

## **607 ORGANIZATION OF GRADE LEVELS**

### **I. PURPOSE**

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

### **II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

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

*[Note: Each education district should identify within the groupings as defined in Minnesota Statutes section 120A.05, how grade levels shall be organized within the education district from the options listed below:*

<i>Elementary:</i>	<i>Grades Kindergarten through 5</i>
<i>Middle:</i>	<i>Grades 6-7</i>
<i>Secondary:</i>	<i>Grades 8 through 12</i>

- B. The executive director may seek education district board approval to administer certain programs on a non-graded basis or a design different from that indicated. Program proposals that seek education district board approval must meet all state requirements and reflect the rationale for the modification.
- C. The education district may request documentation that verifies a student falls within the schools 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 undated 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--Public Schools)  
Minn. Stat. § 120A.20, Subd. 4 (Verification of Age for Admission to Public School)  
Minn. Stat. § 123B.02, Subd. 2 (General Powers of Independent School Districts)

***Cross References:*** None