

Buffalo Lake-Hector-Stewart School Policy #607
ORGANIZATION OF GRADE LEVELS

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to address the grade level organization of schools within the school district.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

- A. It is the policy of the school district to address the groupings of grade levels as recognized in Minnesota Statutes section 120A.05, as follows:

Little Stangs Learning Center: Birth through Pre-K
Elementary: Grades K through 5
Junior High: Grades 6 through 8
Senior High: Grades 9 through 12

- B. The superintendent may seek school board approval to administer certain programs on a nongraded basis or a design different from that indicated. Program proposals that seek school board approval must meet all state requirements and reflect the rationale for the modification.

- C. The school district may request documentation that verifies a student falls within the school's minimum and maximum age requirements for admission to publicly funded prekindergarten, preschool, kindergarten, or grades 1 through 12. Documentation may include a passport, a hospital birth record or physician's certificate, a baptismal or religious certificate, an adoption record, health records, immunization records, immigration records, previously verified school records, early childhood screening records, Minnesota Immunization Information Connection records, or an affidavit from a parent.

III. DEFINITIONS

- A. "Kindergarten" means a program designed for students five years of age on September 1 of the calendar year in which the school year commences that prepares students to enter first grade the following school year.
- B. "Prekindergarten" means a program designed for students younger than five years of age on September 1 of the calendar year in which the school year commences that prepares students to enter kindergarten the following school year.

[NOTE: School districts with a voluntary prekindergarten program may

choose to add a provision in line with Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.1, which was updated in 2024. The statute states that a school district may establish a voluntary prekindergarten program *for eligible four-year-old children* (the italicized language is new.)]

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 120A.05, Subds. 9, 10a, 11, 13, 17 (Definitions)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.02, Subd. 2 (General Powers of Independent School Districts)
Minn. Stat. § 120A.20, Subd. 4 (Admission to Public School)

Cross References: None

Adopted: July 2005
Revised: 9/16/2024