**Nerstrand Elementary School Policy 608**
**Independent Charter School District #4055**
Adopted: 9-9-2024

# 608 INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES – SPECIAL EDUCATION

## I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to set forth the position of the charter school board on the need to provide special educational services to some students in the charter school.

## II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The school board recognizes that some students need special education and further recognizes the importance of providing a free appropriate public education and delivery system for students in need of special education.

## III. CHILDREN BIRTH THROUGH AGE SIX EXPERIENCING DEVELOPMENTAL DELAYS

A. "Child with a disability" means a child identified under federal and state special education law as deaf or hard-of-hearing, blind or visually impaired, deafblind, or having a speech or language impairment, a physical impairment, other health disability, developmental cognitive disability, an emotional or behavioral disorder, specific learning disability, autism spectrum disorder, traumatic brain injury, or severe multiple impairments, and who needs special education and related services, as determined by the rules of the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Children, Youth, and Families for children from birth through age two and by the rules of the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Education for all other children. A licensed physician, an advanced practice registered nurse, a physician assistant, or a licensed psychologist is qualified to make a diagnosis and determination of attention deficit disorder or attention deficit hyperactivity disorder for purposes of identifying a child with a disability.

B. In addition to Paragraph A, every child under age three and, at local district discretion, every child from age three through age six, who needs special

instruction and services, as determined by the rules of the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Children, Youth, and Families for children under age three and by the rules of the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Education for children ages three through six, because the child has a substantial delay or has a diagnosed physical or mental condition or disorder with a high probability of resulting in developmental delay is a child with a disability.

C. A child with a short-term or temporary physical or emotional illness or disability, as determined by the rules of the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Children, Youth, and Families for children from birth through age two and by the rules of the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Education for all other children, is not a child with a disability.

## IV. RESPONSIBILITIES

A. The school board accepts its responsibility to identify, evaluate, and provide special education and related services for disabled children who are properly the responsibility of the charter school and who meet the criteria to qualify for special education and related services as set forth in Minnesota and federal law.

B. The charter school shall ensure that all qualified children with a disability are provided special education and related services that are appropriate to their educational needs.

C. When such services require or result from interagency cooperation, the charter school shall participate in such interagency activities in compliance with applicable federal and state law.

D. The school may conduct an assessment for developmental adapted physical education, as defined in Minnesota Rules, part 3525.1352, as a stand-alone evaluation without conducting a comprehensive evaluation of the student in accordance with prior written notice provisions in Minnesota Statutes, section 125A.091, subdivision 3a. A parent or guardian may request that the school conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the parent's or guardian's student.

***Legal References:*** Minn. Stat. § 124D.03 (Enrollment Options Program)
Minn. Stat. § 124E.03 (Applicable Law)
Minn. Stat. § 124E.10 (Charter Contract)

Minn. Stat. § 124E.21 (Special Education Aid)
Minn. Stat. Ch. 125A (Special Education and Special Services)
Minn. Rules 3525.0210, Subp. 15 (Definitions)
20 U.S.C. § 1400 *et seq.* (Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004)

***Cross References:*** MSBA/MASA Model Policy 402 (Disability Nondiscrimination Policy)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 508 (Extended School Year for Certain Students with Individualized Education Programs)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 521 (Student Disability Nondiscrimination)