

## **Policy 521 STUDENT DISABILITY NONDISCRIMINATION**

### **I. PURPOSE**

In alignment with statute, the district's strategic commitment to equity, and its vision to prepare every student for lifelong success, This policy protects students with disabilities from discrimination on the basis of disability and to identify and evaluate learners who, within the intent of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504), need services, accommodations, or programs in order that such learners may receive a free appropriate public education in Northfield Public Schools.

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

- A. Students with disabilities who meet the criteria of Paragraph C. below are protected from discrimination on the basis of a disability.
- B. The responsibility of the district is to identify and evaluate learners who, within the intent of Section 504, need services, accommodations, or programs in order that such learners may receive a free appropriate public education.
- C. For this policy, a learner who is protected under Section 504 is one who:
  - 1. Has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, including learning, or;
  - 2. Has a record of such impairment, or;
  - 3. Is regarded as having such impairment, or;
  - 4. Has an impairment that is episodic or in remission and would materially limit a major life activity when active.
- D. Learners may be protected from disability discrimination and be eligible for services, accommodations, or programs under the provisions of Section 504 even though they are not eligible for special education pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

### **III. COORDINATOR**

Persons who have questions, comments, or complaints should contact the Director of Special Services regarding grievances or hearing requests regarding disability issues. This person is the district's ADA/504 coordinator.

Policy 521 Student Disability Nondiscrimination

Adopted: 08.28.2006; Statutory Update: 02.2022, 11.25.2024

Board of Education

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 659

Northfield, Minnesota

**Legal References:** Minn. Stat. § 363A.03, Subd. 12 (Definitions)  
42 U.S.C. Ch. 126 (Equal Opportunity for Individuals with Disabilities)  
29 U.S.C. § 794 *et. seq.* (Rehabilitation Act of 1973, § 504)  
34 C.F.R. Part 104 (Section 504 Implementing Regulations)

***Cross References:*** MSBA/MASA Model Policy 402 (Disability Nondiscrimination)