

1 Great Falls School District

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3 **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

1902

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5 Pandemic Emergency Measures

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7 Alternative Grading

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9 This policy is adopted as a temporary policy in accordance with the framework set by District
10 Policy 1900 – Temporary Pandemic Policies and is intended to govern District operations for the
11 period affected by pandemics, when health and safety measures implemented by the District are
12 in response to directives given by federal, state or local authorities.

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14 Teachers will grade student as usual in accordance with established classroom or course
15 practices during the grading period in accordance with District Policy 2420 and the Employee
16 Handbook.

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18 During the current pandemic students will receive a Pass/Fail or P/F grade for grades 7-12 and a
19 G (Good Progress), S (Satisfactory Progress) or N (Needs Improvement) for grades K-6 in place
20 of a grade typically assigned for the student’s courses. The traditional, default A-F letter grade
21 option can be requested by a student and parents/guardians, beginning on a date designated by
22 Great Falls Public Schools, up to one week prior to graduation or upon withdrawal of the student
23 from the District. A student and/or parent/guardian may complete this request by submitting to
24 the counselor assigned to that student. Academic Variance forms are available at all secondary
25 schools. Academic Variance requests are applied to all courses enrolled in at the time of the
26 pandemic. Students and parents/guardians will not be allowed to petition for individual course
27 grade reinstatement.

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30 For students or parents/guardians who maintain a P/F grade, the District will record the P/F
31 designation using a rubric in which all grades of 60% or higher earn a Pass, designated that a
32 student is proficient, in accordance with District Policy 2169, The District’s Pandemic Plan of
33 Action as submitted to the Office of the Governor and/or while emergency declarations relating
34 to the current pandemic are in place.

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36 Students earning course grades converted to a Pass grade in this temporary P/F option for
37 grading periods affected by the current pandemic health and safety measures will be granted
38 credit for the course and the credit will count towards promotion or graduation requirements and
39 extra-curricular eligibility. Students earning a Fail designation in a course will not earn credit,
40 may be subject to retention and/or remediation consideration, and, if applicable, will be subject
41 to extra-curricular eligibility consequences.

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43 Grades reported as Pass will not be counted toward or against class honors, academic awards or
44 class rank as outlined in Policy 2410P for classes of students graduating during or after the
45 current pandemic.

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47 The District will include a designation on the students' transcripts indicating the extraordinary
48 circumstances for any grading period, and any grade affected by the current pandemics health
49 and safety measures.

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52 Cross Reference:

53 Policy 1902F	Petition for Academic Variance
54 Policy 2169	Proficiency Based/Transformational Learning
55 Policy 2410-2410P	High School Graduation Requirements
56 Policy 2420	Grading and Progress Reports
57 Policy 2168	Distance, Online, and Technology-Delivered Learning
58 Policy 2421	Promotion - Retention

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60 Legal References:

61 Section 20-1-301, MCA	School Fiscal Year
62 Section 20-3-325, MCA	Powers and Duties
63 Section 20-7-1601, MCA	Transformational Learning
64 Section 20-9-311(4)(a)(b)(d), MCA	Calculation of Average Number Belonging
65 10.55.906, ARM	High School Credit

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67 Policy History

68 Adopted on: May 1, 2020

69 Revised on:

70 Revised on: