

INSTRUCTION – MINNESOTA GRADUATION RULE POLICY

It is the policy of the Bemidji Area Schools to implement the Minnesota Graduation Profile of Learning as set forth in the Minnesota Graduation Rule 3501.0300 to 3501.0469 and Minnesota Statutes, Section 121.11,7c. This policy is required for all school district sites and programs including alternative programs and students with special needs. The policy addresses the following components as required in the Rule and statutes cited:

A. Broad-Based Local Participation in the Implementation of the Minnesota Graduation Rule:

Bemidji Area Schools established a Graduation Standards Implementation Committee. This committee shall include representatives who are able to represent the needs of students throughout the district including those with special needs. The committee will consist of at least two of each of the following representatives: Board Members, students, parents, teachers, administrators, community at-large. This committee will function and make recommendations to the Board regarding the implementation of the Graduation Standards.

B. Ensure the Preparatory Standards of the Minnesota Graduation Rule:

Bemidji Area Schools ensure that all of the mandated components of the Minnesota Graduation Rule 3501 are addressed, taught and assessed in the curriculum designated for the preparatory grades, K-8. This curriculum integrates technology and diversity issues within a comprehensive academic focus to meet the needs of all students including students with special needs.

C. Ensure the High School Standards of the Minnesota Graduation Rule:

Bemidji Area Schools ensures that all of the mandated components of the Minnesota Graduation Rule 3501 are addressed, taught and assessed in the curriculum designed for the high school, grades 9-12. This curriculum integrates technology and diversity issues within a comprehensive academic focus to meet the needs of all students including those with special needs.

D. Assessment of Standard Achievement of the Minnesota Graduation Standards:

Bemidji Area Schools shall provide opportunities for students to complete the Minnesota Graduation Standards which have been embedded in the curriculum. The district will adopt, adapt or write performance packages and other appropriate performance assessments to assess student performance in accordance with the standards, rigor and scoring criteria established in the Rule.

E. Staff Development for Standards:

Bemidji Area Schools shall provide staff development which advances the staff's ability to work effectively with curriculum, standards, assessments and students as they progress to the achievement of the standards.

F. Credit for Learning:

Bemidji Area Schools shall allow students to achieve graduation standards through the district curriculum, alternative learning environments, extracurricular activities, activities outside of the school, schools in other districts, schools outside of Minnesota, previous learning, post-secondary institutions, work experience and waivers.

G. Student/Parent Advising:

Bemidji Area Schools shall issue student report cards according to the annual school calendar. Included in these reports will be a summary of a student's progress toward achieving the high standards on how to obtain additional information and conferencing.

H. Recordkeeping and Reporting:

Bemidji Area Schools shall develop and utilize a reporting and recording systems for student achievement of the graduation standards. The State format will be used for reporting/recording student achievement for high school students. A district format will be designed for reporting/recording achievement of the standards for grades K-8. Reporting and recording systems will include at least the standards completed, scores achieved, achievement levels, date completed and a comment section for unique accomplishments of students including those of student's with special needs.

I. Appeal Process:

Bemidji Area Schools shall provide a process for a student, parent or guardian to appeal a decision made regarding the implementation of the graduation standards/Graduation Rule 3501 or any decision made under these policies.