

## **6198 ESTABLISHMENT OF SCHOOL WITHIN A SCHOOL PROGRAMS IN DULUTH PUBLIC MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOLS**

**Whereas** Duluth Public Schools is dedicated to provision of educational programs that promote the success of all individual students enrolled, and whereas Duluth Public Schools believes in the capacity of site-based decision-making to enhance and expand delivery of instruction strategic to the population served, ISD 709 Middle and High Schools have capacity to create separate and discrete programs, housed within and administrated by existing structures, developed to serve the unique needs of an identified population. These programs, once approved, will be referred to in general as School Within A School (SWAS) programs. Sites that apply to offer such options must complete the following application, which includes approval by the site's council, and submit the application to the District Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment for final approval by the School Board. Once approved, the site is sanctioned to offer such a program without need for renewal of approval. SWAS programs, district-wide will share the following common definitions and characteristics:

**ISD 709 SWAS programs will be Asset-Based.** Any program established will be created to capitalize, refine, or build upon attributes, past experiences, interests, and intelligences of a select group of identified students. Assets can be defined as resilience, aptitude, or demonstrated abilities, and programs offered will be created to encourage and extend the students' abilities to capitalize on the assets identified.

**ISD 709 SWAS programs will establish intake procedures that include the right of the program to identify specific intake criteria for participants.** The criteria will include establishing a SWAS asset-based community. Additional intake procedures must include the right of the student, a teacher, a parent, or an administrator to make recommendation of a potential enrollee and the requirement of the potential participant's parent or legal guardian to be part of the decision to participate. Common intake procedures for all Duluth SWAS programs will include:

- Recommendation for program participation is made by the student, a teacher, a parent, or an administrator.
- Initial recommendation is reviewed by a building administrator and the program coordinator and other identified program leadership.
- If initial review results in recommendation, intake conference is held which includes the student, parent or guardian, building administrator, and the program coordinator.

**ISD 709 SWAS programs will report and be held responsible to the building administration and student enrolled will be subject to all rules and regulations delineated in the district policies, and funding will be utilized within specified designations, unless the approved establishment of the program states otherwise.**

ISD 709 SWAS programs will complete and submit the following information for Bard approval to the District's Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment.

Approved: 07-19-2005 ISD 709