208 DEVELOPMENT, ADOPTION, AND IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICIES

I. PURPOSE

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

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

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

III. DEVELOPMENT OF POLICY

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

B. The school board’s written policies provide guidelines and goals to the school community. The policies shall be the basis for guidelines and directives by the administration. The school board shall determine the effectiveness of the policies by evaluating periodic reports from the administration.

C. Policies may be proposed by a school board member, employee, student or resident of the school district. Proposed policies or ideas shall be submitted to the superintendent for review prior to possible placement on the school board agenda.

IV. ADOPTION OF POLICY

A. The school board shall give notice of proposed policy changes or adoption of new policies by placing the item on the agenda of two school board meetings. The proposals shall be distributed and public comment will be allowed at both meetings prior to final school board action.

B. The final action taken to adopt the proposed policy shall be approved by a simple majority vote of the school board at a subsequent meeting after the meetings at
which public input was received. The policy will be effective on the later of the
date of passage or the date stated in the motion.

C. In an emergency, a new or modified policy may be adopted by a majority vote of
a quorum of the school board. A statement regarding the emergency and the need
for immediate adoption of the policy shall be included in the minutes. The
emergency policy shall expire within one year following the emergency action
unless the policy adoption procedure stated above is followed and the policy is
reaffirmed. The school board shall have discretion to determine what constitutes
an emergency situation.

D. If a policy is modified with minor changes that do not affect the substance of
the policy or because of a legal change over which the school board has no
control, the modified policy may be approved at one meeting at the discretion
of the school board.

V. IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICY

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

B. Each school board member shall have access to school district policies. School district policies are available on our school district website (www.isd742.org). Additionally, a copy of the school district policies shall be available electronically in the central office and made available for reference purposes to other interested persons.

C. The superintendent, employees designated by the superintendent, and individual
school board members shall be responsible for keeping the policies current.

D. The school board shall review policies at least once every three years. The
superintendent shall be responsible for developing a system of periodic review, in
accordance with an established policy review cycle (see attached Addendum).
In addition, the school board shall review the following policies annually:

- 410 Family and Medical Leave Policy
- 413 Discrimination, Harassment and Violence
- 414 Mandated Reporting of Child Neglect or Physical or Sexual Abuse
- 415 Mandated Reporting of Maltreatment of Vulnerable Adults
- 506 Student Discipline
- 514 Bullying Prohibition
- 522 Student Sex/Gender Nondiscrimination
- 524 Internet Responsible Use and Safety Policy
E. When no school board policy exists to provide guidance on a matter, the superintendent is authorized to act appropriately under the circumstances keeping in mind the mission, educational philosophy and financial condition of the school district. Under such circumstances, the superintendent or designee shall advise the school board of the need for a policy and present a recommended policy to the school board for approval.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 123B.02, Subd. 1 (School District Powers)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.09, Subd. 1 (School Board Powers)

Cross Reference: Board Policy 305 (Policy Implementation)

BOARD POLICY 208
St. Cloud Area School District 742
St. Cloud, Minnesota

Adopted: February 15, 2001
Revised: December 7, 2016
Reviewed/No Change: May 2019
Revised: September 7, 2022
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