

Adopted: 01/26/12

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 610

Orig. 1995

Revised: 7/24/14, 11/3/16

Rev. 2002

## **610 FIELD TRIPS**

### **I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for student trips and to identify the general process to be followed for review and approval of trip requests.

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

It is the general expectation of the education district board that all student trips will be well planned, conducted in an orderly manner and safe environment, and will relate directly to the objectives of the class or activity for which the trip is requested. Student trips will be categorized within three general areas:

#### **A. Instructional Trips**

Trips that take place during the school day, relate directly to a course of study, and require student participation shall fall in this category. These trips shall be subject to review and approval of the assistant director, and shall be financed by education district funds within the constraints of the school building budget. Fees may not be assessed against students to defray direct costs of instructional trips. (Minn. Stat. § 123B.37, Prohibited Fees)

#### **B. Supplementary Trips**

This category pertains to those trips in which students voluntarily participate and which usually take place outside the regular school day. Examples of trips in this category involve student activities, clubs, and other special interest groups. These trips are subject to review and approval of the director. Financial contributions by students may be requested. (Minn. Stat. § 123B.36, Authorized Fees)

#### **C. Extended Trips**

1. Trips that involve one or more overnight stops fall into this category. Extended trips may be instructional or supplementary, and must be requested well in advance of the planned activity. An extended trip request form must be completed and approved at each level: student, assistant director, director and education district board. Exceptions to the approval policy may be granted or expedited to accommodate emergencies or contingencies (e.g. tournament competition).

2. The education district board acknowledges and supports the efforts of booster clubs and similar organizations in providing extended trip opportunities for students.

### **III. REGULATIONS**

- A. Rules of conduct and discipline for students and employees shall apply to all student trip activity.
- B. The education district administration shall be responsible for providing more detailed procedures, including parental involvement, supervision, and such other factors deemed important and in the best interest of students.
- C. Transportation shall be furnished through a commercial carrier or education district-owned vehicle. In the event a private vehicle is approved for use, a certificate of insurance must be on file in the education district office.
- D. A field trip proposal form will be completed and turned in to the principal or assigned designee at least one (1) week prior to the field trip for approval. Only the executive director or assigned designee may expedite the proposal.

### **IV. EDUCATION DISTRICT BOARD REVIEW**

The executive director shall at least annually report to the education district board upon the utilization of trips under this policy.

**Legal References:** Minn. Stat. § 123B.36 (Authorized Fees)  
Minn. Stat. § 123B.37 (Prohibited Fees)  
Minn. Stat. § 123B.49 (Cocurricular and Extracurricular Activities; Insurance)  
*Sonkowsky v. Board of Educ. for Indep. Sch. Dist. No. 721*, 327 F.3d 675 (8<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2003)  
*Lee v. Pine Bluff Sch. Dist.*, 472 F.3d 1026 (8<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2007)

**Cross References:** MSBA/MASA Model Policy 403 (Discipline, Suspension, and Dismissal of School District Employees)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 423 (Employee – Student Relationships)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 506 (Student Discipline)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 707 (Transportation of Public School Students)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 709 (Student Transportation Safety Policy)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 710 (Extracurricular Transportation)