent/Guardian Name (print): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Reason for Refusal:

Please indicate the statewide assessment(s) you are opting the student out of this school year:

MCA/MTAS Reading

MCA/MTAS Science

MCA/MTAS Mathematics

ACCESS/Alternate ACCESS

Contact your school or district for more information on how to opt out of local assessments.

Updated April 21, 2022 - Page 2 of 2

413 HARASSMENT AND VIOLENCE

[Note: State law (Minnesota Statutes, section § 121A.03) requires that school districts adopt a sexual, religious, and racial harassment and violence policy that conforms with the Minnesota Human Rights Act, Minnesota Statutes, section 363A (MHRA). This policy complies with that statutory requirement and addresses the other classifications protected by the MHRA and/or federal law. While the recommendation is that school districts incorporate the other protected classifications, in addition to sex, religion, and race, into this policy, they are not specifically required to do so by Minnesota Statutes, section 121A.03. The Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) is required to maintain and make available a model sexual, religious, and racial harassment policy in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 121A.03. MDE's policy differs from that of MSBA and imposes greater requirements upon school districts than required by law. For that reason, MSBA recommends the adoption of its model policy by school districts. Each school board must submit a copy of the policy the board has adopted to the Commissioner of MDE.]

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, including gender identity or expression, or disability (Protected Class).

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

- A. The policy of the school district is to maintain a learning and working environment free from harassment and violence on the basis of Protected Class. The school district prohibits any form of harassment or violence on the basis of Protected Class.
- B. A violation of this policy occurs when any student, teacher, administrator, or other school district personnel harasses a student, teacher, administrator, or other school district personnel or group of students, teachers, administrators, or other school district personnel through conduct or communication based on a person's Protected Class as defined by this policy. (For purposes of this policy, school district personnel include 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 student, teacher, administrator, or other school district personnel inflicts, threatens to inflict, or attempts to inflict violence upon any student, teacher, administrator, or other school district personnel or group of students, teachers, administrators, or other school district personnel based on a person's Protected Class.
- 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 Protected Class.

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, including gender identity or expression, 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, with respect to an individual, who:
 - a. has a physical, sensory, or mental impairment that materially limits one or more major life activities of such individual;
 - 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 or discrimination 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 or discrimination 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. “Remedial response” means a measure to stop and correct acts of harassment or violence, prevent acts of harassment or violence from recurring, and protect, support, and intervene on behalf of a student who is the target or victim of acts of harassment or violence.
- F. Sexual Harassment; Definition
1. Sexual harassment includes 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 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 student(s) by teachers, administrators, or other school district 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 sexual orientation, including gender identity or expression.
- G. Sexual Violence; Definition
1. Sexual violence is a physical act of aggression or force or the threat thereof that involves the touching of another’s intimate parts, or forcing a person to touch any person’s intimate parts. Intimate parts, as defined in Minnesota Statutes section 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;
 - 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.
- H. 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 an individual’s Protected Class.

IV. REPORTING PROCEDURES

- A. Any person who believes he or she has been the target or victim of harassment or violence on the basis of Protected Class by a student, teacher, administrator, or other school district personnel, or any person with knowledge or belief of conduct which may constitute harassment or violence prohibited by this policy toward a student, teacher, administrator, or other school district personnel or group of students, teachers, administrators, or other school district personnel should report the alleged acts immediately to an appropriate school district official designated by this policy. A person may report conduct which may constitute harassment or violence 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 from the school district office, but oral reports shall be considered complaints as well.
- C. 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. 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.

- D. In Each School Building. The building principal, the principal's designee, or the building supervisor (hereinafter the "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. 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 a primary contact on policy and procedural matters.
- E. A teacher, school administrator, volunteer, contractor or other school employee shall be particularly alert to possible situations, circumstances, or events that might include acts of harassment or violence. Any such person who witnesses, observes, receives a report of, or has other knowledge or belief of conduct that may constitute harassment or violence shall make reasonable efforts to address and resolve the harassment or violence and shall inform the building report taker immediately. School district personnel who fail to inform the building report taker of conduct that may constitute harassment or violence or who fail to make reasonable efforts to address and resolve the harassment or violence in a timely manner may be subject to disciplinary action.
- F. 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.
- G. In the District. The school board hereby designates Tim Everson, High School Principal, 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 Alternate, Melissa Tate, Falls Elementary School Principal.

Contact information is as follows:

- 1. Human Rights Officer: Tim Everson, Falls High School Principal
Falls High School; 1515 11th Street; International Falls, MN 56649
218-283-2571 ext. 1104 **or** Melissa Tate, Falls Elementary Principal (alternate) at 218-283-2571 ext. 1232.
- 2. Title IX Officer: Kevin Grover, Superintendent of Schools
ISD #361 District Office; 1515 11th Street; International Falls, MN 56649
218-283-2571 ext. 1112 **or** Tim Everson, Falls High School Principal at 218-283-2571 ext. 1104.
- H. The school district shall conspicuously post the name of the human rights officer(s), including mailing addresses and telephone numbers.
- I. 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, work assignments, or educational or work environment.
- J. Use of formal reporting forms is not mandatory.
- K. 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.
- L. 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.
- M. Retaliation against a victim, good faith reporter, or a witness of violence or harassment is prohibited.
- N. False accusations or reports of violence or harassment against another person are prohibited.
- O. A person who engages in an act of violence or harassment, reprisal, retaliation, or false reporting of violence or harassment, or permits, condones, or tolerates violence or harassment shall be subject to discipline or other remedial responses for that act in accordance with the school district's policies and procedures.

Consequences for students who commit, or are a party to, prohibited acts of violence or harassment or who engage in reprisal or intentional false reporting may range from remedial responses or positive behavioral interventions up to and including suspension and/or expulsion.

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

Consequences for other individuals engaging in prohibited acts of violence or harassment may include, but not be limited to, exclusion from school district property and events and/or termination of services and/or contracts.

V. INVESTIGATION

- A. By authority of the school district, the human rights officer, within three (3) days of the receipt of a report or complaint alleging harassment or violence prohibited by this policy, shall 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 target or victim, the complainant, and students, teachers, administrators, or other school district personnel pending completion of an investigation of alleged harassment or violence prohibited by this policy.
- E. The alleged perpetrator of the act(s) of harassment or violence shall be allowed the opportunity to present a defense during the investigation or prior to the imposition of discipline or other remedial responses.
- F. 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 an investigation that determines a violation of this policy 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 behavior. School district action taken for violation of this policy will be consistent with requirements of applicable collective bargaining agreements, Minnesota and federal law, and applicable school district policies and regulations.
- B. 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 targets or victims and alleged perpetrators of harassment or violence, parent(s) or guardian(s) of targets or victims of harassment or violence and the parent(s) or guardian(s) of alleged perpetrators of harassment or violence who have been involved in a reported and confirmed harassment or violence incident of the remedial or disciplinary action taken, to the extent permitted by law.
- C. In order to prevent or respond to acts of harassment or violence committed by or directed against a child with a disability, the school district shall, where determined appropriate by the child’s individualized education program (IEP) 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 acts of harassment or violence.

VII. RETALIATION OR REPRISAL

The school district will discipline or take appropriate action against any student, teacher, administrator, or other school district personnel who commits an act of reprisal or who retaliates against any person who asserts, alleges, or makes a good faith report of alleged harassment or violence prohibited by this policy who testifies, assists, or participates in an investigation of retaliation or alleged harassment or violence, 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. Disciplinary consequences will be sufficiently severe to deter violations and to appropriately discipline the individual(s) who engaged in the harassment or violence. Remedial responses to the harassment or violence shall be tailored to the particular incident and nature of the conduct.

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 or another state or federal agency, 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 Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 260E 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 students and staff members.
- B. This policy shall be given to each school district employee and independent contractor who regularly interacts with students at the time of initial employment with the school district.
- 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, resourcefulness, and/or sexual abuse prevention.
- 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. § 120B.234 (Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Education)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.03, Subd. 2 (Sexual, Religious, and Racial Harassment and Violence Policy)
Minn. Stat. §121A.031 (School Student Bullying Policy)
Minn. Stat. Ch. 363A (Minnesota Human Rights Act)
Minn. Stat. § 609.341 (Definitions)
Minn. Stat. Ch. 260E (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 (Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.)
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 514 (Bullying Prohibition Policy)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 515 (Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 521 (Student Disability Nondiscrimination)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 522 (Title IX Sex Nondiscrimination, Grievance Procedures and Process)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 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 528 (Student Parental, Family, and Marital Status Nondiscrimination)

INTERNATIONAL FALLS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #361

HARASSMENT AND VIOLENCE REPORT FORM

General Statement of Policy Prohibiting Harassment and Violence

Independent School District No. 361 maintains a firm policy prohibiting all forms of discrimination. Harassment or violence against students or employees or groups of students or employees on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, familial status, status with regard to public assistance, sexual orientation, including gender identity and expression, or disability is strictly prohibited. All persons are to be treated with respect and dignity. 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, including gender identity and expression, or disability by any pupil, teacher, administrator, or other school personnel, which create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment will not be tolerated under any circumstances.

Complainant _____

Home Address _____

Work Address _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Date of Alleged Incident(s) _____

Basis of Alleged Harassment/Violence - circle as appropriate: race \ color \ creed \ religion \ national origin \ sex \ age \ marital status \ familial status \ status with regard to public assistance \ sexual orientation, including gender identity and expression \ disability

Name of person you believe harassed or was violent toward you or another person or group.

If the alleged harassment or violence was toward another person or group, identify that person or group.

Describe the incident(s) as clearly as possible, including such things as: what force, if any, was used; any verbal statements (i.e., threats, requests, demands, etc.); what, if any, physical contact was involved; etc. (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

Where and when did the incident(s) occur?

List any witnesses that were present

This complaint is filed based on my honest belief that _____ has harassed or has been violent to me or to another person or group. I hereby certify that the information I have provided in this complaint is true, correct, and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

(Complainant Signature)

(Date)

Received by

(Date)

INTERNATIONAL FALLS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #361
BOARD POLICY 514
Bullying Prohibition Policy

Adopted By Reference
Revised July 2023

B. 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 students' 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.

C. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

- A. An act of bullying, by either an individual student or a group of students, is expressly prohibited:
1. on the school premises, at the school functions or activities, on the school transportation;
 2. by the use of electronic technology and communications on the school premises, during the school functions or activities, on the school transportation, or on the school computers, networks, forums, and mailing lists; or
 3. by use of electronic technology and communications off the school premises to the extent such use substantially and materially disrupts student learning or the school environment.
- B. A school-aged child who voluntarily participates in a public school activity, such as a cocurricular or extracurricular activity, is subject to the policy provisions applicable to the public school students participating in the activity.
- C. 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. This policy also applies to sexual exploitation.
- D. Malicious and sadistic conduct involving race, color, creed, national origin, sex, age, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, disability, religion, sexual harassment, and sexual orientation and gender identity as defined in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 363A is prohibited. This prohibition applies to students, independent contractors, teachers, administrators, and other school personnel.
Malicious and sadistic conduct and sexual exploitation by a school district or school staff member, independent contractor, or enrolled student against a staff member, independent contractor, or student that occurs as described in Article II.A above is prohibited.

- E. No teacher, administrator, volunteer, contractor, or other employee of the school district shall permit, condone, or tolerate bullying.
- F. Apparent permission or consent by a student being bullied does not lessen or negate the prohibitions contained in this policy.
- G. Retaliation against a victim, good faith reporter, or a witness of bullying is prohibited.
- H. False accusations or reports of bullying against another student are prohibited.
- I. 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 school district's 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.

- J. 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.

D. DEFINITIONS

For the 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, malicious and sadistic conduct, and sexual exploitation.
- B. "Cyberbullying" means bullying using technology or other electronic communication, including, but not limited to, a transfer or 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. "Malicious and sadistic conduct" means creating a hostile learning environment by acting with the intent to cause harm by intentionally injuring another without just cause or reason or engaging in extreme or excessive cruelty or delighting in cruelty.
- F. "On school premises, on school district property, at school related 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.
- G. "Prohibited conduct" means bullying, ~~or~~ cyberbullying, malicious and sadistic conduct, sexual exploitation, or retaliation or reprisal for asserting, alleging, reporting, or providing information about such conduct or knowingly making a false report about prohibited conduct.
- H. "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.
- I. "Student" means a student enrolled in a public school or a charter school.

E. 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 one of the following individuals:
1. **Building Principals:**
Melissa Tate; Falls Elementary School; 218-283-2571 ext.1232
Tim Everson, Head Principal: Falls High School; 218-283-2571 ext. 1104
Don Rolando, Dean of Students: Falls High School; 218-283-2571 ext. 1126
 2. **Title IX Officer: Kevin Grover, Superintendent of Schools ISD #361 District Office; 1515 11th Street; International Falls, MN 56649 218-283-2571 ext. 1112 or alternate Tim Everson, Falls High School Principal at 218-283-2571 ext. 1104.**
 3. **Human Rights Officers: Tim Everson, Falls High School Principal at 218-283-2571 ext. 1104 or alternate Melissa Tate, Falls Elementary School Principal at 218-283-2571 ext. 1232.**

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, or 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.

F. 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 the 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.

G. 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.

H. TRAINING AND EDUCATION

A. The school district shall discuss this policy with school personnel / 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 Minnesota Statutes § section 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.

I. 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. Each school must develop a process for discussing this policy with students, parents of students, independent contractors, and school employees.
- G. The school district shall provide an electronic copy of its most recently amended policy to the Commissioner of Education.

J. 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 121A.0312 and other applicable law. Revisions shall be made in consultation with students, parents, and community organizations.

Minn. Stat. § 121A.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.0312 (Malicious and Sadistic Conduct)
 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. § 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 (Title IX Sex Nondiscrimination 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 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)

**INTERNATIONAL FALLS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
 INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #361
 BOARD POLICY 515
 Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records**

Adopted By Reference

Revised March 2023

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

I. PURPOSE

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

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

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

III. DEFINITIONS

A. Authorized Representative

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

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

C. Dates of Attendance

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

D. Directory Information

“Directory information” means information contained in an education record of a student that would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed. It includes, but is not limited to: the student’s name, address, telephone listing, electronic mail address, photograph, date and place of birth, major field of study, dates of attendance, grade level, enrollment status (i.e., full-time or part-time), participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, degrees, honors and awards received, and the most recent educational agency or institution attended. It also includes the name, address, and telephone number of the student’s parent(s). Directory information does not include:

1. a student’s social security number

2. a student's identification number (ID), user ID, or other unique personal identifier used by a student for purposes of accessing or communicating in electronic systems if the identifier may be used to access education records without use of one or more factors that authenticate the student's identity such as a personal identification number (PIN), password, or other factor known or possessed only by the authorized user;
3. a student ID or other unique personal identifier that is displayed on a student ID badge if the identifier can be used to gain access to educational records when used in conjunction with one or more factors that authenticate the student's identity, such as a PIN, password, or other factor known or possessed only by the student;
4. personally identifiable data which references religion, race, color, social position, or nationality; or
5. data collected from nonpublic school students, other than those who receive shared time educational services, unless written consent is given by the student's parent or guardian.

[Note: This definition includes all of the types of information specifically referenced by state and federal law as directory information. A school district may choose not to designate some or all of the enumerated information as directory information. A school district also may add to the list of directory information, as long as the added data is not information that generally would be deemed as an invasion of privacy or information that references the student's religion, race, color, social position, or nationality.]Federal law now allows a school district to specify that the disclosure of directory information will be limited to specific parties, for specific purposes, or both. The identity of those parties and/or purposes should be identified. To the extent a school district adds these restrictions, it must then limit its directory information disclosures to those individuals and/or purposes specified in this public notice. Procedures to address how these restrictions will be enforced by the school district are advised. Designation of directory information is an important policy decision for the local school board who must balance not only the privacy interests of the student against public disclosure but also the additional administrative requirements such restrictions on disclosures will place on the school district.]

