

1 Great Falls School District

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3 **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

1906

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5 Pandemic Emergency Measures

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7 Student Instruction and Services

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9 The District has adopted the protocols outlined in this policy to govern during the term of the  
10 declared public health emergency to ensure the delivery of education services to students onsite  
11 at the school, offsite at other locations using available resources including but limited to online  
12 methods. The supervising teacher, principal, Superintendent or designee are authorized to  
13 implement this policy.

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15 As outlined in District Policy 2100, and except for students determined by the District to be  
16 proficient using District assessments, the adopted calendar has a minimum number of 720  
17 aggregate instructional hours for students in kindergarten through third grade; 1,080 hours for  
18 students in fourth through eleventh grade and 1,050 hours for students in twelfth grade.

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20 The District may satisfy the aggregate number of hours through any combination of District  
21 approved onsite, offsite, and online instruction. The District administration is directed to ensure  
22 that all students are offered access to the complete range of educational programs and services  
23 for the education program required by the accreditation standards adopted by the Montana Board  
24 of Public Education.

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26 For the purposes of this policy and the District’s calculation of ANB and “aggregate hours of  
27 instruction” within the meaning of that term in Montana law, teaching strategies which are  
28 innovative or transformational and focus on student engagement for the purposes of developing a  
29 students’ interests, passions, and strengths, instruction shall be construed as being synonymous  
30 with the terms “learning” and “education.” The term shall include any directed, distributive,  
31 collaborative and/or experiential learning activity provided, facilitated or coordinated by the  
32 teacher of record in a given course that is done purposely to facilitate the learning of, acquisition  
33 of knowledge, skills and abilities by, and to otherwise fulfill the full educational potential of  
34 students.

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36 Staff shall calculate the number of hours students have received instruction as defined in this  
37 policy through a combined calculation of services received onsite at the school or services  
38 provided or accessed at District approved offsite or online instructional settings including, but  
39 not limited to, any combination of physical instructional packets, virtual or electronic based  
40 course meetings and assignments, self-directed or parent-assisted learning opportunities, and  
41 other educational efforts undertaken by the staff and students that can be given for grade or  
42 credit. Staff shall report completed hours of instruction as defined in this policy to the  
43 supervising teacher, building principal, or District administrator for final calculation.

44

1 Students shall receive grades for completed coursework in accordance with the grading scale for  
2 the individual staff member or the alternative grading procedures outlined in District Policy  
3 1902.

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5 The Board of Trustees may revise the school calendar to adjust the completion of the school year  
6 for particular grade levels and groups once students have satisfied the required number of  
7 applicable aggregate hours.

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9 In order to comply with the requirements of the calendar, District Policy and Section 20-1-301,  
10 MCA, the District shall implement the instructional schedules and methods identified in this  
11 policy.

### 12 13 District Approved Offsite and Online Instructional Setting

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15 The Board of Trustees authorizes District approved offsite and online instruction of students in a  
16 manner that satisfies that aggregate number of instructional hours outlined in the District's  
17 annually adopted calendar. District approved offsite and online delivery methods shall include a  
18 complete range of educational services offered by the District and shall comply with the  
19 requirements of applicable statutes. Students completing course work through a District  
20 approved offsite or online instructional setting shall be treated in and have their hours of  
21 instruction calculated in the same manner as students attending an onsite institutional setting.

22  
23 The Board of Trustees authorizes the Superintendent, or designee, to permit students to utilize a  
24 District approved offsite or online instructional setting at parental request if onsite instruction is  
25 offered in the District in accordance with Policy 1908.

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27 Students receiving offsite delivery of education services may be eligible for assistance with  
28 accessibility to a District approved offsite or remote learning opportunities in accordance with  
29 District Policy 1904.

### 30 31 Special Education and Accommodation of Disabilities or Diagnoses

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33 Students shall receive services in accordance with the applicable Individualized Education Plan  
34 or Section 504 Plan based on methods and locations agreed upon and documented by the  
35 applicable team to meet the student's needs and goals. The supervising teacher or building  
36 administrator shall coordinate with parents and the special education staff or cooperative to  
37 ensure all applicable statutes are followed in accordance with the U.S. Department of Education  
38 guidelines.

