

1301

Community Partners

Policy

Original Adoption: 09/29/2009

Effective Date: 09/30/2009

Revision Dates:

I. PURPOSE

Minneapolis Public Schools welcomes the involvement of community groups and individuals who seek to enrich, support and affect the education offered in Minneapolis Public Schools. Connections made between schools and community groups, community experts or individual volunteers are extremely important in the success of a school and can have a lasting impact on the lives of our students. A careful balance must be maintained between the primary purpose of the schools, the activities of community groups, community experts and individual volunteers within the schools, and the safety and security of the students and staff. This policy establishes the means whereby community groups or individuals may become partners with Minneapolis Public Schools within that balance.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

- A. Any non-school, non-district sponsored group or individual may apply to become a Community Partner with the Minneapolis Public Schools.
- B. This policy does not apply to individual volunteers in the Minneapolis Public Schools who are completely supervised in their school activities by a district employee.
- C. Only those organizations who are approved as Community Partners may work with students in the Minneapolis Public Schools.
- D. Different categories of Community Partners may be established by the Superintendent to accomplish District purposes and to describe the circumstances under which a person or group should apply to become a Community Partner, a volunteer, or a community curriculum resource in the schools.
- E. Approved applications result in a certification for the school year in which the application is approved.
- F. Certifications must be annually renewed.

- G. Certification is the first step in completing a school partnership. A duly authorized program contract is required as the second step of a school partnership.
1. Program contracts must be authorized by the Principal or Site Administrator.
 2. All programs must be memorialized in a contract regardless of whether the services rendered are free to the district or not.
 3. Program contracts providing for the payment of district funds of \$5,000.00 or more to the partner must have Board approval prior to commencement of the program.

III. RESPONSIBILITY

- A. The Superintendent may promulgate regulations to implement this policy.
- B. Principals and site administrators shall direct all inquiries or offers of assistance from community groups or individuals to the proper application procedure. Principals and site administrators shall determine the current certification of an organization or individual as a Community Partner before allowing the group or individual to participate in the work of the school.
- C. Teachers shall not invite community groups or individuals into their classrooms without the approval of the Principal or site administrator.

Legal References:

Minn. Stat. §123B.02 (General Powers of Independent School Districts)
Minn. Stat. §128D.02 ([Special School District No. 1] Board of Education like Independent District's)

Cross References:

MPS 1060 (Flyer Distribution)
MPS 1070 (Poster Display)
MPS 1080 (Public Information Display)
MPS 1450 (Volunteers)
MPS 1600 (Community Use of School Facilities)
MPS 6235 (Community Curriculum Resources)