E. Education Records

1. What constitutes "education records." Education records means those records that are: (1) directly related to a student; and (2) maintained by the school district or by a party acting for the school district.
2. What does not constitute education records. The term, "education records," does not include:
 - a. Records of instructional personnel that are:
 - (1) kept in the sole possession of the maker of the record; ~~and~~
 - (2) used only as a personal memory aid;
 - (3) not accessible or revealed to any other individual except a temporary substitute teacher; and
 - (4) destroyed at the end of the school year.
 - b. Records of a law enforcement unit of the school district, provided education records maintained by the school district are not disclosed to the unit, and the law enforcement records are:
 - (1) maintained separately from education records;
 - (2) maintained solely for law enforcement purposes; and
 - (3) disclosed only to law enforcement officials of the same jurisdiction.
 - c. Records relating to an individual, including a student, who is employed by the school district which:
 - (1) are made and maintained in the normal course of business;
 - (2) relate exclusively to the individual in that individual's capacity as an employee; and
 - (3) are not available for use for any other purpose.
 However, records relating to an individual in attendance at the school district who is employed as a result of his or her status as a student are education records.
 - d. Records relating to an eligible student, or a student attending an institution of post-secondary education that are:
 - (1) made or maintained by a physician, psychiatrist, psychologist, or other recognized professional or paraprofessional acting in his or her professional or paraprofessional capacity or assisting in that capacity;
 - (2) made, maintained, or used only in connection with the provision of treatment to the student; and
 - (3) disclosed only to individuals providing the treatment; provided that the records can be personally reviewed by a physician or other appropriate professional of the student's choice. For the purpose of this definition, "treatment" does not include remedial educational activities or activities that are a part of the program of instruction within the school district.
 - e. Records created or received by the school district after an individual is no longer a student at the school district and that are not directly related to the individual's attendance as a student.
 - f. Grades on peer-related papers before the papers are collected and recorded by a teacher

F. Education Support Services Data

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

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

G. Eligible Student

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

education.

H. Juvenile Justice System

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

I. Legitimate Educational Interest

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

1. Perform an administrative task required in the school or employee’s contract or position description approved by the school board;
2. Perform a supervisory or instructional task directly related to the student’s education; or
3. Perform a service or benefit for the student or the student’s family such as health care, counseling, student job placement, or student financial aid.
4. Perform a task directly related to responding to a request for data.

J. Parent

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

K. Personally Identifiable

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

L. Record

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

M. Responsible Authority

“Responsible authority” means ~~superintendent of schools~~ Superintendent of Schools, Kevin Grover. ~~/or building principal.~~

N. Student

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

O. School Official

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

[Note: School districts may wish to reference police liaison officers in the definition of a “school official.” Depending on the circumstances of the relationship, this may be added in subpart (d) of the definition or in a new subpart (e). Caution should be used to ensure that police liaison officers are considered “school officials” only when performing duties as a police liaison officer and that they are trained as to their obligations pursuant to this policy. Consultation with the school district’s legal counsel is recommended.]

P. Summary Data

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

Q. Other Terms and Phrases

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

IV. GENERAL CLASSIFICATION

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

V. STATEMENT OF RIGHTS

A. Rights of Parents and Eligible Students

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

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

2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records to ensure that they are not inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy or other rights;
3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that such consent is not required for disclosure pursuant to this policy, state or federal law, or the regulations promulgated thereunder;
4. The right to refuse release of names, addresses, and home telephone numbers of students in grades 11 and 12 to military recruiting officers and post-secondary educational institutions;
5. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the school district to comply with the federal law and the regulations promulgated thereunder;
6. The right to be informed about rights under the federal law; and
7. The right to obtain a copy of this policy at the location set forth in Section XXI of this policy.

B. Eligible Students

All rights and protections given to parents under this policy transfer to the student when he or she reaches eighteen (18) years of age or enrolls in an institution of post-secondary education. The student then becomes an "eligible student." However, the parents of an eligible student who is also a "dependent student" are entitled to gain access to the education records of such student without first obtaining the consent of the student. In addition, parents of an eligible student may be given access to education records in connection with a health or safety emergency if the disclosure meets the conditions of any provision set forth in 34 Code of Federal Regulations section 99.31(a).

C. Students with a Disability

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

VI. DISCLOSURE OF EDUCATION RECORDS

A. Consent Required for Disclosure

1. The school district shall obtain a signed and dated written informed consent of the parent of a student or the eligible student before disclosing personally identifiable information from the education records of the student, except as provided herein.
2. The written consent required by this subdivision must be signed and dated by the parent of the student or the eligible student giving the consent and shall include:
 - a. a specification of the records to be disclosed;
 - b. the purpose or purposes of the disclosure;
 - c. the party or class of parties to whom the disclosure may be made;
 - d. the consequences of giving informed consent; and
 - e. if appropriate, a termination date for the consent.
3. When a disclosure is made under this subdivision:
 - a. if the parent or eligible student so requests, the school district shall provide him or her with a copy of the records disclosed; and
 - b. if the parent of a student who is not an eligible student so requests, the school district shall provide the student with a copy of the records disclosed.
4. A signed and dated written consent may include a record and signature in electronic form that:
 - a. identifies and authenticates a particular person as the source of the electronic consent; and
 - b. indicates such person's approval of the information contained in the electronic consent.
5. If the responsible authority seeks an individual's informed consent to the release of private data to an insurer or the authorized representative of an insurer, informed consent shall not be deemed to have been given unless the statement is:
 - a. in plain language;
 - b. dated;
 - c. specific in designating the particular persons or agencies the data subject is authorizing to disclose information about the data subject;
 - d. specific as to the nature of the information the subject is authorizing to be disclosed;
 - e. specific as to the persons or agencies to whom the subject is authorizing information to be disclosed;
 - f. specific as to the purpose or purposes for which the information may be used by any of the parties named in Clause e. above, both at the time of the disclosure and at any time in the future; and
 - g. specific as to its expiration date which should be within a reasonable time, not to exceed one year except in the case of authorizations given in connection with applications for: (i) life insurance or non-cancellable or guaranteed renewable health insurance and identified as such, two years after the date of the policy, or (ii) medical assistance under Minn. Stat. Ch. 256B or Minnesota Care under Minn. Stat. Ch. 256L, which shall be ongoing during all terms of eligibility, for individualized education program health-related services provided by a school district that are subject to third party reimbursement.

6. Eligible Student Consent

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

B. Prior Consent for Disclosure Not Required

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

1. To other school officials, including teachers, within the school district whom the school district determines have a legitimate educational interest in such records;
2. To a contractor, consultant, volunteer, or other party to whom the school district has outsourced institutional services or functions provided that the outside party:
 - a. performs an institutional service or function for which the school district would otherwise use employees;
 - b. is under the direct control of the school district with respect to the use and maintenance of education records;
 - and
 - c. will not disclose the information to any other party without the prior consent of the parent or eligible student and uses the information only for the purposes for which the disclosure was made
3. To officials of other schools, ~~or~~ school districts, or post-secondary educational institutions in which the student seeks or intends to enroll, or is already enrolled, as long as the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer. The records shall include information about disciplinary action taken as a result of any incident in which the student possessed or used a dangerous weapon, and with proper annual notice (See Section XIX.), suspension and expulsion information pursuant to section 7917 of the federal Every Student Succeeds Act, 20 United State Code section 7917, and, if applicable, data regarding a student's history of violent behavior. The records also shall include a copy of any probable cause notice or any disposition or court order under Minnesota Statutes section 260B.171, unless the data are required to be destroyed under Minnesota Statutes section 120A.22, subdivision 7(c) or section 121A.75. On request, the school district will provide the parent or eligible student with a copy of the education records that have been transferred and provide an opportunity for a hearing to challenge the content of those records in accordance with Section XV. of this policy;
4. To authorized representatives of the Comptroller General of the United States, the Attorney General of the United States, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education, or the Commissioner of the State Department of Education or his or her representative, subject to the conditions relative to such disclosure provided under federal law;
5. In connection with financial aid for which a student has applied or has received, if the information is necessary for such purposes as to:
 - a. determine eligibility for the aid;
 - b. determine the amount of the aid;
 - c. determine conditions for the aid; or
 - d. enforce the terms and conditions of the aid.

"Financial aid" for purposes of this provision means a payment of funds provided to an individual or a payment in kind of tangible or intangible property to the individual that is conditioned on the individual's attendance at an educational agency or institution;
6. To state and local officials or authorities to whom such information is specifically allowed to be reported or disclosed pursuant to state statute adopted:
 - a. before November 19, 1974, if the allowed reporting or disclosure concerns the juvenile justice system and such system's ability to effectively serve the student whose records are released; or
 - b. after November 19, 1974, if the reporting or disclosure allowed by state statute concerns the juvenile justice system and the system's ability to effectively serve, prior to adjudication, the student whose records are released, provided the officials and authorities to whom the records are disclosed certify in writing to the school district that the data will not be disclosed to any other party, except as provided by state law, without the prior written consent of the parent of the student. At a minimum, the school district shall disclose the following information to the juvenile justice system under this paragraph: a student's full name, home address, telephone number, and date of birth; a student's school schedule, attendance record, and photographs, if any; and parents' names, home addresses, and telephone numbers;
7. To organizations conducting studies for or on behalf of educational agencies or institutions for the purpose of developing, validating, or administering predictive tests, administering student aid programs, or improving instruction; provided that the studies are conducted in a manner which does not permit the personal identification of parents or students by individuals other than representatives of the organization who have a legitimate interest in the information, the information is destroyed when no longer needed for the purposes for which the study was conducted, and the school district enters into a written agreement with the organization that: (a) specifies the purpose, scope, and duration of the study or studies and the information to be disclosed; (b) requires the organization to use personally identifiable information from education records only to meet the purpose or purposes of the study as stated in the written agreement; (c) requires the organization to conduct the study in a manner that does not permit personal identification of parents and students by anyone other than representatives of the organization with legitimate interests; and (d) requires the organization to destroy all personally identifiable information when information is no longer needed for the purposes for which the study was conducted and specifies the time period in which the information must be returned or destroyed. For purposes of this provision, the term, "organizations," includes, but is not limited to, federal, state, and local agencies and independent organizations. In the event the Department of Education determines that a third party outside of the school district to whom information is disclosed violates this provision, the school district may not allow that third party access to personally identifiable information from education records for at least five (5) years;
8. To accrediting organizations in order to carry out their accrediting functions;
9. To parents of a student eighteen (18) years of age or older if the student is a dependent of the parents for income tax purposes;
10. To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena, provided, however, that the school district makes a reasonable effort to notify the parent or eligible student of the order or subpoena in advance of compliance therewith so that the parent or eligible student may seek protective action, unless the disclosure is in compliance with a federal grand

jury subpoena, or any other subpoena issued for law enforcement purposes, and the court or other issuing agency has ordered that the existence or the contents of the subpoena or the information furnished in response to the subpoena not be disclosed, or the disclosure is in compliance with an ex parte court order obtained by the United States Attorney General (or designee not lower than an Assistant Attorney General) concerning investigations or prosecutions of an offense listed in 18 United States Code section 2332b(g)(5)(B), an act of domestic or international terrorism as defined in 18 United States Code section 2331 or a parent is a party to a court proceeding involving child abuse and neglect or dependency matters, and the order is issued in the context of the proceeding. -If the school district initiates legal action against a parent or student, it may disclose to the court, without a court order or subpoena, the education records of the student that are relevant for the school district to proceed with the legal action as a plaintiff. Also, if a parent or eligible student initiates a legal action against the school district, the school district may disclose to the court, without a court order or subpoena, the student's education records that are relevant for the school district to defend itself;

11. To appropriate parties, including parents of an eligible student, in connection with an emergency if knowledge of the information is necessary to protect the health, including the mental health, or safety of the student or other individuals. The decision is to be based upon information available at the time the threat occurs that indicates that there is an articulable and significant threat to the health or safety of a student or other individuals. In making a determination whether to disclose information under this section, the school district may take into account the totality of the circumstances pertaining to a threat and may disclose information from education records to any person whose knowledge of the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other students. A record of this disclosure must be maintained pursuant to Section XIII.E. of this policy. In addition, an educational agency or institution may include in the education records of a student appropriate information concerning disciplinary action taken against the student for conduct that posed a significant risk to the safety or well-being of that student, other students, or other members of the school community. This information may be disclosed to teachers and school officials within the school district and/or teachers and school officials in other schools who have legitimate educational interests in the behavior of the student;
12. To the juvenile justice system if information about the behavior of a student who poses a risk of harm is reasonably necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals;
13. Information the school district has designated as "directory information" pursuant to Section VII. of this policy;
14. To military recruiting officers and post-secondary educational institutions pursuant to Section XI. of this policy;
15. To the parent of a student who is not an eligible student or to the student himself or herself;
16. To appropriate health authorities to the extent necessary to administer immunization programs and for bona fide epidemiologic investigations which the commissioner of health determines are necessary to prevent disease or disability to individuals in the public educational agency or institution in which the investigation is being conducted;
17. To volunteers who are determined to have a legitimate educational interest in the data and who are conducting activities and events sponsored by or endorsed by the educational agency or institution for students or former students;
18. To the juvenile justice system, on written request that certifies that the information will not be disclosed to any other person except as authorized by law without the written consent of the parent of the student:
 - a. the following information about a student must be disclosed: a student's full name, home address, telephone number, date of birth; a student's school schedule, daily attendance record, and photographs, if any; and any parents' names, home addresses, and telephone numbers;
 - b. the existence of the following information about a student, not the actual data or other information contained in the student's education record, may be disclosed provided that a request for access must be submitted on the statutory form and it must contain an explanation of why access to the information is necessary to serve the student: (1) use of a controlled substance, alcohol, or tobacco; (2) assaultive or threatening conduct that could result in dismissal from school under the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act; (3) possession or use of weapons or look-alike weapons; (4) theft; or (5) vandalism or other damage to property. Prior to releasing this information, the principal or chief administrative officer of a school who receives such a request must, to the extent permitted by federal law, notify the student's parent or guardian by certified mail of the request to disclose information. If the student's parent or guardian notifies the school official of an objection to the disclosure within ten (10) days of receiving certified notice, the school official must not disclose the information and instead must inform the requesting member of the juvenile justice system of the objection. If no objection from the parent or guardian is received within fourteen (14) days, the school official must respond to the request for information.

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

19. To the principal where the student attends and to any counselor directly supervising or reporting on the behavior or progress of the student if it is information from a disposition order received by a superintendent under Minnesota Statutes section 260B.171, subdivision 3. The principal must notify the counselor immediately and must place the disposition order in the student's permanent education record. The principal also must notify immediately any teacher or administrator who directly supervises or reports on the behavior or progress of the student whom the principal believes needs the information to work with the student in an appropriate manner, to avoid being needlessly vulnerable, or to protect other persons from needless vulnerability. The principal may also notify other school district employees, substitutes, and volunteers who are in direct contact with the student if the principal determines that these individual need the information to work with the student in an appropriate manner, to avoid being needlessly vulnerable, or to protect other persons from needless vulnerability. Such notices from the principal must identify the student, outline the offense, and describe any conditions of probation about which the school must provide information if this information is provided in the disposition order. Disposition order information received is private educational data received for the

limited purpose of serving the educational needs of the student and protecting students and staff. The information may not be further disseminated by the counselor, teacher, administrator, staff member, substitute, or volunteer except as necessary to serve the student, to protect students and staff, or as otherwise required by law, and only to the student or the student's parent or guardian;

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

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

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

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

C. Nonpublic School Students

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

1. Pursuant to a valid court order;
2. Pursuant to a statute specifically authorizing access to the private data; or
3. To appropriate health authorities to the extent necessary to administer immunization programs and for bona fide epidemiological investigations which the commissioner of health determines are necessary to prevent disease or disability to individuals in the public educational agency or institution in which the investigation is being conducted.

