Changes in 2007-2008 Secondary Handbook

The BHS/BJHS Handbook and the BEA handbook have been merged into one. There were only a few sections different and those have been included in the merged handbook.

1) HB 314 required this section to be added (page 5):

Requesting Classroom Assignment for Multiple Birth Siblings

As a parent, if your children are multiple birth siblings (e.g., twins, triplets, etc.) assigned to the same grade and campus, you may request that they be placed either in the same classroom or in separate classrooms. Your written request must be submitted no later than the 14th day after the enrollment of your children. [See FDB(LEGAL).]

<u>2) Page 11- 1st paragraph changed by HB 1137</u> From:

To receive credit in a class, a student must attend at least 90 percent of the days the class is offered. A student who attends fewer than 90 percent of the days the class is offered will be referred to the attendance review committee to determine whether there are extenuating circumstances for the absences and how the student can regain credit, if appropriate. **To:**

To receive credit in a class, a student must attend at least 90 percent of the days the class is offered. A student who attends at least 75 percent but fewer than 90 percent of the days the class is offered may receive credit for the class if he or she completes a plan, approved by the principal that allows the student to fulfill the instructional requirements for the class. If a student is involved in a criminal or juvenile court proceeding, the approval of the judge presiding over the case will also be required before the student receives credit for the class.

If a student attends less than 75 percent of the days a class is offered or has not completed the plan approved by the principal, then the student will be referred to the attendance review committee to determine whether there are extenuating circumstances for the absences and how the student can regain credit, if appropriate. [See policies at FEC]

3) Added- page 14

Medical Absences During School Day

A student will be considered present for funding purposes if the student is temporarily absent due to a documented appointment with a health care professional and that student commences classes or returns to school on the same day of the appointment. The appointment should be supported by a document such as a note from the health care professional. 19 TAC §129.21(k), TEC §25.087(b)

This type of absence will be recorded as an "M" (medical) on student records.

<u>4) Page 17- Under Class Rank- the following change was made as a result of HB 3826</u> From-

For two school years following their graduation, District graduates who ranked in the top ten percent of their graduating class are eligible for admission into four-year public universities and colleges in Texas. Students and parents should contact the counselor or academic advisor for further information about how to apply and the deadline for application.

[For further information, see policies at EIC.]

TO:

For two school years following his or her graduation, a district student who graduates in the top ten percent of his or her class is eligible for automatic admission into four-year public universities and colleges in Texas if the student:

- Completes the Recommended or Advanced/Distinguished Achievement Program; or
- Satisfies the ACT College Readiness Benchmarks or earns at least a 1500 out of 2400 on the SAT.

Students and parents should contact the counselor for further information about the application process and deadlines.

[For further information, see policies at EIC.]

5) Page 15- Removed from BEA Students to be served section- students entering their first year of 9th grade are not eligible for academic program unless they are a parenting teen or the placement was determined by an ARD committee).

6) Page 15- Added to- BEA Students to be served section- 5. Other students admitted by the administration if it determined to be in the best interest of the student and the district.

7) Page 32- Cut detailed description of Cheerleader/Mascot and NHS requirements.

Included shortened statement with basic information and told where to get more information.

8) Page 34- Under grading guidelines added statement- No grades on any assignment or in any cycle will exceed 100. Individual students will not be able to receive extra credit.

9) Page 35- Under graduation activities added- Students who have met all local requirements for graduation but have not passed all state mandated tests may participate in the graduation ceremony and related activities if they have met the required levels of participation in test preparation programs provided by the district.

10) Page 36 Added: As a result of SB 673

Students with Disabilities

Upon the recommendation of the admission, review, and dismissal committee, a student with disabilities may be permitted to graduate under the provisions of his or her individualized education program (IEP).

A student who receives special education services and has completed four years of high school, but has not met the requirements of his or her IEP, may participate in graduation ceremonies and receive a certificate of attendance. Even if the student participates in graduation ceremonies to receive the certificate of attendance, he or she may remain enrolled to complete the IEP and earn his or her high school diploma; however, the student will only be allowed to participate in one graduation ceremony.

[See FMH(LEGAL)]

<u>11) Page 34- Changed-</u> FROM- Students who are in the disciplinary AEP at the time of commencement will not be allowed to participate in Brackett ISD's public graduation ceremony.
TO- Students who are in DAEP at the time of commencement will not be allowed to participate in any school sponsored graduation activity with students not in DAEP.

12) Page 36- Under students with disabilities added- Any student who receives special education services may receive a certificate of attendance and participate in commencement ceremonies if he or she has completed four years of high school, but has not completed the necessary graduation requirements.

13) Page 40- Added because of state law SB 530- The Commissioner of Education will determine the instrument to be used. :

Physical Fitness Assessment

Annually, the district will conduct a physical fitness assessment of students in grades 3–12. At the end of the school year, a parent may submit a written request to the campus principal to obtain the results of his or her child's physical fitness assessment conducted during the school year.

14) Removed section dealing with- BHS exemptions from Semester Tests. This

recommendation came from Campus Improvement Committee and has near unanimous support from secondary faculty. It is believed that it will help our students to have the experience of taking comprehensive final exams when they go off to college.