

1 Great Falls School District

2  
3 **FLEXIBILITY AND EFFICIENCY**

1005FE

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5 Proficiency-Based ANB

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7 It is the policy of the District to increase the flexibility and efficiency of the District's resources  
8 by utilizing the provision of law allowing proficiency-based ANB.

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10 The District has a definition of proficiency within the meaning of that term as used in 20-9-  
11 311(4)(d). The definition must not require seat time as a condition or other element of  
12 determining proficiency. The definition must be incorporated in the District's policies and must  
13 be used for purposes of determining content and course mastery and other progress, promotion  
14 from grade to grade, grades, and graduation for students enrolled in the District's  
15 transformational learning program.

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17 Definition of Proficiency

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19 For purposes of this policy, the term "proficiency" means a degree of mastery of the underlying  
20 content for a course that is reflective of a final grade, in the professional opinion of the teacher of  
21 record. The determination of proficiency by a teacher must not require seat time as a condition or  
22 other element of determining proficiency.

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24 The determination of proficiency for a student enrolled in a course shall be made no earlier than  
25 the deadline for submitting the final grade for the course. The determination of proficiency for a  
26 student not enrolled in a course shall be based on the student's mastery of the underlying content  
27 of the course, demonstrated through completion of a final exam designed by the teacher of record  
28 for the applicable course.

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30 Teachers of record have full professional discretion in determining proficiency of students in  
31 courses taught. Teachers of record are encouraged to integrate trial and error into the learning  
32 process and to incorporate continued opportunity for practice and revision of assignments until a  
33 student reaches a performance level that demonstrates to the teacher's satisfaction that mastery  
34 of learning expectations has been attained.

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36 The District may include in its calculation of ANB a student who is enrolled in a program  
37 providing fewer than the required aggregate hours of student instruction required under Montana  
38 law if the student has demonstrated proficiency in the content ordinarily covered by the  
39 instruction as determined by the school Board using District assessments. The ANB of a student  
40 who demonstrates proficiency in any content/subject matter will be converted to an hourly  
41 equivalent based on the hours of instruction ordinarily provided for the content over which the  
42 student has demonstrated proficiency.

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44 The District may, on a case-by-case basis, provide fractional credit for partial completion of a  
45 course for a student who is unable to attend class for the required amount of time.

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1 The District may waive specific course requirements based on individual student needs and  
2 performance levels. Waiver requests shall also be considered with respect to age, maturity,  
3 interest, and aspirations of the students and shall be in consultation with the parents or guardians.

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5 At the discretion of the District, a student may be given credit for a course satisfactorily  
6 completed in a period of time shorter or longer than normally required and, provided that the  
7 course meets the District’s curriculum and assessment requirements, which are aligned with the  
8 content standards stated in the education program. Examples of acceptable course work include,  
9 but are not necessarily limited to, those delivered through correspondence, extension, and  
10 distance learning course, adult education, summer school, work study, specially designed  
11 courses, and challenges to current courses.

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13 Legal Reference:

14 20-1-301, MCA	School Fiscal Year
15 20-9-311 (4)(a)(b)(d), MCA	Calculation of Average Number Belonging (ANB) – 3 Year 16 Averaging
17 20-3-324, MCA	Powers and Duties
18 10.55.906, ARM	High School Credit
19 Chapter 402 (2019)	Transformational Learning Incentives

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21 Policy History:

22 Adopted on:	April 12, 2021
23 Revised on:	
24 Revised on:	