VII. RELEASE OF DIRECTORY INFORMATION

A. Classification

Directory information is public except as provided herein.

B. Former Students

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

C. Present Students and Parents

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

1. Annually give public notice by any means that are reasonably likely to inform the parents and eligible students of:
 - a. the types of personally identifiable information regarding students and/or parents that the school district has

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

[Note: Federal law now allows a school district to specify that the disclosure of directory information will be limited to specific parties, for specific purposes, or both. If the school district chooses to impose these limitations, it is advisable to add a new paragraph VII.C.1.d. that specifies that disclosures of directory information will be limited to specific parties and/or for specific purposes and identify those parties and/or purposes. To the extent a school district adds these restrictions, it must then limit its directory information disclosures to those individuals and/or purposes specified in this public notice. Procedures to address how these restrictions will be enforced by the school district are advised. This is an important policy decision for the local school board which must balance not only the privacy interests of the student against public disclosure, but also the additional administrative requirements such restrictions will place on the school district.]

- 2. Allow a reasonable period of time after such notice has been given for a parent or eligible student to inform the school district, in writing, that any or all of the information so designated should not be disclosed without the parent's or eligible student's prior written consent, except as provided in [Section VI](#) of this policy.
- 3. A parent or eligible student may not opt out of the directory information disclosures to:
 - a. prevent the school district from disclosing or requiring the student to disclose the student's name, ID, or school district e-mail address in a class in which the student is enrolled; or
 - b. prevent the school district from requiring a student to wear, to display publicly, or to disclose a student ID card or badge that exhibits information that may be designated as directory information and that has been properly designated by the school district as directory information.
- 4. The school district shall not disclose or confirm directory information without meeting the written consent requirements contained in Section VI.A. of this policy if a student's social security number or other non-directory information is used alone or in combination with other data elements to identify or help identify the student or the student's records.

D. Procedure for Obtaining Nondisclosure of Directory Information

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

- 1. Name of the student and/or parent, as appropriate;
- 2. Home address;
- 3. School presently attended by student;
- 4. Parent's legal relationship to student, if applicable; and
- 5. Specific categories of directory information to be made not public without the parent's or eligible student's prior written consent, which shall only be applicable for that school year.

E. Duration

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

VIII. DISCLOSURE OF PRIVATE RECORDS

A. Private Records

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

B. Private Records Not Accessible to Parent

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

- 1. The responsible authority may deny access to private data by a parent when a minor student who is the subject of that data requests that the responsible authority deny such access. The minor student's request must be submitted in writing setting forth the reasons for denying access to the parent and must be signed by the minor. Upon receipt of such request the responsible authority shall determine if honoring the request to deny the parent access would be in the best interest of the minor data subject. In making this determination the responsible authority shall consider the following factors:
 - a. whether the minor is of sufficient age and maturity to be able to explain the reasons for and understand the consequences of the request to deny access;
 - b. whether the personal situation of the minor is such that denying parental access may protect the minor data subject from physical or emotional harm;
 - c. whether there are grounds for believing that the minor data subject's reasons for precluding parental access are reasonably accurate;
 - d. whether the data in question is of such a nature that disclosure of it to the parent may lead to physical or emotional harm to the minor data subject; and
 - e. whether the data concerns medical, dental, or other health services provided pursuant to Minnesota Statutes sections 144.341-144.347, in which case the data may be released only if the failure to inform the parent

would seriously jeopardize the health of the minor.

- C. Private Records Not Accessible to Student
Students shall not be entitled to access to private data concerning financial records and statements of the student's parent or any information contained therein.

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

IX. DISCLOSURE OF CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS

- A. Confidential Records
Confidential records are those records and data contained therein which are made not public by state or federal law, and which are inaccessible to the student and the student's parents or to an eligible student.
- B. Reports Under the Maltreatment of Minors Reporting Act
Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Chapter 260E, written copies of reports pertaining to a neglected and/or physically and/or sexually abused child shall be accessible only to the appropriate welfare and law enforcement agencies. In respect to other parties, such data shall be confidential and will not be made available to the parent or the subject individual by the school district. The subject individual, however, may obtain a copy of the report from either the local welfare agency, county sheriff, or the local police department subject to the provisions of Minnesota Statutes Chapter 260E. Regardless of whether a written report is made under Minnesota Statutes Chapter 260E, as soon as practicable after a school receives information regarding an incident that may constitute maltreatment of a child in a school facility, the school shall inform the parent, legal guardian, or custodian of the child that an incident occurred that may constitute maltreatment of the child, when the incident occurred, and the nature of the conduct that may constitute maltreatment.
- C. Investigative Data
Data collected by the school district as part of an active investigation undertaken for the purpose of the commencement or defense of pending civil legal action, or which are retained in anticipation of a pending civil legal action are classified as protected nonpublic data in the case of data not on individuals, and confidential data in the case of data on individuals.
1. The school district may make any data classified as protected non-public or confidential pursuant to this subdivision accessible to any person, agency, or the public if the school district determines that such access will aid the law enforcement process, promote public health or safety, or dispel widespread rumor or unrest.
 2. A complainant has access to a statement he or she provided to the school district.
 3. Parents or eligible students may have access to investigative data of which the student is the subject, but only to the extent the data is not inextricably intertwined with data about other school district students, school district employees, and/or attorney data as defined in Minnesota Statutes section 13.393.
 4. Once a civil investigation becomes inactive, civil investigative data becomes public unless the release of the data would jeopardize another pending civil legal action, except for those portions of such data that are classified as not public data under state or federal law. Any civil investigative data presented as evidence in court or made part of a court record shall be public. For purposes of this provision, a civil investigation becomes inactive upon the occurrence of any of the following events:
 - a. a decision by the school district, or by the chief attorney for the school district, not to pursue the civil legal action. However, such investigation may subsequently become active if the school district or its attorney decides to renew the civil legal action;
 - b. the expiration of the time to file a complaint under the statute of limitations or agreement applicable to the civil legal action; or
 - c. the exhaustion or expiration of rights of appeal by either party to the civil legal action.
 5. A "pending civil legal action" for purposes of this subdivision is defined as including, but not limited to, judicial, administrative, or arbitration proceedings.
- D. Chemical Abuse Records
To the extent the school district maintains records of the identity, diagnosis, prognosis, or treatment of any student which are maintained in connection with the performance of any drug abuse prevention function conducted, regulated, or directly or indirectly assisted by any department or agency of the United States, such records are classified as confidential and shall be disclosed only for the purposes and under the circumstances expressly authorized by law.

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

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

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

- A. The School District will release the names, addresses, electronic mail address (which shall be electronic mail addresses provided by the school district, if available, that may be released to military recruiting officers only), and home telephone numbers of students in grades 11 and 12 to military recruiting officers and post-secondary educational institutions within sixty (60) days after

the date of the request unless a parent or eligible student has refused in writing to release this data pursuant to Paragraph C. below.

- B. Data released to military recruiting officers under this provision:
1. may be used only for the purpose of providing information to students about military service, state and federal veterans' education benefits, and other career and educational opportunities provided by the military;
 2. cannot be further disseminated to any other person except personnel of the recruiting services of the armed forces; and
 3. copying fees shall not be imposed.
- C. A parent or eligible student has the right to refuse the release of the name, address, electronic mail addresses (which shall be the electronic mail addresses provided by the school, if available, that may be released to military recruiting officers only) or home telephone number to military recruiting officers and post-secondary educational institutions. To refuse the release of the above information to military recruiting officers and post-secondary educational institutions, a parent or eligible student must notify the building principal in writing by September 30 each year. The written request must include the following information:
1. Name of student and parent, as appropriate;
 2. Home address;
 3. Student's grade level;
 4. School presently attended by student;
 5. Parent's legal relationship to student, if applicable;
 6. Specific category or categories of information which are not to be released to military recruiting officers; and post-secondary educational institutions; and
 7. Specific category or categories of information which are not to be released to the public, including military recruiting officers and post-secondary educational institutions.
- D. Annually, the school district will provide public notice by any means that are reasonably likely to inform the parents and eligible students of their rights to refuse to release the names, addresses, and home phone numbers of students in grades 11 and 12 without prior consent.
- E. A parent or eligible student's refusal to release the above information to military recruiting officers and post-secondary educational institutions does not affect the school district's release of directory information to the rest of the public, which includes military recruiting officers and post-secondary educational institutions. In order to make any directory information about a student private, the procedures contained in Section VII of this policy also must be followed. Accordingly, to the extent the school district has designated the name, address, home phone number, and grade level of students as directory information, absent a request from a parent or eligible student not to release such data, this information will be public data and accessible to members of the public, including military recruiting officers and post-secondary educational institutions.

XII. LIMITS ON REDISCLOSURE

- A. Redisclosure
Consistent with the requirements herein, the school district may only disclose personally identifiable information from the education records of a student on the condition that the party to whom the information is to be disclosed will not disclose the information to any other party without the prior written consent of the parent of the student or the eligible student, except that the officers, employees, and agents of any party receiving personally identifiable information under this section may use the information, but only for the purposes for which the disclosure was made.
- B. Redisclosure Not Prohibited
1. Subdivision A. of this section does not prevent the school district from disclosing personally identifiable information under Section VI of this policy with the understanding that the party receiving the information may make further disclosures of the information on behalf of the school district provided:
 - a. The disclosures meet the requirements of Section VI of this policy; and
 - b. The school district has complied with the record-keeping requirements of Section XIII of this policy.
 2. Subdivision A. of this section does not apply to disclosures made pursuant to court orders or lawfully issued subpoenas or litigation, to disclosures of directory information, to disclosures to a parent or student or to parents of dependent students, or to disclosures concerning sex offenders and other individuals required to register under 42 United States Code section 14071. However, the school district must provide the notification required in Section XII.D. of this policy if a redisclosure is made based upon a court order or lawfully issued subpoena.
- [Note: 42 United States Code section 14071 was repealed. School districts should retain this statutory reference, however, as it remains a reference in FERPA and the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act and still may apply to individuals required to register prior to the repeal of this law.]*
- C. Classification of Disclosed Data
The information disclosed shall retain the same classification in the hands of the party receiving it as it had in the hands of the school district.
- D. Notification
The school district shall, inform the party to whom a disclosure is made of the requirements set forth in this section, except for disclosures made pursuant to court orders or lawfully issued subpoenas, disclosure of directory information under Section VII of this policy, disclosures to a parent or student, or disclosures to parents of a dependent student. In the event that the Family Policy Compliance Office determines that a state or local educational authority, a federal agency headed by an official listed in 34 Code of Federal Regulations section 99.31 (a)(3), or an authorized representative of a state or local educational authority or a federal agency headed by an official listed in section 99.31 (a)(3), or a third party outside of the school district improperly rediscloses personally identifiable information from education records, or fails to provide notification required under this section of this policy, the school district may not allow that third party access to personally identifiable information from education records for at least five (5) years.

XIII. RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY; RECORD SECURITY; AND RECORD KEEPING

A. Responsible Authority

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

B. Record Security

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

C. Plan for Securing Student Records

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

1. A description of records maintained;
2. Titles and addresses of person(s) responsible for the security of student records;
3. Location of student records, by category, in the buildings;
4. Means of securing student records; and
5. Procedures for access and disclosure.

D. Review of Written Plan for Securing Student Records

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

E. Record Keeping

1. The principal shall, for each request for and each disclosure of personally identifiable information from the education records of a student, maintain a record with the education records of the student which indicates:
 - a. the parties who have requested or received personally identifiable information from the education records of the student;
 - b. the legitimate interests these parties had in requesting or obtaining the information; and
 - c. the names of the state and local educational authorities and federal officials and agencies listed in Section VI.B.4. of this policy that may make further disclosures of personally identifiable information from the student's education records without consent.
2. In the event the school district discloses personally identifiable information from an education record of a student pursuant to Section XII.B of this policy, the record of disclosure required under this section shall also include:
 - a. the names of the additional parties to which the receiving party may disclose the information on behalf of the school district;
 - b. the legitimate interests under Section VI, Section VI. of this policy which each of the additional parties has in requesting or obtaining the information; and
 - c. a copy of the record of further disclosures maintained by a state or local educational authority or federal official or agency listed in Section VI.B.4 of this policy in accordance with 34 Code of Federal Regulations section 99.32 and to whom the school district disclosed information from an education record. The school district shall request a copy of the record of further disclosures from a state or local educational authority or federal official or agency to whom education records were disclosed upon a request from a parent or eligible student to review the record of requests for disclosure.
3. Section XIII.E.1. does not apply to requests by or disclosure to a parent of a student or an eligible student, disclosures pursuant to the written consent of a parent of a student or an eligible student, requests by or disclosures to other school officials under Section VI. Section VI.B.1. of this policy, to requests for disclosures of directory information under Section VII, Section VII of this policy, or to a party seeking or receiving the records as directed by a federal grand jury or other law enforcement subpoena and the issuing court or agency has ordered that the existence or the contents of the subpoena or the information provided in response to the subpoena not be disclosed or as directed by an ex parte court order obtained by the United States Attorney General (or designee not lower than an Assistant Attorney General) concerning investigations or prosecutions of an offense listed in 18 or as directed by an ex parte court order obtained by the United States Attorney General (or designee not lower than an Assistant Attorney General) concerning investigations or prosecutions of an offense listed in United States Code section 2332b(g)(5)(B) or an act of domestic or international terrorism 2332b(g)(5)(B) or an act of domestic or international terrorism.

[Note: While Section XIII.E.1. does not apply to requests for or disclosures of directory information under Section VII. of this policy, to the extent the school district chooses to limit the disclosure of directory information to specific parties, for specific purposes, or both, it is advisable that records be kept to identify the party to whom the disclosure was made and/or purpose for the disclosure.]

4. The record of requests of disclosures may be inspected by:
 - a. the parent of the student or the eligible student;
 - b. the school official or his or her assistants who are responsible for the custody of the records; and
 - c. the parties authorized by law to audit the record-keeping procedures of the school district.
5. The school district shall record the following information when it discloses personally identifiable information from education records under the health or safety emergency exception:
 - a. the articulable and significant threat to the health or safety of a student or other individual that formed the basis for the disclosure; and
 - b. the parties to whom the school district disclosed the information.

