

This policy is adopted as a temporary policy in accordance with the framework set by District Policy 1900 – Temporary COVID-19 Policies and is intended to govern School District operations for the period affected by the COVID-19 health and safety measures implemented by the School District in response to federal, state or local authorities.

#### Grading Variance

Teachers will grade students as usual in accordance with established classroom or course practices during the grading period in accordance with District Policy 2420. The default option for students and parents is the grade typically assigned for students in the grade level or class which may include an A-F letter grade. Given the unique circumstances of the remote learning situation and hardship due to continued education under the COVID-19 restrictions, the District may provide an academic variance in addition to the default option of traditional A-F grading. The variance may include, but is not limited to, the following options: pass/fail, determination of proficiency and granting of credit, or awarding a No Grade (NG) signifying an incomplete that could be made up at a later time. In collaboration with Principals, the Superintendent will develop administrative procedures to implement the provisions of the grading variance. The administrative procedures will define a process for determining proficiency as well as the protocol for awarding credit and calculation of GPA.

#### Graduation Requirements Variance

Students earning course grades or demonstrating proficiency for grading periods affected by COVID-19 health and safety measures will be granted credit for the course and the credit will count towards promotion or graduation requirements and extra-curricular eligibility. It is expected that all students will strive to meet the current MCPS graduation requirements. However, given the unique circumstances of remote learning and hardship due to continued education under the COVID-19 restrictions, high school principals may grant an academic variance to the current MCPS graduation requirements for any student. The variance may include, but is not limited to, substitution of a graduation requirement or granting of credit through demonstration of proficiency. No variance will be made for the requirements of the State of Montana graduation standards as defined in 10.55. 905 ARM. Students covered by a 504 or Individual Education Plan (IEP) may meet graduation requirements stipulated by the provisions of their plan. The Superintendent will develop procedures to implement the graduation variance.

The District will include a designation on the students' transcripts indicating the extraordinary circumstances for any grading period affected by COVID-19 health and safety measures.

Cross Reference: Policy 1900 - Temporary COVID-19 Policies  
Policy 2410-2410P – Graduation Requirements  
Policy 2420 – Grading and Progress Reports  
Policy 2421 - Promotion and Retention  
10.55. 905 ARM - Graduation Requirements  
10.55.906 ARM - High School Credit

#### Policy History:

Presented to Board for First Reading on April 28, 2020

Adopted: April 28, 2020