## Missoula County Public Schools

## STUDENTS

## Compulsory Attendance

Parents are responsible for seeing that their children of age seven (7) or older prior to the first day of school, attend school until the later of the following dates:

- 1. The child's sixteenth (16th) birthday;
- 2. The date of completion of the work of the eighth  $(8^{th})$  grade.

Parents shall enroll the student unless the student is:

- 1. Provided with supervised correspondence or home study;
- 2. Excused because of a determination by a district judge that attendance is not in the best interests of the child;
- 3. Enrolled in a nonpublic or home school;
- 4. Enrolled in a school of another district or state under the tuition provisions of this title;
- 5. Excused by the Board upon a determination that such attendance by a child who has attained the age of sixteen (16) is not in the best interests of the child and the school.

Missoula County Public Schools will continue tuition-free attendance of resident students not reaching 19 years of age by September 10. Students in MCPS are expected to attend and be enrolled as full time students. However, with the approval of the building principal and Superintendent or designee, students may be enrolled less than full-time if the student is enrolled for at least one clock hour per day (including passing periods). **Requirements for part-time attendance are described in MCPS Policy 3150.** This applies to students currently enrolled in MCPS' schools as well as home school students and private school students. This provision applies to students in grades K-12. Part-time students must participate in the statewide student assessment which any student in the grades designated for assessment is required to take.

Any student who wishes to receive a diploma from a Missoula County Public School high school, must be enrolled as a full-time student during his/her senior year and meet the same credit requirements as other students in MCPS' schools.

A full-time senior student is defined as a student enrolled in a minimum of four (4) classes. Exceptions to this allow for university enrolled high school students, Districtdirected school-to-work and service learning experiences, as approved by the principal and Superintendent. Any student who has been expelled from another school district will not be allowed to attend or enroll in MCPS during the term of expulsion from the expelling school district.

Legal Reference:§ 205101, MCAAdmittance of child to school§ 205103, MCACompulsory attendance and excuses§ 205104, MCAAttendance officer§ 205108, MCATribal agreement with district for Indian child compulsoryattendance and other agreements

## Cross Reference: \_\_\_\_\_ Policy 3150, Part-Time Attendance

**Policy History:** Adopted on: December 9, 2003 Revisions: First Reading on January 13, 2004 Posted for Public Input through February 19, 2004 Revisions Adopted on: March 9, 2004 Revisions Presented to PN&P Committee on March 30, 2005 Approve First Reading April 12, 2005 Posted for Public Input May 16, 2005 Presented at PN&P Committee meeting for second reading June 29, 2005 Adopted on: July 12, 2005 Minor Revision Presented to PN&P Committee on January 25, 2006 Adopted on: February 14, 2006 Minor revision presented to the PN&P Committee on May 31, 2006 Adopted on: June 13, 2006 First reading of revisions to PN&P Committee on June 27, 2007 Approve First Reading July 10, 2007 Posted for Public Input until August 22, 2007 Second reading of revisions to PN&P Committee on August 29, 2007 Adopted on: September 11, 2007