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

XIV. RIGHT TO INSPECT AND REVIEW EDUCATION RECORDS

- A. Parent of a Student, an Eligible Student or the Parent of an Eligible Student Who is Also a Dependent Student
The school district shall permit the parent of a student, an eligible student, or the parent of an eligible student who is also a dependent student who is or has been in attendance in the school district to inspect or review the education records of the student, except those records which are made confidential by state or federal law or as otherwise provided in Section VIII of this policy.
- B. Response to Request for Access
The school district shall respond to any request pursuant to Subdivision A. of this section immediately, if possible, or within ten (10) days of the date of the request, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays.
- C. Right to Inspect and Review
The right to inspect and review education records under Subdivision A. of this section includes:
 1. The right to a response from the school district to reasonable requests for explanations and interpretations of records; and
 2. If circumstances effectively prevent the parent or eligible student from exercising the right to inspect and review the education records, the school district shall provide the parent or eligible student with a copy of the records requested, or make other arrangements for the parent or eligible student to inspect and review the requested records.
 3. Nothing in this policy shall be construed as limiting the frequency of inspection of the education records of a student with a disability by the student's parent or guardian or by the student upon the student reaching the age of majority.
- D. Form of Request
Parents or eligible students shall submit to the school district a written request to inspect education records which identify as precisely as possible the record or records he or she wishes to inspect.
- E. Collection of Student Records
If a student's education records are maintained in more than one location, the responsible authority may collect copies of the records or the records themselves from the various locations so they may be inspected at one site. However, if the parent or eligible student wishes to inspect these records where they are maintained, the school district shall attempt to accommodate those wishes. The parent or eligible student shall be notified of the time and place where the records may be inspected.
- F. Records Containing Information on More Than One Student
If the education records of a student contain information on more than one student, the parent or eligible student may inspect and review or be informed of only the specific information which pertains to that student.
- G. Authority to Inspect or Review
The school district may presume that either parent of the student has authority to inspect or review the education records of a student unless the school district has been provided with evidence that there is a legally binding instrument or a state law or court order governing such matters as marriage dissolution, separation, or custody which provides to the contrary.
- H. Fees for Copies of Records
 1. The school district shall charge a reasonable fee for providing photocopies or printed copies of records unless printing a copy is the only method to provide for the inspection of data. In determining the amount of the reasonable fee, the school district shall consider the following:
 - a. the cost of materials, including paper, used to provide the copies;
 - b. the cost of the labor required to prepare the copies or documents;
 - c. any schedule of standard copying charges established by the school district in its normal course of operations;
 - d. any special costs necessary to produce such copies from machine based record-keeping systems, including but not limited to computers and microfilm systems; and
 - e. mailing costs.
 2. If 100 or fewer pages of black and white, letter or legal size paper copies are requested, actual costs shall not be used, and, instead, the charge shall be no more than 25 cents for each page copied.
 3. The cost of providing copies shall be borne by the parent or eligible student.
 4. The responsible authority, however, may not impose a fee for a copy of an education record made for a parent or eligible student if doing so would effectively prevent or, in the case of a student with a disability, impair the parent or eligible student from exercising their right to inspect or review the student's education records.

XV. REQUEST TO AMEND RECORDS; PROCEDURES TO CHALLENGE DATA

- A. Request to Amend Education Records
The parent of a student or an eligible student who believes that information contained in the education records of the student is inaccurate, misleading, or violates the privacy rights of the student may request that the school district amend those records.
 1. The request shall be in writing, shall identify the item the requestor believes to be inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of the privacy or other rights of the student, shall state the reason for this belief, and shall specify the correction the requestor wishes the school district to make. The request shall be signed and dated by the requestor.
 2. The school district shall decide whether to amend the education records of the student in accordance with the request within thirty (30) days after receiving the request.
 3. If the school district decides to refuse to amend the education records of the student in accordance with the request, it shall inform the parent of the student or the eligible student of the refusal and advise the parent or eligible student of the right to a hearing under Subdivision B. of this section.
- B. Right to a Hearing
If the school district refuses to amend the education records of a student, the school district, on request, shall provide an

opportunity for a hearing in order to challenge the content of the student's education records to ensure that information in the education records of the student is not inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the privacy or other rights of the student. A hearing shall be conducted in accordance with Subdivision C. of this section.

1. If, as a result of the hearing, the school district decides that the information is inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the privacy or other rights of the student, it shall amend the education records of the student accordingly and so inform the parent of the student or the eligible student in writing.
2. If, as a result of the hearing, the school district decides that the information is not inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the privacy or other rights of the student, it shall inform the parent or eligible student of the right to place a statement in the record commenting on the contested information in the record or stating why he or she disagrees with the decision of the school district, or both.
3. Any statement placed in the education records of the student under Subdivision B. of this section shall:
 - a. be maintained by the school district as part of the education records of the student so long as the record or contested portion thereof is maintained by the school district; and
 - b. if the education records of the student or the contested portion thereof is disclosed by the school district to any party, the explanation shall also be disclosed to that party.

C. Conduct of Hearing

1. The hearing shall be held within a reasonable period of time after the school district has received the request, and the parent of the student or the eligible student shall be given notice of the date, place, and time reasonably in advance of the hearing.
2. The hearing may be conducted by any individual, including an official of the school district who does not have a direct interest in the outcome of the hearing. The school board attorney shall be in attendance to present the school board's position and advise the designated hearing officer on legal and evidentiary matters.
3. The parent of the student or eligible student shall be afforded a full and fair opportunity for hearing to present evidence relative to the issues raised under Subdivisions A. and B. of this section and may be assisted or represented by individuals of his or her choice at his or her own expense, including an attorney.
4. The school district shall make a decision in writing within a reasonable period of time after the conclusion of the hearing. The decision shall be based solely on evidence presented at the hearing and shall include a summary of evidence and reasons for the decision.

D. Appeal

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

XVI. PROBLEMS ACCESSING DATA

- A. The data practices compliance official is the designated employee to whom persons may direct questions or concerns regarding problems in obtaining access to data or other data practices problems.
- B. Data practices compliance official means [School Social Worker, Laurie Youso](#).
- C. Any request by an individual with a disability for reasonable modifications of the school district's policies or procedures for purposes of accessing records shall be made to the data practices compliance official.

XVII. COMPLAINTS FOR NONCOMPLIANCE

- A. Where to File Complaints
Complaints regarding alleged violations of rights accorded parents and eligible students by FERPA, and the rules promulgated thereunder, shall be submitted in writing to the U.S. Department of Education, Student Privacy Policy Office, 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20202-8520.
- B. Content of Complaint
A complaint filed pursuant to this section must contain specific allegations of fact giving reasonable cause to believe that a violation of FERPA and the rules promulgated thereunder has occurred.

XVIII. WAIVER

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

XIX. ANNUAL NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS

- A. Contents of Notice
The school district shall give parents of students currently in attendance and eligible students currently in attendance annual notice by such means as are reasonably likely to inform the parents and eligible students of the following:
 1. That the parent or eligible student has a right to inspect and review the student's education records and the procedure for inspecting and reviewing education records;
 2. That the parent or eligible student has a right to seek amendment of the student's education records to ensure that those records are not inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy or other rights and the procedure for requesting amendment of records;
 3. That the parent or eligible student has a right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that federal and state law and the regulations promulgated thereunder authorize disclosure without consent;
 4. That the parent or eligible student has a right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education regarding an alleged failure by the school district to comply with the requirements of FERPA, and the rules promulgated thereunder;

5. The criteria for determining who constitutes a school official and what constitutes a legitimate educational interest for purposes of disclosing education records to other school officials whom the school district has determined to have legitimate educational interests; and
 6. That the school district forwards education records on request to a school in which a student seeks or intends to enroll or is already enrolled as long as the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer and that such records may include suspension and expulsion records pursuant to the federal Every Student Succeeds Act and, if applicable, a student's history of violent behavior.
- B. Notification to Parents of Students Having a Primary Home Language Other Than English
The school district shall provide for the need to effectively notify parents of students identified as having a primary or home language other than English.
- C. Notification to Parents or Eligible Students Who are Disabled
The school district shall provide for the need to effectively notify parents or eligible students identified as disabled.

XX. DESTRUCTION AND RETENTION OF RECORDS

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

XXI. COPIES OF POLICY

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

Legal References: Minn. Stat. Ch. 13 (Minnesota Government Data Practices Act)
Minn. Stat. § 13.393 (Attorneys)

[Minn. Stat. Ch. 14 \(Administrative Procedures Act\)](#)
[Minn. Stat. § 120A.22 \(Compulsory Instruction\)](#)
[Minn. Stat. § 121A.40-121A.56 \(The Pupil Fair Dismissal Act\)](#)
 Minn. Stat. § 121A.75 (Receipt of Records; Sharing)
 Minn. Stat. § 127A.852 (Military-Connected Youth Identifier)
 Minn. Stat. § 144.341-144.347 (Consent of Minors for Health Services)
 Minn. Stat. Ch. 256B (Medical Assistance for Needy Persons)
 Minn. Stat. Ch. 256L (MinnesotaCare)
 Minn. Stat. § 260B.171, Subds. 3 and 5 (Disposition Order and Peace Officer Records of Children)
 Minn. Stat. Ch. 260E (Reporting of Maltreatment of Minors)
 Minn. Stat. § 363A.42 (Public Records; Accessibility)
 Minn. Stat. § 626.557 (Reporting of Maltreatment of Vulnerable Adults)
 Minn. Rules Parts 1205.0100-1205.2000 ([Data Practices](#))
[10 U.S.C. § 503\(b\) and \(c\) \(Enlistments; Recruiting Campaigns; Compilation of Directory Information\)](#)
[18 U.S.C. § 2331 \(Definitions\)](#)
[18 U.S.C. § 2332b \(Acts of Terrorism Transcending National Boundaries\)](#)
 20 U.S.C. § 1232g *et seq.* (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act)
[20 U.S.C. § 6301 et seq. \(Every Student Succeeds Act\)](#)
[20 U.S.C. § 7908 \(Armed Forces Recruiting Information\)](#)
 20 U.S.C. § 7917 (Transfer of School Disciplinary Records)
 20 U.S.C. § 5304 (Definitions – Tribal Organization)
 26 U.S.C. §§ 151 and 152 (Internal Revenue Code)
 42 U.S.C. § 1711 *et seq.* (Child Nutrition Act)
 42 U.S.C. § 1751 *et seq.* (Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act)
 34 C.F.R. §§ 99.1-99.67 ([Family Educational Rights and Privacy](#))
[34 C.F.R. § 300.610-300.627 \(Confidentiality of Information\)](#)
[42 C.F.R. § 2.1 et seq. \(Confidentiality of Drug Abuse Patient Records\)](#)

[Gonzaga University v. Doe, 536 U.S. 273, 309 \(2002\)](#) Dept. of Admin. Advisory Op. No. 21-008 (December 8, 2021)

Cross References: [MSBA/MASA Model Policy 414 \(Mandated Reporting of Child Neglect or Physical or Sexual Abuse\)](#)
[MSBA/MASA Model Policy 417 \(Chemical Use and Abuse\)](#)

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 506 (Student Discipline)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 519 (Interviews of Students by Outside Agencies)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 520 (Student Surveys)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 711 (Videotaping on School Buses)
 MSBA/MASA Model Policy 722 (Public Data Requests)
[MSBA/MASA Model Policy 906 \(Community Notification of Predatory Offenders\)](#)
 MSBA School Law Bulletin "I" (School Records – Privacy – Access to Data)

**INTERNATIONAL FALLS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
 INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #361
 BOARD POLICY 534
 School Meals Policy
 Adopted By Reference
 Revised: July 2023**

[Note: In 2021, the Minnesota legislature amended Minnesota Statutes section 124D.111, that Minnesota school districts that participate in the national school lunch program must adopt a school meals policy. In 2023, the Minnesota legislature amended the statute to create the free school meals program.]

[Note: This MSBA/MASA model policy is drafted to be consistent for all grade levels. However, local school districts may vary the meal charge policy for elementary, middle, and high schools.]

[Note: School districts must follow appropriate debt collection practices when attempting to recover unpaid a la carte items or second meal charges.]

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that students receive healthy and nutritious meals through the school district's nutrition program and that school district employees, families and students have a shared understanding of expectations regarding meal charges. The policy seeks

to allow students to receive the nutrition they need to stay focused during the school day and minimize identification of students with insufficient funds to pay for a la carte items or second meals as well as to maintain the financial integrity of the school nutrition program.

II. PAYMENT OF MEALS

A. **All a la carte items or second meal purchases are to be prepaid before meal service begins. Students are assigned a meal account when they enroll in International Falls Public Schools. It is the parent/guardians responsibility to make sure adequate funds are available in their student(s) account each day for breakfast and/or lunch. It is recommended to have at least a week's worth of meals prepaid in the student's account.**

B. **Parent(s) or guardian(s) can manage their student(s) meal accounts through online access via Skyward Family Access. The link for Skyward Family Access is found on the district website at www.isd361.k12.mn.us under "Quick Links" then select "Skyward Portal". Family Access allows parent(s) or guardian(s) the ability to:**

1. **View meal account balances**
2. **Make payments to student account(s)**
3. **Set a low balance message**
4. **View student meal account purchases**

If parent(s) or guardian(s) do not have a user name setup for Skyward Family Access they can contact the school office to have this setup.

C. **Student meal account payments can be made as follows:**

1. **Pay by credit or debit card online through Skyward Family Access or via ISD 361 web store offered through RevTrak. The link to either system is located on district website under "Quick Links". There is a \$1 transaction fee applied to all online payments.**
2. **Send cash or check with student to school.**
3. **Mail or drop off cash or check to your student's school.**
4. **By setting up reoccurring payments:**
 - a) **Reoccurring payments allow parent(s) or guardian(s) to set a minimum meal account balance which will trigger an automatic payment to the student(s) account. An email notification is sent to the parent(s) or guardian(s) each time a payment is made.**
 - b) **To setup reoccurring payments go to ISD 361 web store:
Log into personal account then setup reoccurring payments for each student. At the end of school year remove the reoccurring payment option on your account.**
 - c) **If parent(s) or guardian(s) do not have a web store account setup they can contact the school office to have this setup.**

If the school district participates in the United States Department of Agriculture National School Lunch program and has an Identified Student Percentage below the federal percentage determined for all meals to be reimbursed at the free rate via the Community Eligibility Provision must participate in the free school meals program.

D. A school that participates in the United States Department of Agriculture National School Lunch program and has an Identified Student Percentage at or above the federal percentage determined for all meals to be reimbursed at the free rate must participate in the federal Community Eligibility Provision in order to participate in the free school meals program.

E. Each school that participates in the free school meals program must:

(1) participate in the United States Department of Agriculture School Breakfast Program and the United States Department of Agriculture National School Lunch Program; and

(2) provide to all students at no cost up to two federally reimbursable meals per school day, with a maximum of one free breakfast and one free lunch.

F. Once a meal has been placed on a student's tray or otherwise served to a student, the meal may not be subsequently withdrawn from the student by the cashier or other school official, whether or not the student has an outstanding meals balance.

G. **If a parent or guardian chooses to send in one payment that is to be divided between sibling accounts, the parent or guardian must specify how the funds are to be distributed to the student's accounts.**

H. **Transferring of funds between student sibling accounts requires the approval of the parent or guardian. Graduating senior student account balances will be automatically transferred to a sibling at the end of school year. Parent(s) or guardian(s) with graduating students will be requested to advise the school office if they want their positive senior students account balance refunded, or transferred to the districts meal donation account.**

II. MEAL ACCOUNT PURCHASES

Students may purchase second meals or ala carte items when funds have been deposited into their meal account.

Ala Carte Purchases: The Falls High School cafeteria offers ala carte items for purchase. Students will not be allowed ala carte purchases if their meal account does not have a prepaid balance to cover the cost of purchase.

Parent(s) or guardian(s) may choose to block items from being purchased, such as extra milk and ala carte items by contacting Michelle Hopkins at 218-283-2571 ext. 1181 or via email at mhopkins@isd361.org

Second Meal Purchases: Any second (2nd) breakfast or lunch meal purchased by any student regardless of meal application status or kindergarten free breakfast status will be charged at the second meal price. Students must have positive meal account balance to purchase the second (2nd) meal.

