6198  ESTABLISHMENT OF SCHOOL WITHIN A SCHOOL PROGRAMS IN
DULUTH PUBLIC MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOLS

Whereas Duluth Public Schools is dedicated to provision of educational programs that
promote the success of all individual students enrolled, and whereas Duluth Public Schools
believes in the capacity of site-based decision-making to enhance and expand delivery of
instruction strategic to the population served, ISD 709 Middle and High Schools have
capacity to create separate and discrete programs, housed within and administrated by
existing structures, developed to serve the unique needs of an identified population. These
programs, once approved, will be referred to in general as School Within A School (SWAS)
programs. Sites that apply to offer such options must complete the following application,
which includes approval by the site's council, and submit the application to the District
Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment for final approval by the School Board.
Once approved, the site is sanctioned to offer such a program without need for renewal of
approval. SWAS programs, district-wide will share the following common definitions and
characteristics:

ISD 709 SWAS programs will be Asset-Based. Any program established will be created
to capitalize, refine, or build upon attributes, past experiences, interests, and intelligences
of a select group of identified students. Assets can be defined as resilience, aptitude, or
demonstrated abilities, and programs offered will be created to encourage and extend the
students' abilities to capitalize on the assets identified.

ISD 709 SWAS programs will establish intake procedures that include the right of
the program to identify specific intake criteria for participants. The criteria will
include establishing a SWAS asset-based community. Additional intake procedures must
include the right of the student, a teacher, a parent, or an administrator to make
recommendation of a potential enrollee and the requirement of the potential participant's
parent or legal guardian to be part of the decision to participate. Common intake
procedures for all Duluth SWAS programs will include:

- Recommendation for program participation is made by the student, a teacher, a
  parent, or an administrator.
- Initial recommendation is reviewed by a building administrator and the program
  coordinator and other identified program leadership.
- If initial review results in recommendation, intake conference is held which includes
  the student, parent or guardian, building administrator, and the program coordinator.

ISD 709 SWAS programs will report and be held responsible to the building
administration and student enrolled will be subject to all rules and regulations
delineated in the district policies, and funding will be utilized within specified
designations, unless the approved establishment of the program states otherwise.

ISD 709 SWAS programs will complete and submit the following information for Bard
approval to the District's Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment.