Policy 612 – Home Schooling

1.0 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to recognize and provide guidelines in accordance with state law for parents who wish to have their children receive education in a home school that is an alternative to an accredited public or private school.

2.0 General Statement of Policy

2.1 The Compulsory Attendance Law (Minn. Stat. § 120A.22) provides that the parent or guardian of a child is primarily responsible for assuring that the child acquires knowledge and skills that are essential for effective citizenship. (Minn. Stat. § 120A.22, Subd. 1.)

3.0 Conditions for Home Schooling

3.1 The person in charge of a home school and the school district must provide instruction and meet the requirements specified in Minn. Stat. § 120A.22.

4.0 Immunization

4.1 The parent of a home-schooled child shall submit statements as required by Minn. Stat. § 121A.15, Subds. 1, 2, 3 and 4 to the superintendent of the school district in which the child resides by October 1 of each school year. (Minn. Stat. § 121A.15).

5.0 Textbooks, Instructional Material, Standardized Tests

5.1 Upon formal request as required by law, the school district will provide textbooks, individualized instructional materials and standardized tests as provided in Minn. Stat. § 123B.42 and Minnesota Rules Chapter 3540. The school district is not required to expend any amount for this purpose that exceeds the amount it receives pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 123B.40 to 123B.48 for this purpose.

6.0 Pupil Support Services

6.1 Upon formal request as required by law, the school district will provide pupil support services in the form of health services and counseling and guidance services to a home-schooled child as provided by Minn. Stat. § 123B.44 and Minn. Rules Chapter 3540. The school district is not required to expend an amount for any of these purposes that exceeds the
Policy 612 – Home Schooling

amount it receives pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 123B.40 to 123B.48 for any of these purposes.

7.0 Shared Time Programs

7.1 Enrollment in class offerings of the school district

7.1.1 A home-schooled child who is a resident of the school district may enroll in classes in the school district as a shared time pupil on the same basis as other nonpublic school students. The provisions of this policy shall not be determinative of whether the school district allows the enrollment of any pupils on a shared-time basis.

7.1.2 The school district may limit enrollment of shared-time pupils in such classes based on the capacity of a program, class, grade level, or school building. The school board and administration retain sole discretion and control over scheduling of all classes and assignment of shared time pupils to classes.

7.1.3 Home school shared time enrollment procedures do not include co-curricular activities or Minnesota State High School League competitions unless an approved cooperative agreement between the home school and Board of School District 623 exists.

(Note: The provisions of Article 7 - Shared Time Programs does not make a determination as to whether shared time programs should be offered to any pupil. However, it does require that home-schooled children be treated the same as all other nonpublic school children.)

8.0 Optional Cooperative Arrangements

8.1 Activities

8.1.1 Minnesota State High School League Sponsored Activities - A home school which is a member of the Minnesota State High School League may request that the school district enter into a cooperative sponsorship arrangement as provided in Minnesota State High School League Rule 405.00. The approval of such an arrangement shall be at the discretion of the School Board.

8.1.1.1 The home school must become a member of the Minnesota State High School League in accordance with the rules of the Minnesota State High School League.
8.1.1.2 The home school is solely responsible for any costs or fees associated with its application for and/or subsequent membership in the Minnesota State High School League.

8.1.2 Non-Minnesota State High School League activities

8.1.2.1 A home-schooled child may participate in non-Minnesota State High School League activities offered by the school district upon application and approval from the school board to participate in the activity and the payment of any activity fees associated with the activity. An approval shall be granted at the discretion of the School Board.

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