Policy 607 ORGANIZATION OF GRADE LEVELS

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to define the grade level organization of schools in the Northfield School District to fulfill the district's vision of developing curious, critical thinkers and preparing every student for lifelong success.

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:

Elementary:	**Grades kindergarten through 5**
Middle:	**Grades 6 through 8**
Senior High:	**Grades 9 through 12**
Area Learning Center:	**Grades 6 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.

C. The school district may request documentation that verifies a student falls within the school's 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/guardian.

III. DEFINITIONS

A. "Kindergarten" means a program designed for students at least 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.

Northfield, Minnesota

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 120A.05, Subds. 9, 10a, 11, 13, 17 (Definitions)
Minn. Stat. § 120A.20, Subds. 4 (Admission to Public School)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.02, Subd. 2 (General Powers of Independent School Districts)
Cross References: None