III. LOW OR NEGATIVE ACCOUNT BALANCE NOTIFICATION

- A. **Parent(s) or guardian(s) are encouraged to utilize Skyward Family Access to manage their student(s) meal account(s). A mobile application for Family Access is also offered by Skyward.**
- B. **The school district will make reasonable efforts to notify families when meal account balances are low or fall below zero as follows. Parent(s) or guardian(s) can also set a low balance email notification via Skyward Family Access.**
- C. **Parent(s) or guardian(s) will be notified when the student account is at \$10.00 or less via the district telephone and e-mail notification system on Tuesday of each week.**
- D. **Parent(s) or guardian(s) will be notified when a student account is at negative -\$10.00 via the district telephone/e-mail notification system on Monday of each week.**
- E. **Reminders for payment of outstanding student meal balances will not demean or stigmatize any student participating in the school lunch program.**

Policy for Meal Accounts with \$0 or Negative Balances:

Meal Account Balances at negative -\$25.00

A meal statement will be sent requesting payment within 30 days. Invoices will be sent electronically to the parent(s) or guardian(s) guardians email address on file. If no email address is on file an invoice will be mailed to the address on file.

The district will continue to serve these students a first quantity breakfast and/or lunch meal. Second quantity meals and ala carte purchases will be denied.

Meal Account Balances at Negative -\$50.00 or more

A meal statement will be sent requesting payment within 30 days. Invoices will be sent electronically to the parent(s) or guardian(s) guardians email address on file. If no email address is on file an invoice will be mailed to the address on file.

The district will continue to serve these students a first quantity breakfast and/or lunch meal. Second quantity meals and ala carte purchases will be denied.

Meal Account Balances at Negative -\$100 or more

When a student's meal account balance reaches negative -\$100 the parent/guardian will receive a final notification from the Districts Business Manager to make payment to resolve the outstanding balance due to District within 10 days. If this notification does not result in a consistent payment plan by the parent(s) or guardian(s) any amounts owed at negative -\$100 or more will be sent to collections. The district will continue to serve these students a first quantity breakfast and/or lunch meal. Second quantity meals and ala carte purchases will be denied.

IV. UNPAID MEAL CHARGES

The school district will make reasonable efforts to communicate and work with families to resolve the matter of unpaid meal charges. When appropriate, families will be encouraged to apply for meal benefits for their students.

Assistance from county social services may be requested by the building principal, food service director, school social worker or superintendent of schools for possible neglect when attempts to resolve the unpaid meal debt are not successful or disregarded by the parent(s) or guardian(s).

The school district will make reasonable efforts to collect unpaid meal charges classified as delinquent debt. Unpaid meal charges are designated as delinquent debt when payment is overdue, the debt is considered collectable, and efforts are being made to collect it. Collection options for delinquent unpaid meal accounts may include, but are not limited to, use of collection agencies, claims in conciliation court, or any other legal methods permitted by law.

During the year meal statements will be sent monthly to families with unpaid balances due to non-payment of meal charges, meal charges incurred prior to qualifying for meal benefits, negative balances incurred during a lapse in meal benefits, or the student has left the district with a negative lunch balance. Meal statements will be sent electronically to the parent(s) or guardian(s) email account on file. If no email account is on file meal statements will be mailed. Invoices will request payment within 30 days.

At the end of the school year, regardless if the meal account is "stale" or not, unpaid meal account balances will be sent meal statement requesting payment within 10 days. If no payment is made after 10 days, accounts that owe \$50 or more will be referred to the District's collection agency.

The school district may not enlist the assistance of non-school district employees, such as volunteers, to engage in debt collection efforts.

The school district may not deny any student the opportunity to participate in graduation ceremonies or other commencement activities due to unpaid meal charges.

V. STAFF MEALS

A. Staff have the option of purchasing meals or ala carte items through a staff meal account. This option is offered to staff as a prepayment meal account. Staff meal accounts require a payroll deduction form be on file with payroll, and maintain a positive account balance. Staff with negative meal account balances will be refused service.

B. The district provides a reoccurring payment option to staff through the online payment system via RevTrak. Staff are encouraged to utilize this option if they struggle to maintain a positive meal account.

C. At the termination of employment any outstanding negative meal account balance will be required to be paid in full or the amount owed will be deducted from the employee's last paycheck. Any positive meal account balance will be refunded to the staff member, or the staff member may elect to donate the balance to the districts meal donation account.

VI. COMMUNICATION OF POLICY

- A. This policy and any pertinent supporting information shall be provided in writing (i.e., mail, email, back to school packet, student handbook, etc.) to:
 - 1. **All households at or before the start of each school year;**
 - 2. **Students and families who transfer into the school district, at the time of enrollment; and**
 - 3. **All school district personnel who are responsible for enforcing this policy.**
- B. The school district will post the policy on the school district's website, in addition to providing the required written notification described above.
- C. If the school district contracts with a third party for its meal services, it will provide the vendor with its school meals policy. The school district will ensure that any third-party provider with whom the school district enters into either an original or modified contract after July 1, 2021, adheres to the school district's school meals policy.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 123B.37 (Prohibited Fees)
Minn. Stat. § 124D.111, (School Meals Policies; Lunch Aid; Food Service Accounting)
42 U.S.C. § 1751 *et seq.* (Healthy and Hunger-Free Kids Act)
7 C.F.R. § 210 *et seq.* (School Lunch Program Regulations)
7 C.F.R. § 220.8 (School Breakfast Program Regulations)
USDA Policy Memorandum SP 46-2016, Unpaid Meal Charges: Local Meal Charge Policies (2016)
USDA Policy Memorandum SP 47-2016, Unpaid Meal Charges: Clarification on Collection of Delinquent Meal Payments (2016)
USDA Policy Memorandum SP 23-2017, Unpaid Meal Charges: Guidance and Q&A

Cross References: None

**INTERNATIONAL FALLS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #361
BOARD POLICY 505**

**Distribution of Non-School-Sponsored Materials on School Premises by Students and Employees
Adopted By Reference
Revised June 2018**

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to protect the exercise of students' and employees' free speech rights, taking into consideration the educational objectives and responsibilities of the school district.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

- A. The school district recognizes that students and employees have the right to express themselves on school property. This protection includes the right to distribute, at a reasonable time and place and in a reasonable manner, non-school-sponsored material.
- B. To protect First Amendment rights, while at the same time preserving the integrity of the educational objectives and responsibilities of the school district, the school board adopts the following regulations and procedures regarding distribution of non-school-sponsored material on school property and at school activities.

III. DEFINITIONS

- A. "Distribute" or "Distribution" means circulation or dissemination of material by means of handing out free copies, selling or offering copies for sale, accepting donations for copies, posting or displaying material, or placing material in internal staff or student mailboxes.
- B. "Non-school-sponsored material" or "unofficial material" includes all materials or objects intended for distribution, except school newspapers, employee newsletters, literary magazines, yearbooks and other publications funded and/or sponsored or authorized by the school. Examples of non-school-sponsored materials include, but are not limited to, leaflets, brochures, buttons, badges, flyers, petitions, posters, and underground newspapers whether written by students or employees or others, and tangible objects.
- C. "Obscene to minors" means:
 - 1. The average person, applying contemporary community standards, would find that the material, taken as a whole, appeals to the prurient interest of minors of the age to whom distribution is requested;
 - 2. The material depicts or describes, in a manner that is patently offensive to prevailing standards in the adult community concerning how such conduct should be presented to minors of the age to whom distribution is requested, sexual conduct such as intimate sexual acts (normal or perverted), masturbation, excretory functions, or lewd exhibition of the genitals; and
 - 3. The material, taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value for minors.
- D. "Minor" means any person under the age of eighteen (18).
- E. "Material and substantial disruption" of a normal school activity means:
 - 1. Where the normal school activity is an educational program of the district for which student attendance is compulsory, "material and substantial disruption" is defined as any disruption which interferes with or impedes the implementation of that program.
 - 2. Where the normal school activity is voluntary in nature (including school athletic events, school plays and concerts, and lunch periods) "material and substantial disruption" is defined as student rioting, unlawful seizures of property, conduct

inappropriate to the event, participation in a school boycott, demonstration, sit-in, stand-in, walk-out, or other related forms of activity.

In order for expression to be considered disruptive, specific facts must exist upon which the likelihood of disruption can be forecast including past experience in the school, current events influencing student activities and behavior, and instances of actual or threatened disruption relating to the written material in question.

- F. "School activities" means any activity sponsored by the school including, but not limited to, classroom work, library activities, physical education classes, official assemblies and other similar gatherings, school athletic contests, band concerts, school plays and other theatrical productions, and in-school lunch periods.
- G. "Libelous" is a false and unprivileged statement about a specific individual that tends to harm the individual's reputation or to lower that individual in the esteem of the community.

IV. GUIDELINES

- A. Students and employees of the school district have the right to distribute, at reasonable times and places as set forth in this policy, and in a reasonable manner, non-school-sponsored material.
- B. Requests for distribution of non-school-sponsored material will be reviewed by the administration on a case-by-case basis. However, distribution of the materials listed below is always prohibited. Material is prohibited that:
 - 1. is obscene to minors;
 - 2. is libelous or slanderous;
 - 3. is pervasively indecent or vulgar or contains any indecent or vulgar language or representations, with a determination made as to the appropriateness of the material for the age level of students to which it is intended;
 - 4. advertises or promotes any product or service not permitted to minors by law;
 - 5. advocates violence or other illegal conduct;
 - 6. constitutes insulting or fighting words, the very expression of which injures or harasses other people (e.g., threats of violence, defamation of character or of a person's race, religious or ethnic origin);
 - 7. presents a clear and present likelihood that, either because of its content or the manner of distribution, it will cause a material and substantial disruption of the proper and orderly operation and discipline of the school or school activities, will cause the commission of unlawful acts or the violation of lawful school regulations.
- C. Distribution by students and employees of non-school-sponsored materials on school district property are subject to reasonable time, place, and manner restrictions set forth below. In making decisions regarding the time, place, and manner of distribution, the administration will consider factors including, but not limited to, the following:
 - 1. whether the material is educationally related;
 - 2. the extent to which distribution is likely to cause disruption of or interference with the school district's educational objectives, discipline, or school activities;
 - 3. whether the materials can be distributed from the office or other isolated location so as to minimize disruption of traffic flow in hallways;
 - 4. the quantity or size of materials to be distributed;
 - 5. whether distribution would require assignment of school district staff, use of school district equipment, or other resources;
 - 6. whether distribution would require that non-school persons be present on the school grounds;
 - 7. whether the materials are a solicitation for goods or services not requested by the recipients.

V. TIME, PLACE, AND MANNER OF DISTRIBUTION

- A. No non-school-sponsored material shall be distributed during and at the place of a normal school activity if it is reasonably likely to cause a material and substantial disruption of that activity.
- B. Distribution of non-school-sponsored material is prohibited when it blocks the safe flow of traffic within corridors and entrance ways of the school, and school parking lots. Distribution shall not impede entrance to or exit from school premises in any way.
- C. No one shall coerce a student or staff member to accept any publication.
- D. The time, place, and manner of distribution will be solely within the discretion of the administration, consistent with the provisions of this policy.

VI. PROCEDURES

- A. Any student or employee wishing to distribute (as defined in this policy) non-school-sponsored material must first submit for approval a copy of the material to the principal at least 24 hours in advance of desired distribution time, together with the following information:
 - 1. Name and phone number of the person submitting the request and, if a student, the room number of his or her first-period class.
 - 2. Date(s) and time(s) of day intended for distribution.
 - 3. Location where material will be distributed.
 - 4. If material is intended for students, the grade(s) of students to whom the distribution is intended.
- B. Within one school day, the principal will review the request and render a decision. In the event that permission to distribute the material is denied or limited, the person submitting the request should be informed in writing of the reasons for the denial or limitation.
- C. If the person submitting the request does not receive a response within one school day, the person shall contact the office to verify that the lack of response was not due to an inability to locate the person.
- D. *If the person is dissatisfied with the decision of the principal, the person may submit a written request for appeal to the superintendent. If the person does not receive a response within three (3) school days (not counting Saturdays, Sundays and holidays) of*

submitting the appeal, the person shall contact the office of the superintendent to verify that the lack of response is not due to an inability to locate the person.

- E. Permission or denial of permission to distribute material does not imply approval or disapproval of its contents by either the school, the administration of the school, the school board, or the individual reviewing the material submitted.

VII. DISCIPLINARY ACTION

- A. Distribution by any student of non-school-sponsored material prohibited herein or in violation of the provisions of time, place, and manner of distribution as described above will be halted and disciplinary action will be taken in accordance with the school district's Student Discipline Policy.
- B. Distribution by any employee of non-school-sponsored material prohibited herein or in violation of the provisions of time, place, and manner of distribution as described above will be halted and appropriate disciplinary action will be taken, in accordance with any individual contract, collective bargaining agreement, school district policies and procedures, and/or governing statute.
- C. Any other party violating this policy will be requested to leave the school property immediately and, if necessary, the police will be called.

VIII. NOTICE OF POLICY TO STUDENTS AND EMPLOYEES

A copy of this policy will be published in student handbooks and posted in school buildings.

IX. IMPLEMENTATION

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

[Note: School districts are encouraged to consider additional guidelines which reflect varied local practices relating to this subject matter including addressing the subject of consistency and uniformity for approving or disapproving practices under this policy.]

- Legal References:** U. S. Const., amend. I
Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier, 484 U.S. 260, 108 S.Ct. 562, 98 L.Ed.2d 592 (1988)
Bethel Sch. Dist. No. 403 v. Fraser, 478 U.S. 675, 106 S.Ct. 3159, 92 L.Ed.2d 549 (1986)
Tinker v. Des Moines Indep. Sch. Dist., 393 U.S. 503, 89 S.Ct. 733, 21 L.Ed.2d 731 (1969)
Bystrom v. Fridley High School, 822 F.2d 747 (8th Cir. 1986)
Roark v. South Iron R-1 School Dist., 573 F.3d 556 (8th Cir. 2009)
Victory Through Jesus Sports Ministry Foundation v. Lee's Summit R-7 School Dist., 640 F.3d 329 (8th Cir. 2011), cert. denied 565 U.S. 1036, 132 S.Ct. 592 (2011)
- Cross References:** MSBA/MASA Model Policy 403 (Discipline, Suspension and Dismissal of School District Employees)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 506 (Student Discipline)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 512 (School-Sponsored Student Publications)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 904 (Distribution of Materials on School District Property by Non-school Persons)

**INTERNATIONAL FALLS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #361
BOARD POLICY 709
Student Transportation Safety Policy
Adopted ___ By Reference ___
Revised ___ July 2023 ___**

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide safe transportation for students and to educate students on safety issues and the responsibilities of school bus ridership.

II. PLAN FOR STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SAFETY TRAINING

- A. School Bus Safety Week
The school district may designate a school bus safety week. The National School Bus Safety Week is the third week in October.
- B. Student School Bus Safety Training
 - 1. The school district shall provide students enrolled in grades pre-kindergarten through 10 with age-appropriate school bus safety training of the following concepts:
 - a. transportation by school bus is a privilege, not a right;
 - b. school district policies for student conduct and school bus safety;
 - c. appropriate conduct while on the bus;
 - d. the danger zones surrounding a school bus;
 - e. procedures for safely boarding and leaving a school bus;
 - f. procedures for safe vehicle lane crossing; and
 - g. school bus evacuation and other emergency procedures.
 - 2. All students in grades pre-K through 6 who are transported by school bus and are enrolled during the first or second week of school must receive the school bus safety training by the end of the third week of school. All students in grades 7 through 10 who are transported by school bus and are enrolled during the first or second week of school must receive the school bus safety training or receive bus safety instruction materials by the end of the sixth week of school, if they have not previously received school bus training. Students in grades pre-K through 10 who enroll in a school

after the second week of school, are transported by school bus, and have not received training in their previous school districts shall undergo school bus safety training or receive bus safety instructional materials within 4 weeks of their first day of attendance.

