

## Changes in Handbook BHS/BJH Handbook

Page-12

### **BHS Exemptions From Semester Tests**

**Students will be exempted if they meet the following requirements:**

- A 92 or above average and no more than 3 excused absences (0 unexcused).
- An 82 or above average and no more than two excused absences (0 unexcused).

**Rational-** To discourage all unexcused absences.

---

Page- 18

### **Pass / Fail**

To increase a student's knowledge and interest in other areas they may take a class pass/fail that is not required to meet state graduation plan requirements. A student will be allowed, the first 2 weeks of each semester, to determine this option. All aide positions are P/F. Beginning with the 2006-2007 school year the pass/fail option will not be allowed for local courses designated as advanced.

**RATIONAL-** The faculty believes that students taking advanced courses P/F will not always put forth the effort to do as well as they can. Advanced courses are typically smaller classes and if 2-3 students in the class are not as motivated as the rest of the class they tend to pull the entire class down. (this would require a change in EHAD Local if approved)

---

Page- 19

Grades earned by credit by examination, correspondence courses, and **Vocational Adjustment Classes (VAC)** shall not be used in computing grade point averages. **Grades earned in band, physical education, and athletics will be used in computing grade point averages.** If band is used by the student to meet the fine arts requirement, the first two semesters of band taken in grades 9-12 shall be used as a fine arts credit in determining grade point average.

**RATIONAL-** Vocational Adjustment Classes (VAC) credits are gained outside of the district through the Special Education program and the grades are not given by BHS teachers. We believe they should not count in the computation of the GPA. Counting band, physical education, and athletics in the GPA was a decision made 2-3 years ago by the administration with the approval of the board. That statement has been in previous handbooks. (Board Policy EIC Local would need to be amended if approved.)

---

\*Advanced courses are offered for all high school students in AP Biology, AP Chemistry, Research/Technical Writing, Creative/Imaginative Writing, Advanced Social Studies/Research Methods/Special Topics, Psychology\*, Physics\*, Accounting II, BCIS II, Pre-AP Algebra I, Pre-AP Algebra II, Pre-AP Geometry, Pre-AP Calculus, AP Calculus, third-year Language, and dual credit classes. (\*Because of state requirements physics and psychology will not be advanced courses after the 2006-2007 school year )

**RATIONAL-** In the past physics has been an advanced course where typically only the top students took in usually smaller than average classes. The state now requires physics in the recommended graduation plan and almost all students will take it. Psychology is an elective that we would like to encourage more students to take. It should not be an advanced course

---

- A student who receives at the end of a grading period a grade below 70 in any local academic class (including advanced classes) may not participate in extracurricular activities for at least three school weeks. This does not apply to dual credit classes taken from an accredited college or university.

**RATIONAL-** This change will help to keep students taking advanced courses motivated. Students in these courses are almost without exception very capable students and should never be in danger of failing if they have an incentive. Differences in grading policies and the number of assignments given by college instructors makes it difficult to get a clear reading every 3 weeks of a students progress so dual credit courses would not change (FM Local would need to be modified if this change occurs)

---

The following categories of the academic evaluation are to be completed from the corresponding sections of the individual's report card by the cheerleading coach/principal:

**GRADES**

No semester average below "80" for the first semester	5
No six weeks grade below "80" for the first semester	5
A semester average below "80" but not below "75" for the first semester	3
A six weeks grade below "80" but not below "75" during the first semester	3
A semester average below "75" but not below "70" for the first semester	2
A six weeks grade below "75" but not below "70" during the first semester	2
A semester average below "70" for the first semester	0
A six week grade below "70" during the first semester	0

**ATTENDANCE**

The accumulation of no more than 4 absences for the first semester	5
The accumulation of 5-7 absences for the first semester	3
The accumulation of more than 8 absences for the first semester	0

**DISCIPLINE RECORD**

No Office Referrals issued for this applicant	5
No more than one office referral or one detention/ISS	3
More than one office referral or one detention	0

**ANY APPLICANT WHO HAS BEEN ISSUED MORE THAN 3 OFFICE REFERRALS, DISCIPLINE DETENTIONS, HAS BEEN PLACED IN ISS MORE THAN ONCE, SUSPENDED FROM SCHOOL, OR PLACED AT THE ALTERNATIVE CAMPUS AUTOMATICALLY RELINQUISHES THEIR TRYOUT POSITION.**

**CUMULATIVE EVALUATION**

**THE APPLICANT MUST SCORE 13 OR ABOVE TO BE ELIGIBLE TO TRYOUT FOR CHEERLEADER.**

**RATIONAL-** This system was adopted a couple of years ago and has been a big improvement. We believe the changes in the academic evaluation portion represent tweaking that will still ensure that only capable and dependable students will become cheerleaders and at the same time place a little more weight on the athletic abilities rated by the judges.

---

**Page-34**

**Optional Flexible Year Program**

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** The Optional Flexible Year Program provides districts with flexibility in designing the instructional program for students who did not or are not likely to perform successfully on state assessments or who would not otherwise be promoted to the next grade level. The instructional calendar for students who fall into these risk categories must provide for no fewer than 180 days. The instructional calendar for students who do not fall into these risk categories may be reduced, but not below 170 days, in order to provide intensive instructional services to those students with greater educational needs. (STATUTORY AUTHORITY: TEC, §29.0821)

**PUBLIC AND STUDENT BENEFIT:** This program will provide districts with the flexibility to reduce instructional days for students who are performing satisfactorily and the opportunity to provide targeted instruction to students who have greater educational needs.

**OPTIONAL FLEXIBLE YEAR PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS-** (Brackett High School and Brackett Junior High)

Students who meet the following criteria will be eligible for the 170 day school calendar. All other students will be required to attend 180 days:

- 1) Pass all TAKS tests administered during the school year.
- 2) Pass all courses taken with a grade of 75 or above. (based on the final grade for the course)
- 3) No more than 10 total absences with a maximum of 3 unexcused absences during the school year.
- 4) No more than one discipline incident that results in either in-school or out of school suspension.
- 5) No discipline incident that requires placement in the district alternative education program (DAEP)

**RATIONAL-** We believe this program will provide us with the flexibility to reduce instructional days for students who are performing satisfactorily and the opportunity to provide targeted instruction to students who have greater educational needs.

---

**Page- 54**

- Fads and styles in dress which differ extremely from conventionally accepted standards are prohibited
- Mesh, nylon, or athletic shorts are not permitted in the classroom. These type shorts may be worn during P.E. classes only.
- No sagging cloths, size appropriate pants- Pants must be worn at the waist. (No baggy pants will be allowed)
- Sleeveless shirts with large armholes (including but not limited to athletic sports jerseys) are not allowed

**RATIONAL-** Additional clarification for students and parents regarding dress code.