

## **607 ORGANIZATION OF GRADE LEVELS**

### **I. PURPOSE**

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

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

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

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

***Elementary:                      Grades prekindergarten through 5***

***Middle:                            (Grades 6 through 8)***

***Secondary:                        (Grades 9 through 12)***

- B. The superintendent may seek school board approval to administer certain programs on a nongraded basis or a design different from that indicated. Program proposals that seek school board approval must meet all state requirements and reflect the rationale for the modification.

### **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 updated 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