3. The school district and a nonpublic school with students transported by school bus at public expense must provide students enrolled in grades pre-K through 3 school bus safety training twice during the school year.
4. Students taking driver's training instructional classes must receive training in the laws and proper procedures for operating a motor vehicle in the vicinity of a school bus as required by Minnesota Statutes chapter 169.446, subdivision 2.
5. The school district and a nonpublic school with students transported by school bus at public expense must conduct a school bus evacuation drill at least once during the school year.
6. The school district will make reasonable accommodations in training for students known to speak English as a second language and students with disabilities.
7. The school district may provide pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students with school bus safety training before the first day of school.
8. The school district shall adopt and make available for public review a curriculum for transportation safety education.
9. Nonpublic school students transported by the school district will receive school bus safety training by their nonpublic school. The nonpublic schools may use the school district's school transportation safety education curriculum. Upon request by the school district superintendent, the nonpublic school must certify to the school district's school transportation safety director that all students enrolled in grades K through 10 have received the appropriate training.

C. Active Transportation Safety Training

1. Training required

- a. The school district must provide public school pupils enrolled in kindergarten through grade 3 with age-appropriate active transportation safety training. At a minimum, the training must include pedestrian safety, including crossing roads.
- b. The school district must provide pupils enrolled in grades 4 through 8 with age-appropriate active transportation safety training. At a minimum, the training must include
 - (1) pedestrian safety, including crossing roads safely using the searching left, right, left for vehicles in traffic technique; and
 - (2) bicycle safety, including relevant traffic laws, use and proper fit of protective headgear, bicycle parts and safety features, and safe biking techniques.

2. Deadlines.

- a. Students under subdivision 1, paragraph (a), who are enrolled during the first or second week of school and have not previously received active transportation safety training specified in that paragraph must receive the safety training by the end of the third week of school.
- b. Students under subdivision 1, paragraph (b), who are enrolled during the first or second week of school and have not previously received active transportation safety training specified in that paragraph must receive the safety training by the end of the sixth week of school.
- c. Students under subdivision 1, paragraph (a) or (b), who enroll in a school after the second week of school and have not received the appropriate active transportation safety training in their previous school district must undergo the training or receive active transportation safety instructional materials within four weeks of the first day of attendance.
- d. The school district and a nonpublic school may provide kindergarten pupils with active transportation safety training before the first day of school.

3. Instruction

- a. The school district may provide active transportation safety training through distance learning.
- b. The district and a nonpublic school must make reasonable accommodations for the active transportation safety training of pupils known to speak English as a second language and pupils with disabilities.

III. CONDUCT ON SCHOOL BUSES AND CONSEQUENCES FOR MISBEHAVIOR

- A. Riding the school bus is a privilege, not a right. The school district's general student behavior rules are in effect for all students on school buses; including nonpublic and charter school students.
- B. Consequences for school bus/bus stop misconduct will be imposed by the school district under adopted administrative discipline procedures. In addition, all school bus/bus stop misconduct will be reported to the school district's transportation safety director. Serious misconduct may be reported to local law enforcement.
 1. School Bus and Bus Stop Rules. The school district school bus safety rules are to be posted on every bus. If these rules are broken, the school district's discipline procedures are to be followed. In most circumstances, consequences are progressive and may include suspension of bus privileges. It is the school bus driver's responsibility to report unacceptable behavior to the school district's Transportation Office/School Office.
 2. Rules at the Bus Stop
 - a. Get to your bus stop 5 minutes before your scheduled pick up time. The school bus driver will not wait for late students.
 - b. Respect the property of others while waiting at your bus stop.
 - c. Keep your arms, legs, and belongings to yourself.
 - d. Use appropriate language.

- e. Stay away from the street, road, or highway when waiting for the bus.
- f. Wait until the bus stops before approaching the bus.
- g. After getting off the bus, move away from the bus.
- h. If you must cross the street, always cross in front of the bus where the driver can see you. Wait for the driver to signal to you before crossing the street.
- i. No fighting, harassment, intimidation, or horseplay.
- j. No use of alcohol, tobacco, or drugs.

3. Rules on the Bus

- a. Immediately follow the directions of the driver.
- b. Sit in your seat facing forward.
- c. Talk quietly and use appropriate language.
- d. Keep all parts of your body inside the bus.
- e. Keep your arms, legs, and belongings to yourself.
- f. No fighting, harassment, intimidation, or horseplay.
- g. Do not throw any object.
- h. No use of alcohol, tobacco, or drugs.
- i. Do not bring any weapons or dangerous objects on the school bus.
- j. Do not damage the school bus.

4. Consequences

In the interest of the safety and comfort of bus students, ISD #361 has a student management and bus suspension policy that is fair to all students. When a student breaks a ridership rule the driver will enter the infraction on the student management system. It will then be determined if the infraction deserves a warning or if points need to be given to the student. The bus driver may consult the building principal on the severity of the infraction, but the building principal will have final say on the allocation of points and/or other disciplinary actions. The point system is as follows:

Warning.....	0 points
Excessive noise.....	1 – 5 points
Abusive language.....	1 – 15 points
Damaging bus property.....	5 – 15 points
Unsafe behavior.....	5 – 15 points
Disobeying the driver.....	5 – 10 points
Injury to others.....	5 – 15 points
Other.....	1 – 15 points
15 points = 3 day suspension	
30 points = 5 day suspension	
45 points = 10 day suspension	
60 points = loss of bus riding privileges for the remainder of the school year	

(This schedule and discipline policy may be adjusted to accommodate students with disabilities).

For flagrant violations or incidents that endanger other students, an immediate suspension will occur. The suspension is from all school buses. The suspension is for bus riding only. Attendance at school is still required.

The 1994 legislature established that riding a school bus is a privilege, not a right. Bus riding privileges may be revoked for failing to demonstrate knowledge of school bus safety principles.

Student safety at the bus stops and on the bus is our number one concern. Students that make the bus ride unsafe will be dealt with immediately and disciplined accordingly.

5. Other Discipline

Based on the severity of a student’s conduct, more serious consequences may be imposed at any time. Depending on the nature of the offense, consequences such as suspension or expulsion from school also may result from school bus/bus stop misconduct.

6. Records

Records of school bus/bus stop misconduct will be forwarded to the individual school building and will be retained in the same manner as other student discipline records. Reports of student misbehavior on a school bus or in a bus-loading or unloading area that are reasonably believed to cause an immediate and substantial danger to the student or surrounding persons or property shall be provided by the school district to local law enforcement and the Department of Public Safety in accordance with state and federal law.

7. Vandalism/Bus Damage

Students damaging school buses will be responsible for the damages. Failure to pay such damages (or make arrangements to pay) within 2 weeks may result in the loss of bus privileges until damages are paid.

8. Notice

School bus and bus stop rules and consequences for violations of these rules will be reviewed with students annually and copies of these rules will be made available to students. School bus rules are to be posted on each school bus.

9. Criminal Conduct

In cases involving criminal conduct (for example, assault, weapons, drug possession, or vandalism), the appropriate school district personnel and local law enforcement officials will be informed.

IV. PARENT AND GUARDIAN INVOLVEMEN

A. Parent and Guardian Notification

The school district school bus and bus stop rules will be provided to each family. Parents and guardians are asked to review the rules with their children.

B. Parents/Guardians Responsibilities for Transportation Safety

Parents/Guardians are responsible to:

1. Become familiar with school district rules, policies, regulations, and the principles of school bus safety, and thoroughly review them with their children;
2. Support safe riding and walking practices, and recognize that students are responsible for their actions;
3. Communicate safety concerns to their school administrators;
4. Monitor bus stops, if possible;
5. Have their children to the bus stop five minutes before the bus arrives;
6. Have their children properly dressed for the weather; and
7. Have a plan in case the bus is late.
8. Be visible to driver when dropping off students ages pre-K through 1st grade.

V. SCHOOL BUS DRIVER DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. School bus drivers shall have a valid Class A, B, or C Minnesota driver's license with a school bus endorsement. A person possessing a valid driver's license, without a school bus endorsement, may drive a type III vehicle set forth in Sections VII.B. and VII.C., below. Drivers with a valid Class D driver's license, without a school bus endorsement, may operate a "type A-I" school bus as set forth in Section VII.D., below.
- B. The school district shall conduct mandatory drug and alcohol testing of all school district bus drivers and bus driver applicants in accordance with state and federal law and school district policy.
- C. A school bus driver, with the exception of a driver operating a type A-1 school bus or type III vehicle, who has a commercial driver's license and who is convicted of a criminal offense, a serious traffic violation, or of violating any other state or local law relating to motor vehicle traffic control, other than a parking violation, in any type of motor vehicle in a state or jurisdiction other than Minnesota, shall notify the Minnesota Division of Driver and Vehicle Services (Division) of the conviction within 30 days of the conviction. For purposes of this paragraph, a "serious traffic violation" means a conviction of any of the following offenses:
1. excessive speeding, involving any single offense for any speed of 15 miles per hour or more above the posted speed limit;
 2. reckless driving;
 3. improper or erratic traffic lane changes;
 4. following the vehicle ahead too closely;
 5. a violation of state or local law, relating to motor vehicle traffic control, arising in connection with a fatal accident;
 6. driving a commercial vehicle without obtaining a commercial driver's license or without having a commercial driver's license in the driver's possession.
 7. driving a commercial vehicle without the proper class of commercial driver's license and/or endorsements for the specific vehicle group being operated or for the passengers or type of cargo being transported;
 8. a violation of a state or local law prohibiting texting while driving a commercial vehicle; and
 9. a violation of a state or local law prohibiting the use of a hand-held mobile telephone while driving a commercial vehicle.
- D. A school bus driver, with the exception of a driver operating a type A-1 school bus or type III vehicle, who has a commercial driver's license and who is convicted of violating, in any type of motor vehicle, a Minnesota state or local law relating to motor vehicle traffic control, other than a parking violation, shall notify the person's employer of the conviction within 30 days of conviction. The notification shall be in writing and shall contain all the information set forth in Attachment A accompanying this policy.
- E. A school bus driver, with the exception of a driver operating a type A-1 school bus, who has a Minnesota commercial driver's license suspended, revoked, or cancelled by the state of Minnesota or any other state or jurisdiction, and who loses the right to operate a commercial vehicle for any period, or who is disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle for any period, shall notify the person's employer of the suspension, revocation, cancellation, lost privilege, or disqualification. Such notification shall be made before the end of the business day following the day the employee received notice of the suspension, revocation, cancellation, lost privilege, or disqualification. The notification shall be in writing and shall contain all the information set forth in Attachment B accompanying this policy.
- F. A person who operates a type III vehicle and who sustains a conviction as described in Section VII.C.1.g. (*i.e.*, driving while impaired offenses), VII.C.1.h. (*i.e.*, felony, controlled substance, criminal sexual conduct offenses, or offenses for surreptitious observation, indecent exposure, use of minor in a sexual performance, or possession of child pornography or display of pornography to a minor), or VII.C.1.i. (multiple moving violations) while employed by the entity that owns, leases, or contracts for the school bus, shall report the conviction to the person's employer within 10 days of the date of the conviction. The notification shall be in writing and shall contain all the information set forth in Attachment C accompanying this policy.

VI. SCHOOL BUS DRIVER TRAINING

A. Training

1. All new school bus drivers shall be provided with pre-service training, including in-vehicle (actual driving) instruction, before transporting students and shall meet the competency testing specified in the Minnesota Department of Public Safety Model School Bus Driver Training Manual. All school bus drivers shall receive in-service training annually. For purposes of this section, “annually” means at least once every 380 days from the initial or previous evaluation and at least once every 380 days from the initial or previous license verification. The school district shall retain on file an annual individual school bus driver “evaluation certification” form for each school district driver as contained in the Model School Bus Driver Training Manual.
2. All bus drivers operating a type III vehicle will be provided with annual training and certification as set forth in Section VII.C.1.b., below, by either the school district or the entity from whom such services are contracted by the school district.

B. Evaluation

School bus drivers with a Class D license will be evaluated annually and all other bus drivers will be assessed periodically for the following competencies:

1. Safely operate the type of school bus the driver will be driving;
2. Understand student behavior, including issues relating to students with disabilities;
3. Ensure orderly conduct of students on the bus and handling incidents of misconduct appropriately;
4. Know and understand relevant laws, rules of the road, and local school bus safety policies;
5. Handle emergency situations; and
6. Safely load and unload students.

The evaluation must include completion of an individual “school bus driver evaluation form” (road test evaluation) as contained in the Model School Bus Driver Training Manual.

VII. OPERATING RULES AND PROCEDURES

A. General Operating Rules

1. School buses shall be operated in accordance with state traffic and school bus safety laws and the procedures contained in the Minnesota Department of Public Safety Model School Bus Driver Training Manual.
2. Only students assigned to the school bus by the school district shall be transported. The number of students or other authorized passengers transported in a school bus shall not be more than the legal capacity for the bus. No person shall be allowed to stand when the bus is in motion.
3. The parent/guardian may designate, pursuant to school district policy, a day care facility, respite care facility, the residence of a relative, or the residence of a person chosen by the parent or guardian as the address of the student for transportation purposes. The address must be in the attendance area of the assigned school and meet all other eligibility requirements.
4. Bus drivers must minimize, to the extent practical, the idling of school bus engines and exposure of children to diesel exhaust fumes.
5. To the extent practical, the school district will designate school bus loading/unloading zones at a sufficient distance from school air-intake systems to avoid diesel fumes from being drawn into the systems.
6. A bus driver may not operate a school bus while communicating over, or otherwise operating, a cellular phone for personal reasons, whether hand-held or hands free, when the vehicle is in motion or a part of traffic. For purposes of this paragraph, “school bus” has the meaning given in Minnesota Statutes section 169.011 subdivision 71. In addition, “school bus” also includes type III vehicles when driven by employees or agents of the school district. “Cellular phone” means a cellular, analog, wireless, or digital telephone capable of sending or receiving telephone or text messages without an access line for service.

B. Type III Vehicles

1. Type III vehicles are restricted to passenger cars, station wagons, vans, and buses having a maximum manufacturer’s rated seating capacity of 10 or fewer people including the driver and a gross vehicle weight rating of 10,000 pounds or less. A van or bus converted to a seating capacity of 10 or fewer and placed in service on or after August 1, 1999, must have been originally manufactured to comply with the passenger safety standards.
2. Type III vehicles must be painted a color other than national school bus yellow.
3. Type III vehicles shall be state inspected in accordance with legal requirements.

Vehicles model year 2007 or older must not be used as type III vehicles to transport school children, except those vehicles that are manufactured to meet the structural requirements of federal motor vehicle safety standard 222, Code of Federal Regulations, title 49, part 571.

4. If a type III vehicle is school district owned, the school district name will be clearly marked on the side of the vehicle. The type III vehicle must not have the words “school bus” in any location on the exterior of the vehicle or in any interior location visible to a motorist.
5. A “type III vehicle” must not be outwardly equipped and identified as a type A, B, C, or D bus.
6. Eight-lamp warning systems and stop arms must not be installed or used on type III vehicles.
7. Type III vehicles must be equipped with mirrors as required by law.

