601.00 EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING

DEFINITIONS
1. “Academic standards” means content-based outcomes at each grade level, some of which are mandated within state standards.
2. “Graduation requirements” mean those courses and tests required to earn a diploma.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS (1)
1. The district will adopt academic standards, which shall be the basis for the educational program.
2. The district will implement high school and preparatory content standards in all learning areas in accordance with the Minnesota Department of Education rules.
3. The academic standards implementation process and educational program decision-making process will include students, parents or guardians, staff, and community representatives. The processes will include individuals who can represent the needs of special education, English language learners, and other unique student populations.
4. The academic standards implementation committees will determine where, when, and in what instructional program all student achievement of standards will be assessed.

THE PRE K-12 EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM (2)
1. The school district will provide an educational program appropriate for all students reflecting varied interests and needs.
2. The educational program will be coordinated systematically through the district.
3. The school district will establish learner results toward which all learning in the school district should be directed and for which all school district learners will be held accountable.
4. Instruction must be provided, sometime during the district PreK-12 program, in at least the following subject areas:
   - Language arts
   - Mathematics and science
   - Social studies, including history, geography, and government
   - Health and physical education
   - The arts
   - Vocational and technical education; and
   - World languages.
5. The basic instructional program shall minimally include all courses required for each grade level by the Minnesota Department of Education.
6. The district will provide learning opportunities for all students sufficient to meet state and local graduation requirements.
7. The district will identify and evaluate learners who need special services, accommodations, or programs to meet standards.
8. Innovative and adaptive education programs, including online learning options, Alternative Learning Centers (ALCs), Post Secondary Enrollment Options (PSEO), service-learning or work-based learning, may be developed and offered to meet the unique and changing needs of students.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS (3)
1. District graduation requirements will minimally include:
   • The state-required graduation tests in accordance with the rules established by the Minnesota Department of Education.
   • The state requirements for graduation as established by Minnesota law.
   • Successful completion of:
     o 86 total quarter credits at a regularly-scheduled (non-block) high school, or
     o 56 total quarter credits at a four-period block-scheduled high school.
2. High School credits toward graduation can be obtained prior to ninth grade by taking qualifying courses in junior high or middle school.
3. The school district will establish procedures for determining credit for learning obtained outside of the district which would qualify for graduation including courses taken at institutions of higher education.

LEGAL REFERENCES:
(1) Minn. Stat. § 120B.02b Educational Expectations for Minnesota’s Students
Minn. Stat. § 120B.021 Subd 1 and 1a Required Academic Standards
Minn. Stat. § 120B.11 Subd. 2 Adopting Policies
Minn. Stat. § 120B.22 Elective Standards
Minn. Stat. § 120B.023 Benchmarks
Minn. Rules § 3501.0010-3501.0180 Reading and Mathematics
Minn. Rules § 3501.0200-3501.0290 Written Composition
Minn. Rules § 3501.0505-3501.0550 Academic Standards for Language Arts
Minn. Rules § 3501.0700-3501.0745 Academic Standards for Mathematics
Minn. Rules § 3501.0800-3501.0815 Academic Standards for the Arts
Minn. Rules § 3501.0900-3501.0955 Academic Standards in Science
(2) Minn. Stat. § 120A.22 Subd 9 Curriculum
Minn. Stat. § 123A.06 State-Approved Alternative Programs and Services
Minn. Stat. § 124D.09 Post Secondary Enrollment Options
Minn. Stat. § 124D.095 Online Learning Options
Minn. Stat. § 124D.50 Service-Learning and Work-Based Curriculum and Programs
Minn. Rule § 3525 Children with a Disability
Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended
29 U.S.C. § 794
Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act

(3) Minn. Stat. § 120B.024 Graduation Requirements; Course Credits
Minn. Stat. § 120B.14 Advanced Academic Credit
Minn. Stat. § 120B.16 Secondary Credit for Students
Minn. Stat. § 122A.60 Staff Development Program

20 U.S.C. § 5801 – Purpose
20 U.S.C. § 6301 – No Child Left Behind

CROSS REFERENCES:
Policy 421.00 Staff Development
Policy 510.00 Graduation
Policy 510.01 Students: Promotion and Retention