

1 **Browning Public Schools**

2
3 Policy #3520

4 Policy Name: *Academic Eligibility*

5 Regulation: -----

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7 **MONTANA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION POLICIES**

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9 All students participating in extra-curricular activities at Browning High School must meet the academic
10 eligibility and enrollment requirements in Browning Public Schools in addition to the rules and regulations
11 stated in the Montana High School Association (MHSA) Handbook.

12
13 MHSA statements are as follows: MHSA Handbook Article 2, Section (2) Eligibility.

14
15 “To be eligible to participate in an Association Contest, a student must be regularly
16 enrolled in school, must be in regular attendance from the enrollment date, and received a
17 passing grade in at least twenty periods of prepared class work or its equivalent in the last
18 previous semester at the school where the student participates...”

19
20 Interpretation of the above Article is that students will be enrolled in at least two credits of classes while
21 participating in Extra Curricular activities at Browning High School.

22
23 MHSA Handbook Article 2, Section (2), Academic Eligibility

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25 “To be eligible to participate in an Association Contest, a student must have received a
26 passing grade in at least twenty periods of prepared work per week or its equivalent during
27 the last preceding semester in which he/she was in attendance. If a student is assigned an
28 “incomplete” or a “condition” in a subject, he/she has not received a passing grade in this
29 subject. The record at the end of the semester is final and scholastic deficiencies may not
30 be “made up” in any way. This section shall not apply to students committed to Pine Hills
31 School or to students assigned to MHSA interscholastic activities as part of their Special
32 Education Individual Education Plan (I.E.P.).”

33
34 Interpretation of the above Article is that students must earn 2 credits during the semester prior to the sport
35 season in order to participate in a particular sport. Passing four classes worth 1/2 credit per semester will
36 meet this standard. P.E. and Office Aide classes are worth 1/4 credit per semester.

37
38 MHSA Handbook Article 2, Section (15), Award Rule

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40 “No award exceeding ~~\$50.00~~ (\$100.00) in value shall be given per event in any MHSA
41 sanctioned sport or in any MHSA sanctioned interscholastic activity by a member school,
42 by any person or by an organization to a student in recognition of that student’s
43 achievement or participation in any interscholastic activity. An event is defined as a sports
44 camp, an invitational tournament/meet, a post season recognition (i.e. sports banquet), or
45 fund raiser or similar function. Cash cannot be awarded.”

46
47 Violation of this rule will render the student ineligible in the MHSA sponsored sport or activity for the
48 student received the award.

49
50 The Board of Control will follow the same procedure for restoring the eligibility status as provided in the
51 last paragraph of the Amateur Rule, Article II, Section (16) of the Handbook.

1 **POLICY**

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3 It is the expectation of Browning School District #9 that all of its students will experience success in all
4 academic and extracurricular endeavors in which they participate. School District #9 also recognizes the
5 positive impact of extra-curricular activities on student mental health and social development. The efforts
6 of all School District #9 employees will be focused on supporting the efforts of its students at achieving
7 excellence in the academic and extracurricular areas.

8
9 Browning Public Schools has implemented the following Academic Eligibility Policy for students, grade 6-
10 12 concerning participation in all Extra-curricular club/sport activities as listed in the Browning Activities
11 Handbook. The goal of this policy is to encourage academic excellence and foster long range goal setting
12 by the students of Browning Public Schools. It is important that students and parents or guardians
13 understand that the primary mission of the school is to provide an academic education to its students and
14 the privilege of participation in extra-curricular activities will be based upon achievement in the classroom.

15
16 All activities involving out-of-district trips will be covered under this policy. Attendance at concerts,
17 dances, sporting events, etc. sponsored by the school will not be covered under the following policy. For
18 the purposes of this policy, days referred to will be considered to be calendar days.

19
20 Bi-weekly feedback will still be given to the student concerning their academic standing.

21
22 Browning Public School students, (Grades 6-12), should meet bi-weekly eligibility by having a GPS of 2.0
23 or better to be eligible to participate in Extracurricular Activities as defined herein. A student whose GPS is
24 lower than a 2.0 but is passing all of their classes is still eligible.

25
26 **ACTIVITIES ELIGIBILITY**

27
28 A bi-weekly eligibility list is generated every other Friday at 2 p.m. The first time a student is identified as
29 ineligible they will be allowed to practice and compete, provided, they can show proof of attending tutoring
30 sessions from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday. If a student is identified as
31 ineligible a second consecutive time the student becomes ineligible to compete until they are able to
32 provide an updated grade report which shows that they are eligible by having at least a GPA of 2.0.

33
34 After being ineligible for two bi-weekly eligibility checks, the focus will be to help the student maintain the
35 2.0 GPA weekly, also student will need to report to tutoring on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from
36 3:30pm to 4:30pm and provide documentation of attendance in the tutoring program from an adult BHS
37 staff tutor.

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39 **CORRECTION PROCEDURE**

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41 Any student who believes that they are marked ineligible incorrectly must meet with the teacher and
42 provide evidence to correct the error. The teacher must fill out and sign a note to the coach/sponsor stating
43 the error and its correction. The student must then get approval from the principal who will also sign the
44 note to verify approval. The student must then give the note to the coach who will keep it for the duration
45 of the season for future reference.

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47 **Activities included in this policy follow:** All activities as defined by MHS.A.

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49 **EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITY PARTICIPATION GUIDELINES**

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51 1. For a student to participate in practice or a contest/event, he/she must have been in attendance at school
52 that day, (Monday through Friday) or have an absence excused prior to 4:30 on the day of the activity.

1 If student is absent AP (Absent-Parent called in) the student can still practice with no consequence. If
2 unexcused, student can still practice with consequences from the coach.

3
4 2. Students who transfer to Browning Public Schools during a sport season, but prior to the divisional
5 tournament or first playoff game date, will be considered eligible to participate if they are eligible
6 according to MSHA standards. The grades that transfer in with the student must meet the eligibility
7 criteria of Browning Public Schools. The student must also meet the MSHA 10-day practice
8 requirement before participating in a contest/event.

9
10 3. Students who are ineligible for a semester according to MSHA criteria will be allowed to practice with
11 the team while ineligible and compete the first Monday after the new semester begins, provided the
12 student becomes eligible according to MSHA criteria. The Browning Public Schools eligibility policy
13 will apply to these students. 1997-98 MSHA Handbook, Article 2, Section (17).

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17 **Cross Reference:** MSHA Handbook
18 Browning Activities Handbook

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20 **Legal Reference:** 20-5-201 MCA Duties and Sanctions

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23 **Policy History:**

24 Adopted on: 11/25/97

25 Amended on: 1/12/99, 11/30/99, 3/14/00, 3/11/14, 8/3/15, 7/11/17, 2/12/21, 11/30/21

26 Reviewed on: 8/17/23