8. Any type III vehicle may not stop traffic and may not load or unload before making a complete stop and disengaging gears by shifting into neutral or park. Any type III vehicle used to transport students must not load or unload so that a student has to cross the road, except where not possible or impractical, then the driver or assistant must escort a student across the road. If the driver escorts the student across the road, then the motor must be stopped, the ignition key removed, the brakes set, and the vehicle otherwise rendered immobile.
9. Any type III vehicle used to transport students must carry emergency equipment including:
- a. Fire extinguisher. A minimum of one 10BC rated dry chemical type fire extinguisher is required. The extinguisher must be mounted in a bracket, and must be located in the driver's compartment and be readily accessible to the driver and passengers. A pressure indicator is required and must be easily read without removing the extinguisher from its mounted position.
 - b. First aid kit and body fluids cleanup kit. A minimum of a 10-unit first aid kit and a body fluids cleanup kit is required. They must be contained in removable, moisture- and dust-proof containers mounted in an accessible place within the driver's compartment and must be marked to indicate their identity and location.
 - c. Passenger cars and station wagons may carry a fire extinguisher, a first aid kit, and warning triangles in the trunk or trunk area of the vehicle if a label in the driver and front passenger area clearly indicates the location of these items.
10. Students will not be regularly transported in private vehicles that are not state inspected as type III vehicles. Only emergency, unscheduled transportation may be conducted in vehicles with a seating capacity of 10 or fewer without meeting the requirements for a type III vehicle. Also, parents may use a private vehicle to transport their own children under a contract with the district. The school district has no system of inspection for private vehicles.
11. All drivers of type III vehicles will be licensed drivers and will be familiar with the use of required emergency equipment. The school district will not knowingly allow a person to operate a type III vehicle if the person has been convicted of an offense that disqualifies the person from operating a school bus.
12. Type III vehicles will be equipped with child passenger restraints, and child passenger restraints will be utilized to the extent required by law.

C. Type III Vehicle Driven by Employees with a Driver's License Without a School Bus Endorsement

1. The holder of a Class A, B, C, or D driver's license, without a school bus endorsement, may operate a type III vehicle, described above, under the following conditions:
 - a. The operator is an employee of the entity that owns, leases, or contracts for the school bus, which may include the school district.
 - b. The operator's employer, which may include the school district, has adopted and implemented a policy that provides for annual training and certification of the operator in:
 - (1) safe operation of a type III vehicle;
 - (2) understanding student behavior, including issues relating to students with disabilities;
 - (3) encouraging orderly conduct of students on the bus and handling incidents of misconduct appropriately;
 - (4) knowing and understanding relevant laws, rules of the road, and local school bus safety policies;
 - (5) handling emergency situations;
 - (6) proper use of seat belts and child safety restraints;
 - (7) performance of pretrip vehicle inspections; and
 - (8) safe loading and unloading of students, including, but not limited to:
 - (a) utilizing a safe location for loading and unloading students at the curb, on the nontraffic side of the roadway, or at off-street loading areas, driveways, yards, and other areas to enable the student to avoid hazardous conditions;
 - (b) refraining from loading and unloading students in a vehicular traffic lane, on the shoulder, in a designated turn lane, or a lane adjacent to a designated turn lane;
 - (c) avoiding a loading or unloading location that would require a student to cross a road, or ensuring that the driver or an aide personally escort the student across the road if it is not reasonably feasible to avoid such a location; and
 - (d) placing the type III vehicle in "park" during loading and unloading.
 - (e) escorting a student across the road under clause (c) only after the motor is stopped, the ignition key is removed, the brakes are set, and the vehicle is otherwise rendered immobile; and
- (9) compliance with paragraph V,F. concerning reporting convictions to the employer within 10 days of the date of conviction.
- c. A background check or background investigation of the operator has been conducted that meets the requirements under Minnesota Statutes section 122A.18, subdivision 8, or Minnesota Statutes section 123B.03 for school district employees; Minnesota Statutes section 144.057 or Minnesota Statutes chapter 245C for day care employees; or Minnesota Statutes section 171.321, subdivision 3, for all other persons operating a type III vehicle under this section.
 - d. Operators shall submit to a physical examination as required by Minnesota Statutes section 171.321, subdivision 2.
 - e. The operator's employer requires pre-employment drug testing of applicants for operator positions. Current operators must comply with the employer's policy under Minnesota Statutes section 181.951, Subdivisions 2, 4, and 5. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the operator's employer may use a breathalyzer or similar device to fulfill random alcohol testing requirements.

- f. The operator's driver's license is verified annually by the entity that owns, leases, or contracts for the type III vehicle as required by Minnesota Statutes section 171.321, subdivision 5.
 - g. A person who sustains a conviction, as defined under Minnesota Statutes section 609.02, of violating Minnesota Statutes sections 169A.25, 169A.26, 169A.27 (driving while impaired offenses), or § 169A.31 (alcohol-related school bus driver offenses), or whose driver's license is revoked under Minnesota Statutes sections 169A.50 to 169A.53 of the implied consent law, or who is convicted of violating, or whose driver's license is revoked under a similar statute or ordinance of another state, is precluded from operating a type III vehicle for 5 years from the date of conviction.
 - h. A person who has ever been convicted of a disqualifying offense as defined in Minnesota Statutes section 171.3215, subdivision 1(c), (*i.e.*, felony, controlled substance, criminal sexual conduct offenses, or offenses for surreptitious observation, indecent exposure, use of minor in a sexual performance, or possession of child pornography or display of pornography to a minor) may not operate a type III vehicle.
 - i. A person who sustains a conviction, as defined under Minnesota Statutes section 609.02, of a moving offense in violation Minnesota Statutes chapter 169 within 3 years of the first of 3 other moving offenses is precluded from operating a type III vehicle for 1 year from the date of the last conviction.
 - j. Students riding the type III vehicle must have training required under Minnesota Statutes section 123B.90, subdivision 2 (See Section II.B., above).
 - k. Documentation of meeting the requirements listed in this section must be maintained under separate file at the business location for each type III vehicle operator. The school district or any other entity that owns, leases, or contracts for the type III vehicle operating under this section is responsible for maintaining these files for inspection.
2. The type III vehicle must bear a current certificate of inspection issued under Minnesota Statutes section 169.451.
 3. An employee of the school district who is not employed for the sole purpose of operating a type III vehicle may, in the discretion of the school district, be exempt from paragraphs VII.C.1.d (physical examination) and VII.C.1.e (drug testing), above.

D. Type A-I "Activity" Buses Driven by Employees with a Driver's License Without a School Bus Endorsement

1. The holder of a Class D driver's license, without a school bus endorsement, may operate a type A-I school bus or a Multifunctional School Activity Bus (MFSAB) under the following conditions:
 - a. The operator is an employee of the school district or an independent contractor with whom the school district contracts for the school bus and is not solely hired to provide transportation services under this paragraph.
 - b. The operator drives the school bus only from points of origin to points of destination, not including home-to-school trips to pick up or drop off students.
 - c. The operator is prohibited from using the 8-light system if the vehicle is so equipped.
 - d. The operator has submitted to a background check and physical examination as required by Minnesota Statutes section 171.321, subdivision 2.
 - e. The operator has a valid driver's license and has not sustained a conviction of a disqualifying offense as set forth in Minnesota Statutes section 171.02,- subdivisions 2a(h) - 2a(j).
 - f. The operator has been trained in the proper use of child safety restraints as set forth in the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's "Guideline for the Safe Transportation of Pre-school Age Children in School Buses," if child safety restraints are used by passengers, in addition to the training required in Section VI., above.
 - g. The bus has a gross vehicle weight rating of 14,500 pounds or less and is designed to transport 15 or fewer passengers, including the driver.
2. The school district shall maintain annual certification of the requirements listed in this section for each Class D license operator.
3. A school bus operated under this section must bear a current certificate of inspection.
4. The word "School" on the front and rear of the bus must be covered by a sign that reads "Activities" when the bus is being operated under authority of this section.

VIII. SCHOOL DISTRICT EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

- A. If possible, school bus drivers or their supervisors shall call "911" or the local emergency phone number in the event of a serious emergency.
- B. School bus drivers shall meet the emergency training requirements contained in Unit III "Crash & Emergency Preparedness" of the Minnesota Department of Public Safety Model School Bus Driver Training Manual. This includes procedures in the event of a crash (accident).
- C. School bus drivers and bus assistants for special education students requiring special transportation service because of their handicapping condition shall be trained in basic first aid procedures, shall within 1 month after the effective date of assignment participate in a program of in-service training on the proper methods for dealing with the specific needs and problems of students with disabilities, assist students with disabilities on and off the bus when necessary for their safe ingress and egress from the bus; and ensure that protective safety devices are in use and fastened properly.
- D. Emergency Health Information shall be maintained on the school bus for students requiring special transportation service because of their handicapping condition. The information shall state:
 1. the student's name and address;
 2. the nature of the student's disabilities;

3. emergency health care information; and
4. the names and telephone numbers of the student's physician, parents, guardians, or custodians, and some person other than the student's parents or custodians who can be contacted in case of an emergency.

IX. SCHOOL DISTRICT VEHICLE MAINTENANCE STANDARDS

- A. All school vehicles shall be maintained in safe operating conditions through a systematic preventive maintenance and inspection program adopted or approved by the school district.
- B. All school vehicles shall be state inspected in accordance with legal requirements.
- C. A copy of the current daily pre-trip inspection report must be carried in the bus. Daily pre-trip inspections shall be maintained on file in accordance with the school district's record retention schedule. Prompt reports of defects to be immediately corrected will be submitted.
- D. Daily post-trip inspections shall be performed to check for any children or lost items remaining on the bus and for vandalism.

X. SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY DIRECTOR

The school board has designated an individual to serve as the school district's school transportation safety director. The school transportation safety director shall have day-to-day responsibility for student transportation safety, including transportation of nonpublic school children when provided by the school district. The school transportation safety director will assure that this policy is periodically reviewed to ensure that it conforms to law. The school transportation safety director shall certify annually to the school board that each school bus driver meets the school bus driver training competencies required by Minnesota Statutes section 171.321, subdivision 4. The transportation safety director also shall annually verify or ensure that the private contractor utilized by the school has verified the validity of the driver's license of each employee who regularly transports students for the school district in a type A, B, C, or D school bus, type III vehicle, or MFSAB with the National Driver Register or the Department of Public Safety. Upon request of the school district superintendent or the superintendent of the school district where nonpublic students are transported, the school transportation safety director also shall certify to the superintendent that students have received school bus safety training in accordance with state law. The name, address and telephone number of the school transportation safety director are on file in the school district office. Any questions regarding student transportation or this policy may be addressed to the school transportation safety director.

XI. STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SAFETY COMMITTEE

The school board may establish a student transportation safety committee. The chair of the student transportation safety committee is the school district's school transportation safety director. The school board shall appoint the other members of the student transportation safety committee. Membership may include parents, school bus drivers, representatives of school bus companies, local law enforcement officials, other school district staff, and representatives from other units of local government.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 122A.18, Subd. 8 (Board to Issue Licenses)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.03 (Background Check)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.42 (Textbooks; Individual Instruction or Cooperative Learning Material; Standard Tests)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.88 (Independent School Districts; Transportation)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.885 (Diesel School Buses; Operation of Engine; Parking)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.90 (School Bus Safety Training)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.91 (School District Bus Safety Responsibilities)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.935 (Active Transportation Safety Training)
Minn. Stat. § 144.057 (Background Studies on Licensees and Other Personnel)
Minn. Stat. Ch. 169 (Traffic Regulations)
Minn. Stat. § 169.011, Subds. 15, 16, and 71 (Definitions)
Minn. Stat. § 169.02 (Scope)
Minn. Stat. § 169.443 (Safety of School Children; Bus Driver's Duties)
Minn. Stat. § 169.446, Subd. 2 (Safety of School Children; Training and Education Rules)
Minn. Stat. § 169.451 (Inspecting School and Head Start Buses; Rules; Misdemeanor)
Minn. Stat. § 169.454 (Type III Vehicle Standards)
Minn. Stat. § 169.4582 (Reportable Offense on School Buses)
Minn. Stat. §§ 169A.25-169A.27 (Driving While Impaired)
Minn. Stat. § 169A.31 (Alcohol-Related School Bus or Head Start Bus Driving)
Minn. Stat. §§ 169A.50-169A.53 (Implied Consent Law)
Minn. Stat. § 171.02, Subds. 2, 2a, and 2b (Licenses; Types, Endorsements, Restrictions)
Minn. Stat. § 171.168 (Notice of Violation by Commercial Driver)
Minn. Stat. § 171.169 (Notice of Commercial License Suspension)
Minn. Stat. § 171.321 (Qualifications of School Bus and Type III Vehicle Drivers)
Minn. Stat. § 171.3215, Subd. 1(c) (Canceling Bus Endorsement for Certain Offenses)
Minn. Stat. § 181.951 (Authorized Drug and Alcohol Testing)
Minn. Stat. Ch. 245C (Human Services Background Studies)
Minn. Stat. § 609.02 (Definitions)
Minn. Rules Parts 7470.1000-7470.1700 (School Bus Inspection)
49 C.F.R. Part 383 (Commercial Driver's License Standards; Requirements and Penalties)
49 C.F.R. § 383.31 (Notification of Convictions for Driver Violations)
49 C.F.R. § 383.33 (Notification of Driver's License Suspensions)
49 C.F.R. § 383.5 (Transportation Definitions)
49 C.F.R. § 383.51 (Disqualification of Drivers)
[49 C.F.R. Part 571 \(Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards\)](#)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 416 (Drug and Alcohol Testing)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 506 (Student Discipline)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 515 (Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 707 (Transportation of Public Students)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 708 (Transportation of Nonpublic Students)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 710 (Extracurricular Transportation)

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #361
BOARD POLICY 614
School District Testing Plan and Procedure
Adopted ___ By Reference ___
Revised ___ December 2022 ___

I. PURPOSE

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

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The policy of the school district is to implement procedures for testing, test security, documentation, and record keeping.

III. DUTIES OF SCHOOL DISTRICT PERSONNEL REGARDING TEST ADMINISTRATION

[Note: This listing of school personnel may not be consistent with the personnel in the school district and, consequently, should be amended to reflect the personnel with responsibility for testing in the school district.]

A. Superintendent

1. Responsibilities before testing.
 - a. Designate a district assessment coordinator and district technology coordinator.
 - b. The superintendent, or designee who has been authorized to be the identified official with authority by the school board, pre-authorizes staff access for applicable Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) secure systems.
 - c. Annually review and recertify staff who have access to MDE secure systems.
 - d. Read and complete the *Assurance of Test Security and Non-Disclosure*. *[Note: This form is available on the Minnesota PearsonAccess Next website-see Cross References for website address.]*
 - e. Establish a culture of academic integrity.
 - f. Fully cooperate with MDE representatives conducting site visits or Minnesota Test of Academic Skills (MTAS) audits during testing.
 - g. Ensure student information is current and accurate.
 - h. Ensure that a current district test security procedure is in place and that all relevant staff have been provided district training on test administration and test security.
 - i. Ensure that a current process is included for tracking which students tested with which test monitors and any other adult(s) who were present in the testing room (e.g. staff providing assistance, paraprofessionals, etc.)
 - j. Confirm the district assessment coordinator has current information and training specific to test security and the administration of statewide assessments.
 - k. Confirm the district assessment coordinator completes Pre-test Editing in the Test Web Edit System (WES).
 - l. Post on the school district website the complete Parent/Guardian Guide and Refusal for Student Participation in Statewide Testing form.
2. Responsibilities after testing.
 - a. Confirm the district assessment coordinator and Minnesota Automated Reporting Student System (MARSS) coordinator complete Post-test Editing in Test WES.
 - b. Verify with the district assessment coordinator that all test security issues have been reported to MDE and are being addressed.
 - c. Confirm the MARSS coordinator has updated all student records for Post-test Editing.
 - d. Confirm the district assessment coordinator has finalized the district's assessment information prior to the close of Post-test Editing in Test WES.
 - e. Confirm the district assessment coordinator, or designee, has access to the Graduation Requirements Records (GRR) system and enters necessary information.
 - f. Discuss assessment results with the district assessment coordinator and school administrators.

