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610 FIELD TRIPS

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for student trips and to identify the general process to be followed for review and approval of trip requests.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

It is the general expectation of the school board that all student trips will be well planned, conducted in an orderly manner and safe environment, and will relate directly to the objectives of the class or activity for which the trip is requested. Student trips will be categorized within three general areas:

A. Instructional Trips

Trips that take place during the school day, relate directly to a course of study, and require student participation shall fall in this category. These trips shall be subject to review and approval of the building principal, and shall be financed by school district funds within the constraints of the school building budget. Fees may not be assessed against students to defray direct costs of instructional trips. (Minnesota Statutes section 123B.37)

B. Supplementary Trips

This category pertains to those trips in which students voluntarily participate and which usually take place outside the regular school day. Examples of trips in this category involve student activities, clubs, and other special interest groups. These trips are subject to review and approval of the activities director and/or the building principal. Financial contributions by students may be requested. (Minnesota Statutes section 123B.36)

C. Extended Trips

1. Trips that involve one or more overnight stops fall into this category. Extended trips may be instructional or supplementary, and must be

requested well in advance of the planned activity. An extended trip request form must be completed and approved at each level: student, principal, superintendent, and school board. Exceptions to the approval policy may be granted or expedited to accommodate emergencies or contingencies (e.g. tournament competition).

2. The school board acknowledges and supports the efforts of booster clubs and similar organizations in providing extended trip opportunities for students.

III. REGULATIONS

- A. Rules of conduct and discipline for students and employees shall apply to all student trip activity.
- B. The school administration shall be responsible for providing more detailed procedures, including parental involvement, supervision, and such other factors deemed important and in the best interest of students.
- C. Transportation shall be furnished through a commercial carrier or school-owned vehicle.
- D. An employee must not use a personal vehicle to transport one or more students for purposes of a field trip.

IV. SCHOOL BOARD REVIEW

The Director of Teaching and Learning shall at least annually report to the school board upon the utilization of out of state or overnight field trips under this policy.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 123B.36 (Authorized Fees)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.37 (Prohibited Fees)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.49 (-Extracurricular Activities; Insurance)
Minn. Stat. § 169.011, Subd. 71(a) (Definitions)
Minn. Stat. § 169.454, Subd. 13 (Type III Vehicle Standards)
Sonkowsky v. Board of Educ., 327 F3d. 675 (D. Minn. 2002)
Lee v. Pine Bluff Sch. Dist., 472 F.3d 1026 (8th Cir. 2007)

Cross References: CHSD Policy 403 (Discipline, Suspension, and Dismissal of School District Employees)
CHSD Policy 423 (Employee – Student Relationships)
CHSD Policy 506 (Student Discipline)
CHSD Policy 707 (Transportation of Public School Students)
CHSD Policy 709 (Student Transportation Safety Policy)
CHSD Policy 710 (Extracurricular Transportation)