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I. Purpose

A. In accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 120B.11, the Vermilion Country School Board of Directors, at a public meeting, will adopt a comprehensive, long-term strategic plan to support and improve teaching and learning that is aligned with creating the world's best workforce.

B. Minnesota schools strive to provide the best educational opportunities for all children. Providing an education to Minnesota youth that leads to creating the world's best workforce is a goal that must be addressed early in every child's life. Students are more likely to reach this goal if they are ready for school upon entering kindergarten; achieve grade level literacy by grade three; graduate from high school and attain career and college readiness.

C. In order to create the world's best workforce, it is imperative that academic achievement gaps are closed among all racial and ethnic groups of students and between students living in poverty and not living in poverty as well as for English language learners and non-English language learners and for students who receive or do not receive special education services.

II. Definitions

A. "Instruction" means methods of providing learning experiences that enable a student to meet state and district academic standards and graduation requirements.

B. "Curriculum" means district or school adopted programs and written plans for providing students with learning experiences that lead to expected knowledge and skills and career and college readiness.

C. "World's Best Workforce" means striving to: meet school readiness goals; have all third grade students achieve grade-level literacy; close the academic achievement gap among all racial and ethnic groups of students and between students living in poverty and students not living in poverty; have all students attain career and college readiness before graduating from high school; and have all students graduate from high school.

III. General Statement of Policy

A. Performance measures used to determine school district and school site progress in striving to create the world's best workforce must include at least:

1. Student performance on the National Association of Education Progress;
2. The size of the academic achievement gap by student subgroup;
3. Student performance on the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments;
4. High school graduation rates; and
5. Career and college readiness under Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 120B.30, Subdivision 1.

B. The VCS School Board, at a public meeting, will adopt a comprehensive, long-term strategic plan to support and improve teaching and learning that is aligned with creating the world's best workforce and includes:

1. Clearly defined district and school site goals and benchmarks for instruction and student achievement for all student subgroups identified in Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 120B.35, Subdivision 3, Paragraph (b), Clause (2);
2. A process for assessing and evaluating each student's progress toward meeting state and local academic standards and identifying the strengths and weaknesses of instruction in pursuit of student and school success and curriculum affecting students' progress and growth toward career and college readiness and leading to the world's best workforce;
3. A system to periodically review and evaluate the effectiveness of instruction and curriculum, taking into account strategies and best practices, and student outcomes
4. Strategies for improving instruction, curriculum, and achievement; and
5. An annual budget for continuing to implement the district plan.

IV. Report

A. Consistent with requirements for school performance reports under Chapter 120B.36, Subdivision 1, the School Board will publish a report by electronic means on the district website.

B. The School Board will hold an annual public meeting to review, and revise where appropriate, student achievement goals, local assessment outcomes, plans, strategies, and practices for improving curriculum and instruction, and to review district success in realizing the previously adopted student achievement goals and related benchmarks and the improvement plans leading to the world's best workforce.

C. The School Board must transmit an electronic summary of its report to the commissioner in the form and manner the commissioner determines.

Legal References

Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 120B.022 (Elective Standards)

Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 120B.11 (Striving for the World's Best Workforce)

Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 120B.30 (Statewide Testing and Reporting System)

Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 120B.35 (Academic Achievement and Growth)

Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 122A.40 (Employment; Contracts; Termination)