B. District Assessment Coordinator

1. Responsibilities before testing.
 - a. Serve as primary contact with MDE regarding policy and procedure questions related to test administration.
 - b. Read and complete the *Assurance of Test Security and Non-Disclosure*.
 - c. Confirm all staff who handle test materials, administer tests, or have access to secure test content have completed the *Assurance of Test Security and Non-Disclosure*.
 - (1) Maintain the completed *Assurance of Test Security and Non-Disclosure* for two years after the end of the academic school year in which testing took place.
 - d. Review with all staff the *Assurance of Test Security and Non-Disclosure* and their responsibilities thereunder.
 - e. Identify appropriate tests for students and ensure student data sent to service providers for testing are correct.
 - f. Establish district testing schedule within the testing windows specified by the MDE and service providers.
 - g. Prepare testing conditions, including user access to service provider websites, preparing readiness for online testing, preparing a plan for tracking which students test on which computers or devices, ensure accommodations are indicated as necessary, providing students with opportunity to become familiar with test format, item types, and tools prior to test administration; establishing process for inventorying and distributing secure test materials where necessary; preparing procedures for expected and unexpected situations occurring during testing; planning

for addressing technical issues while testing; identify staff who will enter student responses from paper accommodated test materials and scores from MTAS administration online.

- h. Train school assessment coordinators, test monitors, MTAS test administrators, and ACCESS (test for English language learners) and Alternate ACCESS test administrators.
 - (1) Provide training on proper test administration and test security (Pearson's Training Management System).
 - (2) Verify staff complete any and all test-specific training.
 - i. Maintain security of test content, test materials, and record of all staff involved.
 - (1) Receive secure paper test materials from the service provider and immediately lock them in a previously identified secure area, inventory same, and contact service provider with any discrepancies.
 - (2) Organize secure test materials for online administrations and keep them secure.
 - j. Define chain of custody for providing test materials to test monitors and administrators. The chain of custody must address the process for providing test materials on the day of testing, distributing test materials to and collecting test materials from students at the time of testing, keeping test materials secure between testing sessions, and returning test materials after testing is completed. Confirm that all students have appropriate test materials.
2. Responsibilities on testing day(s).
 - a. Conduct random, unannounced visits to testing rooms to observe staff adherence to test security and policies and procedures.
 - b. Fully cooperate with MDE representatives conducting site visits or MTAS audits.
 - c. Contact the MDE assessment contact within 24 hours of a security breach and submit the *Test Security Notification* in Test WES within 48 hours.
 3. Address invalidations and test or accountability codes.
 4. Responsibilities after testing.
 - a. Ensure that student responses from paper accommodated test materials and MTAS scores are entered.
 - b. Arrange for secure disposal of all test materials that are not required to be returned within 48 hours after the close of the testing window.
 - c. Return secure test materials as outlined in applicable manuals and resources.
 - d. Collect security documents and maintain them for two years from the end of the academic school year in which testing took place.
 - e. Review student assessment data and resolve any issues.
 - f. Distribute Individual Student Reports no later than fall parent/teacher conferences.

C. School Principal

1. Responsibilities before testing.
 - a. Designate a school assessment coordinator and technology coordinator for the building.
 - b. Be knowledgeable about proper test administration and test security as outlined in manuals and directions.
 - c. Read and complete the *Assurance of Test Security and Non-Disclosure*.
 - d. Communicate the importance of test security and expectation that staff will keep test content secure and act with honesty and integrity during test administration.
 - e. Provide adequate secure storage space for secure test materials before, during, and after testing until they are returned to the service provider or securely disposed of.
 - f. Ensure adequate computers and/or devices are available, and rooms appropriately set up for online testing.
 - g. Verify that all test monitors and test administrators receive proper training for test administration.
 - h. Ensure students taking specified tests have the opportunity to become familiar with test format, item types, and tools prior to test administration.
 - i. Include the complete Parent/Guardian Guide and Refusal for Student Participation in Statewide Testing form in the student handbook.
2. Responsibilities on testing day(s).
 - a. Ensure that test administration policies and procedures and test security requirements in all manuals and directions are followed.
 - b. Fully cooperate with MDE representatives conducting site visits or MTAS audits.
3. Responsibilities after testing.
4.
 - a. Ensure all secure test materials are collected, returned, and/or disposed of securely as required in any manual.
 - b. Ensure requirements for embargoed final assessment results are followed.

D. School Assessment Coordinator

1. Responsibilities before testing.
 - a. Implement test administration and test security policies and procedures.
 - b. Read and complete the *Assurance of Test Security and Non-Disclosure*.
 - c. Ensure all staff who handle test materials, administer tests, or have access to secure test content read and complete the *Assurance of Test Security and Non-Disclosure*.
 - d. Identify appropriate tests for students and ensure student data sent to service providers for testing are correct.
 - e. Prepare testing conditions, including the following: schedule rooms and computer labs; arrange for test monitors and administrators; arrange for additional staff to assist with unexpected situations; arrange for technology staff to assist with technical issues; develop a plan for tracking which students test on which computers or devices; plan seating arrangements for students; ensure preparations are completed for Optional Local Purpose Assessment (OLPA), Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment (MCA), and ACCESS online testing; ensure accommodations are properly reported; confirm how secure paper test materials will arrive and quantities to expect; address accommodations and specific test administration

procedures; determine staff who will enter the student responses from paper accommodated test materials and scores from MTAS administrations online.

- f. Train staff, including all state-provided training materials, policies and procedures, and test-specific training.
 - g. Maintain security of test content and test materials.
 - (1) Receive secure paper test materials from the service provider and immediately lock them in a previously identified secure area, inventory same, and contact service provider with any discrepancies.
 - (2) Organize secure test materials for online administrations and keep them secure.
 - (3) Follow chain of custody for providing test materials to test monitors and administrators. The chain of custody must address the process for providing test materials on the day of testing, distributing test materials to and collecting test materials from students at the time of testing, keeping test materials secure between testing sessions, and returning test materials after testing is completed.
 - (4) Identify need for additional test materials to district assessment coordinator.
 - (5) Provide MTAS student data collection forms if necessary.
 - (6) Distribute applicable ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS *Test Administrator Scripts* and *Test Administration Manuals* to test administrators so they can become familiar with the script and prepare for test administration.
 - (7) Confirm that all students taking ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS have appropriate test materials and preprinted student information on the label is accurate.
2. Responsibilities on testing day(s).
- a. Distribute materials to test monitors and ACCESS test administrators and ensure security of test materials between testing sessions and that district procedures are followed.
 - b. Ensure *Test Monitor and Student Directions* and *Test Administrator Scripts* are followed and answer questions regarding same.
 - c. Fully cooperate with MDE representatives conducting site visits or MTAS audits, as applicable.
 - d. Conduct random, unannounced visits to testing rooms to observe staff adherence to test security and test administration policies and procedures.
 - e. Report testing irregularities to district assessment coordinator using the *Test Administration Report*.

[Note: This form is included in the 614 Form file of the Policy Reference Manual.]

- f. Report security breaches to the district assessment coordinator as soon as possible.
3. Responsibilities after testing.
- a. Ensure that all paper test materials are kept locked and secure and security checklists completed.
 - b. Ensure that student responses from paper accommodated test materials and MTAS scores are entered.
 - c. Arrange for secure disposal of all test materials that are not required to be returned within 48 hours after the closing of the testing window.
 - d. Return secure test materials as outlined in applicable manuals and resources.
 - e. Prepare materials for pickup by designated carrier on designated date(s). Maintain security of all materials.
 - f. Ensure requirements for embargoed final assessment results are followed.
- E. Technology Coordinator**
- 1. Ensure that district is prepared for online test administration and provide technical support to district staff.
 - 2. Acquire all necessary user identifications and passwords.
 - 3. Read and complete the *Assurance of Test Security and Non-Disclosure*.
 - 4. Fully cooperate with MDE representatives conducting site visits or MTAS audits.
 - 5. Attend district training and any service provider technology training.
 - 6. Review, use, and be familiar with all service provider technical documentation.
 - 7. Prepare computers and devices for online testing.
 - 8. Confirm site readiness.
 - 9. Provide all necessary accessories for testing, technical support/troubleshooting during test administration and contact service provider help desks as needed.

F. Test Monitor

- 1. Responsibilities before testing.
 - a. Read and complete the *Assurance of Test Security and Non-Disclosure*.
 - b. Attend trainings related to test administration and security.
 - c. Complete required training course(s) for tests administering.
 - d. Be knowledgeable about how to contact the school assessment coordinator during testing, where to pick up materials on day of test, and plan for securing test materials between test sessions.
 - e. Be knowledgeable regarding student accommodations.
 - f. Remove or cover any instructional posters or visual materials in the testing room.
2. Responsibilities on testing day(s).
- a. Before test.
 - (1) Receive and maintain security of test materials.
 - (2) Verify that all test materials are received.
 - (3) Ensure proper number of computers/devices or paper accommodated test materials are present.
 - (4) Verify student testing tickets and appropriate allowable materials.
 - (5) Assign numbered test books to individual students.
 - (6) Complete information as directed.
 - (7) Record extra test materials.
 - b. During test.
 - (1) Verify that students are logged in and taking the correct test or using the correct grade-level and tier test booklet for students with paper accommodated test materials.

- (2) Follow all directions and scripts exactly.
- (3) Follow procedures for restricting student access to cell phones and other electronic devices, including wearable electronic devices.
- (4) Stay in testing room and remain attentive during entire test session. Practice active monitoring by circulating throughout the room during testing.

[Note: School districts may allow test monitors to use their cell phones only to alert other staff of issues. If allowed, the school district should train the test monitors on proper and improper use.]

- (5) Be knowledgeable about responding to emergency or unusual circumstances and technology issues.
- (6) Do not review, discuss, capture, email, post, or share test content in any format.
- (7) Ensure all students have been provided the opportunity to independently demonstrate their knowledge.
- (8) Fully cooperate with MDE representatives conducting site visits or MTAS audits.
- (9) Document the students who tested with the test monitor and any other adult(s) who were present in the testing room (e.g., staff providing assistance, paraprofessionals, etc.)
- (10) Document students who require a scribe or translated directions or any unusual circumstances and report to school assessment coordinator.
- (11) Report any possible security breaches as soon as possible.

c. After test.

- (1) Follow directions and scripts exactly.
- (2) Collect all materials and keep secure after each session. Upon completion return to the school assessment coordinator.
- (3) Immediately report any missing test materials to the school assessment coordinator.

G. MTAS Test Administrator

1. Before testing.

- a. Read and complete the *Assurance of Test Security and Non-Disclosure*.
- b. Attend trainings related to test administration and security.
- c. Complete required training course(s) for tests administering.
- d. Be knowledgeable as to when and where to pick up MTAS materials and the school's plan for keeping test materials secure.
- e. Prepare test materials for administration, including objects and manipulatives, special instructions, and specific adaptations for each student.

2. Responsibility on testing day(s).

a. Before the test.

- (1) Maintain security of materials.
- (2) Confirm appropriate MTAS materials are available and prepared for student.

b. During the test.

- (1) Administer each task to each student and record the score.
- (2) Be knowledgeable about how to contact the district or school assessment coordinator, if necessary, and responding to emergency and unusual circumstances.

(3) Fully cooperate with MDE representatives conducting site visits or MTAS audits.

(4) Document and report any unusual circumstances to district or school assessment coordinator.

c. After the test.

- (1) Keep materials secure.
- (2) Return all materials.
- (3) Return objects and manipulatives to classroom.
- (4) Enter MTAS scores online or return data collection forms to the district or school assessment coordinator.

H. MARSS Coordinator

1. Responsibilities before testing.

- a. Confirm all eligible students have unique state student identification (SSID) or MARSS numbers.
- b. Ensure English language and special education designations are current and correct for students testing based on those designations.

c. Submit MARSS data on an ongoing basis to ensure accurate student demographic and enrollment information.

2. Responsibilities after testing.

- a. Ensure accurate enrollment of students in schools during the accountability windows.
- b. Ensure MARSS identifying characteristics are correct, especially for any student not taking an accountability test.
- c. Work with district assessment coordinator to edit discrepancies during the Post-test Edit window in Test WES.

I. Any Person with Access to Test Materials

Read and complete the *Assurance of Test Security and Non-Disclosure*.

IV. **TEST SECURITY**

A. Test Security Procedures will be adopted by school district administration.

[Note: This form is available on the Minnesota Pearson Access Next website-see Cross References for website address]

B. Students will be informed of the following:

1. The importance of test security;
2. Expectation that students will keep test content secure;
3. Expectation that students will act with honesty and integrity during test administration;
4. Expectation that students will not access cell phones, wearable technology (e.g., smart watches, fitness trackers), or other devices that can electronically send or receive information. The test of a student who wears a device during testing must be invalidated.

If a student completes testing and then accesses a cell phone or other prohibited device (including wearable technology), the school district must take further action to determine if the test should be invalidated, rather than automatically invalidating the test.

5. Availability of the online Test Security Tip Line on the MDE website for reporting suspected incidents of cheating or other improper or unethical behavior.

C. Staff will be informed of the following:

1. Availability of the online Test Security Tip Line on the MDE website for reporting suspected incidents of cheating or other improper or unethical behavior.

2. Other contact information and options for reporting security concerns.

V. REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION FOR PROGRAM AUDIT

A. The school district shall maintain records necessary for program audits conducted by MDE. The records must include documentation consisting of the following:

1. Signed *Assurance of Test Security and Non-Disclosure* forms must be maintained for two years after the end of the academic year in which the testing took place.

2. School district security checklists provided in the test materials shipment must be maintained for two years after the end of the academic school year in which testing took place.

3. School security checklists provided in the test materials shipment must be maintained for two years after the end of the academic school year in which testing took place.

4. Test Monitor Test Materials Security Checklist provided for each group of students assigned to a test monitor must be maintained for two years after the end of the academic school year in which testing took place.

[Note: This form is included in the 614 Form file of the Policy Reference Manual.]

5. School district test monitor tracking documentation must be maintained for two years after the end of the academic year in which the tracking took place.

6. ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS Packing List and Security Checklist provided in the test materials shipment must be maintained for two years after the end of the academic school year in which testing took place.

7. Documentation of school district staff training on test administration and test security must be maintained for two years after the end of the academic school year in which testing took place.

8. *Test Security Notification* must be maintained for two years after the end of the academic school year in which testing took place.

9. *Test Administration Report* must be maintained for one year after the end of the academic school year in which testing took place.

10. Record of staff trainings and test-specific trainings must be maintained for one year after the end of the academic year in which testing took place.

Legal References:

Minn. Stat. § 13.34 (Examination Data)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.11 (School District Process for Reviewing Curriculum Instruction, and Student Achievement; Striving for the World's Best Workforce)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.30 (Statewide Testing and Reporting System)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.36, Subd. 2 (School Accountability)
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 3501.082 (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)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.1400-3501.1410 (Academic Standards for Physical Education)
20 U.S.C. § 6301, *et seq.* (Every Student Succeeds Act)

Cross References:

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 601 (School District Curriculum and Instruction Goals)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 613 (Graduation Requirements)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 615 (Testing, Accommodations, Modifications, and Exemptions for IEPs, Section 504 Plans, and LEP Students)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 616 (School District System Accountability)
Minnesota PearsonAccess Next Resources and Forms:
<http://minnesota.pearsonaccessnext.com/policies-and-procedures/>