

616 CHARTER SCHOOL SYSTEM ACCOUNTABILITY

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to focus public education strategies on a process that promotes higher academic achievement for all students and ensures broad-based community participation in decisions regarding implementation of the Minnesota K-12 Academic Standards and federal law.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

Implementation of the Minnesota K-12 Academic Standards and federal law requires accountability for the charter school. The charter school established a system to transition to the graduation requirements of the Minnesota K-12 Academic Standards. The charter school also established a system to review and improve instruction, curriculum, and assessment which will include substantial input by students, parents or guardians, and local community members. The charter school will be accountable to the public and the state through annual reporting.

III. DEFINITIONS

- A. "Comprehensive Achievement and Civic Readiness" means striving to: meet school readiness goals; close the academic achievement gap among all racial and ethnic groups of students and between students living in poverty and students not living in poverty; have all students attain career and college readiness before graduating from high school; and have all students graduate from high school; and prepare students to be lifelong learners.
- B. "Credit" means a student's successful completion of an academic year of study or a student's mastery of the applicable subject matter, as determined by the charter school.

IV. ESTABLISHMENT OF GOALS; IMPLEMENTATION; EVALUATION AND REPORTING

- A. The charter school must adopt a plan, budget, and process, consistent with Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.11, to review curriculum, instruction, and student achievement and strive for comprehensive achievement and civic readiness.
- B. Comprehensive Continuous Improvement of Student Achievement
 - 1. By August 31st of each year, the Charter School Advisory Committee will meet to advise and assist the charter school in the implementation of the charter school system accountability and comprehensive continuous improvement process.
 - 2. The Charter School Advisory Committee, working in cooperation with other committees of the charter school, will provide active community participation in:

- a. Reviewing the charter school instructional and curriculum plan, with emphasis on implementing the Minnesota K-12 Academic Standards;
 - b. Identifying annual instruction and curriculum improvement goals for recommendation to the school board;
 - c. Making recommendations regarding the evaluation process that will be used to measure charter school progress toward its goals; and,
 - d. Advising the school board about development of the annual budget.
3. The Charter School Advisory Committee shall meet the following criteria:
- a. The Charter School Advisory Committee shall ensure active community participation in all phases of planning and improving the instruction and curriculum affecting state and school academic standards consistent with Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.11, subdivision 2.
 - b. The Charter School Advisory Committee shall make recommendations to the school board on charter school-wide standards, assessments, and program evaluation.
 - c. Building teams may be established as subcommittees to develop and implement an education effectiveness plan and to carry out methods to improve instruction, curriculum, and assessments as well as methods to use technology in meeting the charter school improvement plan.
 - d. A local plan to evaluate student progress, using a local process, shall be used for developing a plan for assessment of student progress toward the Graduation Standards, as well as program evaluation data for use by the Charter School Advisory Committee in the instruction and curriculum review process. This plan shall annually be approved by the school board.
4. Translation services should be provided to the extent appropriate and practicable.

C. Evaluation of Student Progress Committee

A committee of professional staff shall develop a plan for assessment of student progress, the Graduation Standards, as well as program evaluation data for use by the Charter School Advisory Committee to review instruction and curriculum, cultural competencies, including cultural awareness and cross-cultural communication, and student achievement at the school site. This plan shall annually be approved by the school board.

D. Annual Public Report

1. The charter school must publish an annual report approved by the board of directors. The annual report must at least include information on school enrollment, student attrition, governance and management, staffing, finances, management agreements with a CMO or EMO, academic performance, innovative practices and implementation, and future plans. The charter school may combine this report with the reporting required under Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.11 governing comprehensive achievement and civic readiness.
2. A charter school must post the annual report on the school's official website. A charter school also must distribute the annual report by publication, mail, or electronic means to its authorizer, school employees, and parents and legal guardians of students enrolled in the charter school.
3. The reports are public data under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 13.

Legal References:

Minn. Stat. Ch. 13 (Government Data Practices)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.018 (Definitions)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.02 (Educational Expectations and Graduation Requirements for Minnesota's Students)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.11 (School District Process for Reviewing Curriculum, Instruction, and Student Achievement Goals; Striving for Comprehensive Achievement and Civic Readiness)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.35 (Student Academic Achievement and Growth)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.36 (School Accountability)
Minn. Stat. § 122A.40 (Employment; Contracts; Termination)
Minn. Stat. § 122A.41 (Teacher Tenure Act; Cities of the First Class; Definitions)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.04 (Site Decision Making; Individualized Learning Agreement; Other Agreements)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.147 (Principals)
Minn. Stat. § 124E.03 (Applicable Law)
Minn. Stat. § 124E.16 (Reports)
Minn. Stat. § 126C.12 (Learning and Development Revenue Amount and Use)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0660 (Academic Standards for Kindergarten through Grade 12 [Language Arts])
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.07 (Academic Standards for Mathematics)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0820 (Academic Arts Standards for Kindergarten through Grade 12)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0960 (Academic Science Standards for Kindergarten through Grade 12)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.1200-1210 (Academic Standards for English Language Development)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.13 (Academic Standards for Social Studies)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.1400-3501.1410 (Academic Standards for Physical Education)
20 U.S.C. § 6301, *et seq.* (Every Student Succeeds Act)

Cross References:

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 104 (Charter School Mission Statement)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 601 (Charter School Curriculum and Instruction Goals)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 613 (Graduation Requirements)

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 614 (Charter School Testing Plan and Procedure)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 615 (Testing Accommodations, Modifications, and Exemptions for IEPs, Section 504 Plans, and LEP Students)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 618 (Assessment of Student Achievement)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 619 (Staff Development for Standards)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 620 (Credit for Learning)