

**MOUNTAIN HOME SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 193
MOUNTAIN HOME, IDAHO 83647**

POLICY

STUDENT ALTERNATIVE PLACEMENT - BMHS

MHSD193 has elected to provide alternative instructional courses and services to eligible at-risk youth to enable them to earn a high school diploma via an alternative secondary program through Bennett Mountain High School (BMHS). The districts alternative program will utilize course offerings, teacher/student ratios, and teaching strategies that are specially designed to serve the educational needs of at-risk youth.

PURPOSE

Bennett Mountain High School offers credits that lead to a high school diploma. Bennett Mountain High School is not a GED program, remedial program, or special education program. We are committed to helping students earn a high school diploma.

ENROLLMENT

Students desiring to enroll in Bennett Mountain High School must do so within the first three days of each new block, or must wait until the next block begins. Every student must go through the school's induction process prior to enrollment at Bennett Mountain High School. The induction process is a meeting between the school's Academic Council and the interested student and their parents/guardians. Enrollment will be determined by the Academic Council.

ACADEMIC COUNCIL/RTI

The Council is comprised of staff members of which the principal and counselor will be included. The Bennett Mountain High School Academic Council is responsible for overseeing the student induction/enrollment process and also meets as needed to review and evaluate interventions/actions that need to be taken in regard to student discipline, conduct, attendance, and credit completion.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM

For the purpose of this policy, a student may be considered "at-risk" and qualify for participation in the alternative program if (s)he meets the following criteria:

1. The student is a resident of the district and eligible to attend grades nine (9) through twelve (12).
2. The student meets three (3) of the following criteria:
 - a. Has repeated at least one (1) grade.
 - b. Was absent more than 10% during the preceding semester.
 - c. Has an overall grade point average (GPA) that is less than 1.5 on a 4.0 scale.
 - d. Has failed one (1) or more academic subjects.
 - e. Is two (2) or more semester credits per year behind the rate required to graduate.

Or

3. The student meets one (1) of the following criteria:
 - a. Has substance abuse behavior.
 - b. Is pregnant or a parent;
 - c. Is an emancipated youth.
 - d. Is a previous dropout.
 - e. Has a serious personal, emotional, or medical problem.
 - f. Is referred to the alternative program by a court or the MHSD School Board of Trustees.
 - g. Meets the criteria for a disruptive student.
 - A disruptive student is a student whose behavior poses a threat to the physical or emotional safety of the student, other students, or school personnel; is a consistently disruptive or inappropriate in the regular school environment; has a history of multiple suspensions or a history of expulsion.

PLACEMENT

Students will be placed in the BMHS alternative school/program by the MHSD Board of Trustees as a result of the findings of the District Review Committee and/or a Response to Intervention (RTI) team if there is availability at BMHS.

Disruptive students may be placed in BMHS alternative school/program upon determination that such placement is in the best interest of the student. The evaluation and determination to place a student in an alternative school or placement will be made to the MHSD Board of Trustees by the District Review Committee's proceeding and finding. The principal will initiate the District Review process within 30-days after the principal determines the student may meet the definition of a disruptive student.

In addition to the student's behavior, the District Review Committee will consider the student's academic progress, his/her student learning plan, personal and social development, treatment plans, and other appropriate issues. If the District Review Committee finding determines that placement at BMHS or program is appropriate, such placement will be submitted to the MHSD Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees will hear the student matter, in executive session, during a regular or special board meeting, and will make a determination in the open session of that board meeting.

All students will follow all the requirements, policies, and procedures of the MHSD, including, but not limited to the BMHS Student Code of Conduct, Attendance requirements, Dress Code, Policies and Guidelines, and the BMHS Student Handbook. All students will cooperate with law enforcement, Health & Welfare officials, and District administrators.

SCHEDULE

There will be four blocks of four periods daily for eight-week blocks. The four blocks of study provide the possibility of earning four credits per block. Credits are earned each block and each class offered is worth one credit. BMHS follows the same academic calendar as the Mountain Home School District with the exceptions that BMHS begins the school year roughly one week after the other schools in the district and BMHS students will have multiple days off between blocks one-two and three-four.

The elective options at BMHS are limited; however, if a student can provide their own transportation to and from Mountain Home High School (MHHS), they may dual enroll. Teacher and administrative approval is required to dual enroll at Mountain Home High School.

ACADEMICS

BMHS is an alternative school of choice and for students serious about their academic wellbeing, willingness to learn, and the expectation of receiving a high school diploma. Students are encouraged to earn C's and higher in all classes.

Students must show continued academic achievement by earning at least three (3) credits for each block they attend at BMHS. Students not on track to earn a minimum of three credits in a block will be placed on academic probation and be required to attend all assigned academic interventions. Students failing to comply with the assigned academic interventions and/or fail to earn the three necessary credits by the end of the block will be withdrawn from BMHS.

Withdrawn students may put their name on the school's waitlist and reapply for entry into BMHS the following block; however, they will be required to continue with the academic intervention process until they achieve the minimum completion of three credits per block.

ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance is a vital requirement for all students in order to make certain that educational opportunities and experiences are maximized. The State of Idaho and the Mountain Home School District require a minimum of 90% attendance to receive academic credit and make progress in grade level; 90% attendance is defined as being in class 90% of the time each class. Therefore, every effort should be made by students, parents, and administration to ensure that students are in attendance and punctual every day. Absence from class for any reason, all excused absences, including family convenience, will be counted.

Except in extraordinary cases, students are expected to be present at school and in their assigned class. Extraordinary circumstances may include, but are not limited to, verified illness or medical treatment, death in the family, or death of close friends, and medical, dental, or professional appointments. Documentation of attendance at appointments may be required.

Legal Reference: Idaho Code, Section 33-1002, 33-1002C, 33-1002F
IDAPA 08.02.03.100.09

ADOPTED: November 18, 2014