### 39 40 Student Attendance

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42 The Board of Trustees authorizes the supervising teacher, building principal or District  
43 administration to set an attendance policy for students that takes into account the location of

1 instructional services, the applicability of proficiency-based instruction, the student's grade level,  
2 and the health and safety of the student and their household. Students are expected to complete  
3 assigned work. If a student is not present for the instructional, the student shall be permitted to  
4 complete all work assigned by the teacher if not present for instruction within a reasonable  
5 period of time determined by the teacher. Students shall not lose credit or incur a grade reduction  
6 for reasons related to attendance without good reason as determined by the Board of Trustees.

#### 7 8 Student Safety and Counseling

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10 Students shall have access to regular school counseling services whether their instruction is  
11 provided in a District approved onsite, offsite or online setting. Staff shall promptly report any  
12 suspected student distress or concern to their supervisor or review and referral. Students  
13 receiving instruction in a District approved offsite setting are governed by the staff obligation to  
14 report suspected child abuse or neglect.

#### 15 16 Homeless Students and Students in Foster Care

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18 This policy in no way limits or adjusts the Districts obligations to homeless students or students  
19 in foster care. Applicable District policies serving these students or this population of students  
20 remain in full effect.

#### 21 22 Student Discipline

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24 This policy in no way limits or adjusts the District's expectations for student conduct. All  
25 applicable District policies and handbook provisions governing student conduct remain in full  
26 effect.

#### 27 28 School Schedule and Calendar

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30 It is the objective of the Board of Trustees to ensure the proactive operations of the District  
31 during a public health emergency by: (1) meeting the educational needs of the students; (2)  
32 complying with all applicable statutes and rules pertaining to the aggregate hours of instruction;  
33 and (3) identifying and implementing innovative methods to meet educational and other needs of  
34 each student in the District..

#### 35 36 Summer School

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38 The Board of Trustees authorized a summer program of instructional offerings for the purpose of  
39 remediation of credit, maintenance of skills, and enrichment. All classes offered for credit must  
40 meet minimum state requirements for accreditation and may be delivered at the school or at  
41 another offsite location. Remediation credit courses shall be offered, grades 9-12, in accordance  
42 with District advancement requirements. Credit course offerings must be approved by the Board  
43 of Trustees.

1 Extended School Year

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3 In accordance with District Policy 2011, Section 20-1-301, MCA, and any applicable collective  
 4 bargaining agreement covering the employment of affected employees, the Board of Trustees  
 5 may establish a school calendar with an earlier start date and a later end date from non-  
 6 emergency school years to ensure students receive the minimum number of aggregate  
 7 instructional hours. The purpose of an extended school year will be to maximize flexibility in the  
 8 delivery of instruction and learning for each student in the District in the event of school closures  
 9 or other impacts of District operations due to a public health emergency. When setting an  
 10 extended school year, the District will collaborate with students, parents, employees and other  
 11 community stakeholders. When proposing to adopt changes to a previously adopted school term,  
 12 the Board of Trustees will follow the procedures outlined in Policy 2100.

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14 Legal References:

15 Section 20-1-101, MCA	Definitions
16 Section 20-1-301, MCA	School Fiscal Year
17 Section 20-7-118, MCA	Offsite Provision of Educational Services
18 Section 20-7-1601, MCA	Transformational Learning – Legislative Intent
19 Section 20-9-311, MCA	Calculation of Average Number Belonging
20 ARM 10.55.906(4)	High School Credit

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22 Cross References:

23 Policy 1005FE	Proficiency Based ANB
24 Policy 1902	Alternative Grading
25 Policy 1905	Staff, Student, and Community Health and Safety
26 Policy 2100	School Year and Calendar and Day
27 Policy 2140	Guidance and Counseling
28 Policy 2150	Suicide Awareness and Prevention
29 Policy 2161	Special Education
30 Policy 2168	Distance, Online, and Technology-Delivered Learning
31 Policy 2169	Proficiency-Based/Transformational Learning
32 Policy 2410	High School Graduation Requirements
33 Policy 2420	Grading and Progress Reports
34 Policy 2421	Promotion – Retention
35 Policy 3122	Attendance Policy
36 Policy 3125	Education of Homeless Students
37 Policy 3310	Student Discipline

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39 Policy History:

40 Adopted on:	May 1, 2020
41 Revised on:	November 8, 2021
42 Revised on:	