



*A World-Class Community of Learners*

## **616 School District Systems Accountability**

### **I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to focus public education strategies on a process which promotes higher academic achievement for all students and ensures broad-based community participation in decisions regarding the implementation of the Minnesota Academic Standards and the requirements of the Elementary Secondary Education Act (ESEA).

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

The school district will be accountable to the public and the state through annual reporting. The school district will establish a system to review and improve instruction, curriculum, and assessment which will include substantial input by students, parents or guardians, and local community members. The school district will be accountable to the public and the state through annual reporting.

### **III. DEFINITIONS**

- A. “Credit” means a student’s successful completion of an academic year of study or a student’s mastery of the applicable subject matter, as determined by the school district.
- B. “Minnesota Academic Standards” describes what school districts must offer and certify that students complete to be eligible for a high school diploma.
- C. Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) is a United States federal statute that governs and provides funding for primary and secondary education.
- D. “World’s best workforce” means striving to: meet school readiness goals; have all third grade students achieve grade-level literacy; close the academic achievement gap among all racial and ethnic groups of students and between students living in poverty and students not living in poverty; have all students attain career and college readiness before graduating from high school; and have all students graduate from high school.

### **IV. ESTABLISHMENT OF GOALS; IMPLEMENTATION; EVALUATION AND REPORTING**

- A. School District Goals. The school board shall establish district-wide goals which provide broad direction for the school district. Incorporated in these goals are the graduation and education standards contained in the Minnesota Academic Standards and the provisions of ESEA. The broad goals shall be reviewed annually.
- B. System for Reviewing All Instruction and Curriculum. Incorporated in the process will be analysis of the school district's progress toward implementation of the Minnesota Academic Standards. Instruction and curriculum shall be reviewed and evaluated by taking into account strategies and best practices, student outcomes, principal evaluations under Minn. Stat. § 123B.147, Subd. 3, and teacher evaluations under Minn. Stat. § 122A.40, Subd. 8, or 122A.41, Subd. 5.
- C. District Advisory Committee
1. By October 15 of each year, the District Advisory Committee shall meet to advise and assist the school district in the implementation of the school district system accountability and comprehensive continuous improvement process and implementation of the Minnesota Academic Standards.
  2. The District Advisory Committee, working in cooperation with other committees of the school district shall provide active community participation in:
    - a. Reviewing the school district instructional and curriculum plan, with emphasis on implementing the Minnesota Academic Standards;
    - b. Identifying annual instruction and curriculum improvement goals for recommendation to the school board;
    - c. Making recommendations regarding the assessment and evaluation process that will be used to measure progress toward the district goals;
    - d. Advising the school board about development of the annual budget.
  3. The District Advisory Committee shall meet the following criteria:
    - a. The District Advisory Committee shall ensure active community participation in all planning for instruction and curriculum affecting Minnesota Academic Standards.

- b. The District Advisory Committee shall make recommendations to the school board on school district-wide standards, assessments, and program evaluation.
4. The District Advisory Committee shall, when possible, be comprised of two-thirds community representatives and shall reflect the diversity of the community. Included in its membership should be:
- a. The Director of Educational Services
  - b. Principal
  - c. School Board Member
  - d. Student Representatives
  - e. One teacher from each building or instructional level
  - f. Two parents from each building or instructional level
  - g. Two residents without school-aged children, non-representative of local business or industry
  - h. Two residents representative of local business or industry
  - i. School District Test Administrator (if different from “a.” above)
- D. Reporting. An annual report on curriculum, instruction, and student achievement shall be approved by the school board each year. Consistent with Minn. Stat. § 120B.36, Subd. 1, the school board shall publish a report in the local newspaper with the largest circulation in the district, by mail, or by electronic means on the school district website. The school board shall hold an annual public meeting to review and revise, where appropriate, student achievement goals, local assessment outcomes, plans, strategies, and practices for improving curriculum and instruction, and to review school district success in realizing the previously adopted student achievement goals and related benchmarks and the improvement plans leading to the worlds’ best workforce. The school board must transmit an electronic summary of its report to the Commissioner in the form and manner the Commissioner determines. The school district shall periodically survey affected constituencies about their connection to and level of satisfaction with school. The school district shall include the results of this revaluation in its summary report to the Commissioner.

***Legal References:***

Minn. Stat. § 120B.02 (Educational Expectations for Minnesota’s Students)

Minn. Stat. § 120B.018 (Definitions)

Minn. Stat. § 120B.11 (School District Process)  
Minn. Stat. § 120B.35 (Student Achievement Levels)  
Minn. Stat. § 120B.36 (School Accountability; Appeals Process)  
Minn. Stat. § 122A.40, Subd. 8 (Employment; Contracts; Termination)  
Minn. Stat. § 122A.41, Subd. 5 (Teacher Tenure Act; Cities of the First Class; Definitions)  
Minn. Stat. § 123B.04 (Site Decision Making Agreement)  
Minn. Stat. § 123B.147, Subd. 3 (Principals)  
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0640-3501.0655 (Academic Standards for Language Arts)  
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0700-3501.0745 (Academic Standards for Mathematics)  
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0800-3501.0815 (Academic Standards for the Arts)  
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0900-3501.0955 (Academic Standards in Science)  
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.1300-3501.1345 (Academic Standards for Social Studies)  
20 U.S.C. § 6301, *et seq.* (No Child Left Behind Act)

***Cross References:***

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

***School Board Action:***

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