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| Contact Person: | Executive Director of Learning and Teaching |

# POLICY 630 INTERNATIONAL STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM

## I. PURPOSE

To establish guidelines for high schools to apply in accepting foreign exchange students.

## II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The District supports student international exchange programs designed to provide students from Bloomington the opportunity to have education and social experiences in countries outside the United States and to provide foreign students the opportunity to participate in the Bloomington education program tuition free for one year.

Toward that end, the district shall support organized efforts designed to facilitate Student exchange by the exchange programs recognized by the State of Minnesota and registered with the Minnesota Secretary of State's Office.

According to Minnesota State High School League Rules, foreign students who transfer through a recognized foreign exchange program are eligible to compete at all levels of interscholastic competition.

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Contact Person: Executive Director of Learning and Teaching

## REGULATION 630 INTERNATIONAL STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM

I. ELIGIBILITY TO ENROLL IN A BLOOMINGTON PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Students who enter the United States with a non-immigrant (student) visa through a state approved international student exchange program are eligible to apply for enrollment for one year at a Bloomington Public High School.

Other Eligibility Requirements:

A. The exchange student must have a permanent host family placement for the duration of their exchange experience: full year, semester, quarter. Exchange programs such as the Rotary program that schedule multiple family placements during the exchange experience, will be considered permanent placements.

B. The host family must live within the high school attendance area.

C. The exchange student must provide evidence of significant English fluency either through examination or teacher affidavit.

D. The exchange student must receive all vaccinations required by the Minnesota school immunization law.

E. The building principal of the high school involved must determine that there is sufficient schedule availability to accept the student.

F. Students who have already graduated from high school in their home country are eligible for the international student exchange program. They are considered resident pupils and generate state aid.

II. METHOD OF ENROLLMENT

A. Prior to the student's arrival, the local representative of the local international exchange organization or the potential host parent will contact the appropriate Bloomington Public High School to enroll the exchange student. The representative or host parents will fill out a Request for Admission form and the standard Bloomington Public Schools Registration form. The standard Registration form contains all the elements of the Tennessen Warning, which guarantees privacy rights under the Minnesota Government Data Privacy Act. The Tennessen Warning is required whenever private information is obtained by a government agency. It explains how the personal information will be used, the fact that the applicant may refuse to provide personal information, the consequences

that will result if information is not supplied, and who is authorized to receive the data.

If the exchange student is under age 18 the host parents may sign the registration. Students over 18 years of age should add their signatures to the form after arrival in the U.S.

B. At the time of enrollment, proof of English fluency, host family information, proof of student vaccinations, and organization and host family emergency numbers must be provided.

C. The high school principal will approve enrollment if all eligibility requirements have been met and, unless the principal has agreed to allow an exception, the student can enroll and begin classes before the start of a trimester.

D. A meeting with appropriate school counselor will be arranged to prepare a class schedule.

III. TIMELINE

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| January-May | Organization representative or host family contacts the high school requesting admission. |
| June | If permission to enroll is approved by high school principal, the host family or organization representative enrolls the student. |
| August | Meet with a high school counselor to prepare a student schedule. |

During the Organization and host family maintain communication
Exchange with appropriate high school representative to deal with Experience adjustment, progress, concerns, and problems.

IV. CONSIDERATIONS

Foreign exchange students who are enrolled in the Bloomington Public Schools on a J-1 Visa are welcome to participate in graduation events but cannot receive a diploma. International exchange students who are enrolled in the Bloomington Public Schools on a F-1 Visa must pay full tuition and are welcome to participate in graduation events and receive a diploma if they meet all graduation requirements as determined by Policy 601.1