Adopted: *November 22, 1999*

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6/27/22; 6/26/23; 5/28/24

550 ATTENDANCE AT STATE TOURNAMENTS

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for student or staff release from school to attend state tournament competitions. Because of increased academic requirements and the District's commitment to academic excellence, classes at South St. Paul Schools will not be cancelled or released early during state tournament competitions.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

A. Students in good academic and behavioral standing may be released from classes to attend state tournament competitions under the procedures set out in Part III.A. of this policy.

B. Staff members may be released from the building to attend state tournament competitions under the procedures set out in Part III.B. of this policy.

C. The decision to grant release is delegated to the building principals (superintendent for district-wide employees) and is not subject to review by the School Board.

III. PROCEDURES

A. Student Release

Eligibility for Release: A student must exhibit satisfactory (i) academic progress, (ii) behavior in school, (iii) adherence to attendance policies, and (iv) extracurricular eligibility and behavioral standards.

Permission: Before the state tournament competition, a student must submit a written parent/guardian permission slip authorizing the student to be released from school.

Treatment of Release: Release from school to attend state tournament competition is considered either a school-approved field trip or a school-approved vacation.

a) School-approved field trip: Coach/Director or school representative will be responsible for the supervision of this activity. The Activities Director will set a common release time.

b) School-approved vacation: The school is not in direct supervision of this activity. The parent/guardian or their designee will be responsible for supervision of the student.

B. Staff Release

Staff may be released from the building to attend state tournament competitions if (a) prior approval is received from the building principal (superintendent for district-wide staff) before the state tournament competition, and (b) no additional district funds are used in order to provide a substitute for the staff member (i.e. overload or substitute pay). Staff members who are eligible for personal leave may use such leave to attend state tournament competitions in accordance with the requirements for approval of personal leave. Personal leave cannot be used in less than full-day increments under the provisions of this policy. There may be uncontrollable circumstances that could result in a staff member being released to attend an event following the approval by the Principal and Superintendent.