

Policy Title	Policy Number	Date Approved/Revised
School District System Accountability	616	7/20/10 Revised: 11/22/11 Revised: 11/27/12 Revised: 11/26/13 Revised: 6/28/16 Revised: 7/18/17 Revised: 3/26/19 Revised: 5/21/19 Revised: 9/24/19 Revised: 12/17/19 Revised: 8/17/21 Revised: 8/20/24

1) General Statement of Policy

- a) Implementation of the Minnesota Academic Standards and federal law will require a new level of accountability for the school district. The school district will establish a system to transition to the graduation requirements of the Minnesota Academic Standards. The school district also 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.

2) Definitions

- a) "Comprehensive achievement and civic readiness" means striving to: meet school readiness goals; 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 prepare students to be lifelong learners.
- b) "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.

3) Establishment of Goals; Implementation; Evaluation and Reporting

a) School District Goals

1. The school board has established school 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 federal law. The broad goals shall be reviewed annually and approved by the school board. The school board shall adopt annual goals based on the recommendations of the school district's Advisory Committee.
2. The District Advisory Committee created under Policy 603 (Curriculum Development) is established by the school board to ensure active community participation in all phases of planning and improving the instruction and curriculum affecting state and district academic standards.

2. The school district's goal setting process will include consideration of individual site goals. School district goals may also be developed through an education effectiveness program, or through some locally determined process.
- 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) Implementation of Graduation Requirements
1. The Advisory Committee shall also advise the school board on implementation of the state and local graduation requirements, including K-12 curriculum, assessment, student learning opportunities, and other related issues. Recommendations of the Advisory Committee shall be published annually to the community. The school board shall receive public input and comment and shall adopt or update this policy at least annually.
  2. The school board shall annually review and determine if student achievement levels at each school site meet state expectations. If the school board determines that student achievement levels at a school site do not meet state expectations and the site has not made adequate yearly progress for two consecutive school years, the Teaching & Learning Department shall work with the school site to adopt a plan to raise student achievement levels to meet state and local expectations. The Advisory Committee may seek assistance from the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) (the Commissioner) in developing a plan which must include parental involvement components.
  3. The educational assessment system component utilized by the school board to measure individual students' educational progress must be based, to the extent annual tests are administered, on indicators of achievement growth that show an individual student's prior achievement. Indicators of achievement and prior achievement must be based on highly reliable statewide or district-wide assessments. The school board will utilize models developed by the Commissioner for measuring individual student progress. The school board must coordinate with MDE in evaluating school sites and continuous improvement plans, consistent with best practices.
- d) The Advisory Committee will meet to advise and assist the school district system accountability and comprehensive continuous improvement process.
1. The Advisory Committee shall meet the following criteria:
    - a. The Advisory Committee shall ensure active community participation in all planning for instruction and curriculum affecting Graduation Standards.

- b. The Advisory Committee shall make recommendations to the school board on school district-wide standards, assessments, and program evaluation.
  - c. Building teams may be established as subcommittees to develop and implement an education effectiveness plan and to carry out methods to improve instruction, curriculum, and assessments as well as methods to use technology in meeting the school district improvement plan.
  - d. A local plan to evaluate student progress, using a local process, shall be used for developing a plan for assessment of student progress toward the Graduation Standards, as well as program evaluation data for use by the Advisory Committee in the instruction and curriculum review process. This plan shall annually be approved by the school board.
2. The Advisory Committee shall, when possible, be comprised of at least two-thirds community representatives and shall reflect the diversity of the community. To the extent possible, the Advisory Committee shall reflect the diversity of the school district and its school sites and include teachers, parents, support staff, students, and other community residents. Included in its membership should be:
- a. District Curriculum Coordinator
  - b. Principal
  - c. School Board Member
  - d. Student Representative
  - e. One teacher from each instructional level
  - f. Two parents from each 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. District Assessment Coordinator
3. Translation services should be provided to the extent appropriate and practicable.
- e) Evaluation of Student Progress Committee. A committee of professional staff shall develop a plan for assessment of student progress toward Literacy by Grade 3, the Graduation Standards, as well as program evaluation data for use by the Advisory

Committee to review instruction and curriculum, cultural competencies, including cultural awareness and cross-cultural communication, and student achievement at the school site. This plan shall annually be approved by the school board.

f) Reporting.

1. Consistent with Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.36, subdivision. 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 cultural competency and efforts to equitably distribute diverse, effective, experienced, and in-field teachers, and to review school district success in realizing the previously adopted student achievement goals and related benchmarks and the improvement plans leading to comprehensive achievement and civic readiness. 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 in their native languages, where appropriate and practicable, about their connection to and level of satisfaction with school. The school district shall include the results of this evaluation in its published reports and in its summary report to the Commissioner.
  
2. The school performance report for a school site and a school district must include performance reporting information and calculate proficiency rates as required by the most recently reauthorized Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

**Rationale:** *The district shall 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 federal law.*

Adoption and Revision History	Incorporated Policies
EM-020.28 SCHOOL DISTRICT SYSTEM ACCOUNTABILITY This Policy Adopted: July 20, 2010 Revised: November 22, 2011; Revised: November 27, 2012; Revised: November 26, 2013; Revised: June 28, 2016; Revised: July 18, 2017; Revised: March 26, 2019	MSBA 616
616 SCHOOL DISTRICT SYSTEM ACCOUNTABILITY This Policy Revised: May 21, 2019; Revised: September 24, 2019; Revised: December 17, 2019; Revised: August 17, 2021; Revised: August 20, 2024	

**Administrative Rule, Regulation and Procedure: NA**

**Legal References:** Minn. Stat. § 120B.018 (Definitions)  
Minn. Stat. § 120B.02 (Educational Expectations and Graduation Requirements for Minnesota's Students)  
Minn. Stat. § 120B.11 (School District Process for Reviewing Curriculum, Instruction, and Student Achievement Goals; Striving for Comprehensive Achievement and Civic Readiness)  
Minn. Stat. § 120B.35 (Student Academic Achievement and Growth)  
Minn. Stat. § 120B.36 (School Accountability)  
Minn. Stat. § 122A.40 (Employment; Contracts; Termination)  
Minn. Stat. § 122A.41 (Teacher Tenure Act; Cities of the First Class; Definitions)  
Minn. Stat. § 123B.04 (Site Decision Making; Individualized Learning Agreement; Other Agreements)  
Minn. Stat. § 123B.147 (Principals)  
Minn. Stat. § 126C.12 (Learning and Development Revenue Amount and Use)  
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0660 (Academic Standards for Language Arts)  
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0700-3501.0745 (Academic Standards for Mathematics)  
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0820 (Academic Standards for the Arts)  
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0900-3501.0960 (Academic Standards in Science)  
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.1300-3501.1345 (Academic Standards for Social Studies)  
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.1400-3501.1410 (Academic Standards for Physical Education)  
20 U.S.C. § 6301, *et seq.* (Every Student Succeeds 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 (Basic Standards Testing, Accommodations, Modifications, and Exemptions for IEP, Section 504 Accommodation, and LEP Students)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 617 (School District Ensurance of Preparatory and High School Standards)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 618 (Assessment of Standard Achievement)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 619 (Staff Development for Standards)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 620 (Credit for Learning)