

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**

8 All students participating in extra-curricular activities at Browning High School must meet the academic
9 eligibility and enrollment requirements in Browning Public Schools in addition to the rules and regulations
10 stated in the Montana High School Association (MHSA) Handbook. MHSA statements are as follows:
11 MHSA Handbook Article 2, Section (2) Eligibility.

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

17
18 Interpretation of the above Article is that students will be enrolled in at least two credits of classes while
19 participating in Extra Curricular activities at Browning High School.

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21 MHSA Handbook Article 2, Section (2), Academic Eligibility

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

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

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36 MHSA Handbook Article 2, Section (15), Award Rule

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

44
45 Violation of this rule will render the student ineligible in the MHSA sponsored sport or activity for the
46 student received the award.

47
48 The Board of Control will follow the same procedure for restoring the eligibility status as provided in the
49 last paragraph of the Amateur Rule, Article II, Section (16) of the Handbook.

1 **Policy**

2 It is the expectation of Browning School District #9 that all of its students will experience success in all
3 academic and extracurricular endeavors in which they participate. The efforts of all School District #9
4 employees will be focused on supporting the efforts of its students at achieving excellence in the academic
5 and extracurricular areas.

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

13
14 All activities involving out-of-district trips will be covered under this policy. Attendance at concerts,
15 dances, sporting events, etc. sponsored by the school will not be covered under the following policy. For
16 the purposes of this policy, days referred to will be considered to be calendar days.

- 17
18 1. Weekly feedback will still be given to the student concerning their academic standing.

19
20 Browning Public School students, (Grades 6-12), should meet weekly eligibility by passing all classes
21 to be eligible to participate in Extracurricular Activities as defined herein. Students failing two or fewer
22 classes will be allowed to participate upon meeting the following weekly eligibility requirements:

- 23
24 2. **ACTIVITIES ELIGIBILITY:** A weekly Eligibility list based on each student’s in-progress grades shall
25 be generated each Friday at 2:00 p.m. The eligibility period will begin the following Monday morning,
26 and will run for one week Monday through Sunday. A student who receives ONE “F” on the weekly
27 eligibility checklist will be on probation and can practice and compete until the next grade check. If, at
28 the next weekly grade check, the student has at least one “F” the student immediately becomes
29 ineligible to participate in competition, but can practice. The student will remain ineligible for
30 competition until he or she is passing all the classes at the time of the weekly grade check. If the
31 ineligible student has no “F” grades on the next grade report, he or she becomes eligible on the Monday
32 following their week of ineligibility. A question comes up every year- “If a student is declared ineligible
33 but gets their grades up by Friday can the student play Friday night and on Saturday?” The answer is no;
34 **however, if teacher is unavailable for grading, the student can play at the discretion of**
35 **administration.** Eligibility runs Monday through Sunday regardless if a student gets their grades up at
36 any time during the ineligible week.

- 37
38 3. A student who receives more than one “F” on a weekly list shall become ineligible immediately for
39 competition and will remain ineligible until he or she is passing all classes at the time of the weekly
40 checklist.

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42 **CORRECTION PROCEDURE**

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

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49 **Activities included in this policy follow:** All activities as defined by MHSAA.

1 Any school sanctioned clubs inadvertently omitted and new ones added to the school program will also be
2 included in the application of this policy.

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4 **Extra-Curricular Activity Participation Guidelines:**

- 5
6 1. For a student to participate in practice or a contest/event, he/she must have been in attendance at school
7 that day, (Monday through Friday) or have an absence excused prior to 4:30 on the day of the activity.
8 **If student is absent AP (Absent-Parent called in) the student can still practice with no**
9 **consequence. If unexcused, student can still practice with consequences from the coach.**
- 10
11 2. Students who transfer to Browning Public Schools during a sport season, but prior to the divisional
12 tournament or first playoff game date, will be considered eligible to participate if they are eligible
13 according to MHSA standards. The grades that transfer in with the student must meet the eligibility
14 criteria of Browning Public Schools. The student must also meet the MHSA 10-day practice
15 requirement before participating in a contest/event.
- 16
17 3. Students who are ineligible for a semester according to MHSA criteria will be allowed to practice with
18 the team while ineligible and compete the first Monday after the new semester begins, provided the
19 student becomes eligible according to MHSA criteria. The Browning Public Schools eligibility policy
20 will apply to these students. 1997-98 MHSA Handbook, Article 2, Section (17).

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24 **Cross Reference:** MSHA Handbook
25 Browning Activities Handbook

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

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30 **Policy History:**

31 Adopted on: 11/25/97

32 Amended on: 1/12/99, 11/30/99, 3/14/00, 3/11/14, 8/3/15, 7/11/17, 1/30/19