

K-12 Curriculum Framework

Draft 1.0 | September 2026 | Audience: parents, educators, curriculum leaders

Draft governing framework - not adopted Minnesota law.

The curriculum framework is organized around nine recurring strands and three developmental stages. State expectations define mastery; districts choose how to teach it.

Nine strands

- Literacy & Communication
- Mathematics & Quantitative Reasoning
- Science & Engineering
- Logic, Research & Information
- History, Geography & Civic Mechanics
- Practical Life & Personal Economics
- Technology, Trades & Making
- Health, Nutrition & Physical Readiness
- Arts, Music & Creative Practice

Developmental stages

Grades	Stage	Emphasis
K-5	Discover & Master	Reading mechanics, fluency, writing, arithmetic, measurement, observation, broad knowledge, creativity and hands-on making.
6-8	Understand & Reason	Systems, algebra, experiments, source evaluation, logic, statistics, coding, civic mechanics and practical problem solving.
9-12	Prepare for Independence	Advanced academics plus economic independence, household management, work, health, contracts, civics, trades and technology.

Proposed high school credit framework

Area	Credits
Literacy & Communication	4
Mathematics & Quantitative Reasoning	4
Science & Engineering	3
History, Geography & Civic Mechanics	2
Logic, Research & Information	1
Personal Economics & Independent Living	2
Technology, Trades & Career Preparation	2
Health	1
Physical Education	1
Arts	1
Pathway / electives	3
Total	24

Mastery checks

Major mastery checks identify students who need additional time, materials or targeted instruction. The default is promotion plus support, not mass retention.