

Bennett Mountain  
560 E Jackson St  
Mountain Home, ID 83647  
208-587-3837



SCHOOL HANDBOOK

## **BENNETT MOUNTAIN**

*“Where opportunity and preparation result in success.”*

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to Bennett Mountain! Whether you are attending for a short time or decide to complete your schooling here, you have become an important member of this community of learners.

The entire staff at Bennett Mountain is committed to providing a quality education for each student – laying a foundation for growth, one student at a time. Our greatest hope is that you will be intellectually stimulated, encouraged to achieve, and assisted to maximize your success.

Sincerely,  
Bennett Mountain Staff

## **HANDBOOK**

**The school staff has the right to expect parent support of the policies presented in this handbook.**

**\*\*Policies listed in this handbook may be summarized and/or abbreviated. To reference a complete Mountain Home School District Policy, please view them on line at [www.mtnhomesd.org](http://www.mtnhomesd.org) or contact the principal at Bennett Mountain.**

## **PURPOSE**

Bennett Mountain offers credits that lead to a high school diploma. Bennett Mountain is not a GED program, remedial program, or special education program. We are committed to helping students earn a high school diploma.

## **VISION STATEMENT**

Bennett Mountain will utilize the educational strengths, diverse backgrounds, and supportive, caring nature of its staff to create an alternative education program that serves the needs of our students in grades 7-12. We will provide a program that works to reconnect young people to the educational environment and maximize their opportunity for success. Our program values and respects individual self-worth and encourages personal and academic achievement.

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

The role for Bennett Mountain is to assist students in their progress towards responsibility as it relates to academic achievement and personal development. We strive to see that each individual makes significant progress toward reaching their potential by providing instructional methods to fit the varied learning rates and styles of students along with fostering feelings of confidence and self-worth by creating a family-like atmosphere where students can grow socially, emotionally, and academically.

## **ACADEMIC COUNCIL/RTI**

The Council is comprised of staff members of which the principal and counselor will be included. The Bennett Mountain Academic Council is responsible for overseeing student performance and meets as needed to review and evaluate interventions/actions that need to be taken in regard to student discipline, conduct, attendance, and credit completion.

## **ENROLLMENT**

**Students desiring to enroll in Bennett Mountain must do so within the first three days of each new block or must wait until the next block begins.** Every student must go through the school’s induction process prior to enrollment at Bennett Mountain. The induction process is a meeting between the school’s administration and the interested student and their parents/guardians. Enrollment will be determined by the administration.

## **SCHEDULE**

Bennett Mountain closely follows the academic calendar of the Mountain Home School District. The main difference is that students at Bennett Mountain will have days off between block’s one-two and three-four.

There will be four blocks of study provided with the possibility of earning four or more credits per block. We offer four teaching sessions and an independent student study daily during eight week blocks. Credits are earned each block and each class offered is worth one credit. Every student has an individual learning plan that may require a full-time schedule or part-time schedule. In addition, elective options at Bennett Mountain are limited; however, if a student can provide their own transportation to and from Mountain Home High School, they may dual enroll. Teacher and administrative approval is required to dual enroll at Mountain Home High School.

## **MENTORSHIP**

Every student is assigned a teacher mentor. The mentor serves as their advocate as they progress through school. Students are required to meet with their mentor daily where they take attendance, review their learning plan, academic progress, and establish goals. The mentor system also helps in building the needed relationship between staff and students for engagement and success.

## **ACADEMICS**

Bennett Mountain is an alternative school of choice and we welcome students who truly want to be here. We encourage our students to earn C’s and higher in all classes. We feel that if a student comes prepared to classes each day, puts in a genuine effort in each class, they will experience academic success.

**LIMITED HOMEWORK:** Bennett Mountain has a “Limited Homework” policy that states most work will be done in class, but we recognize there may be times when a student will need

to complete work outside of class. This also means a student is expected to use their in-class time to complete work. Students who continually fail to utilize their class time to work will result in disenrollment from Bennett Mountain.

**ACADEMIC GROWTH:** Students must show continued academic achievement by earning the necessary credits for each block they attend Bennett Mountain. The table below illustrates the number of credits a student must earn:

Number of course(s) enrolled:	Number of credits that must be earned:
4 or More	3
1-3	ALL

If a student does not complete a course, an F will be placed on their transcript but they will be given an opportunity to retake the course at a later date. Students who fail to earn the necessary credits by the end of the block will be withdrawn from Bennett Mountain. Withdrawn students may put their name on the school's waitlist and reapply for entry in the future.

### **ATTENDANCE**

**Please call the office at 208-587-3837 by 8:30 A.M. if your student is absent**

Regular attendance is a vital requirement for all students in order to make certain that educational opportunities and experiences are maximized. The State of Idaho and the Mountain Home School District require a minimum of 90% attendance to receive academic credit and make progress in grade level. Therefore, every effort should be made by students, parents, and administration to ensure that students are in attendance and punctual every day. Absence from class for any reason, all excused absences, including family convenience, will be counted.

Except in extraordinary cases, students are expected to be present at school and in their assigned class. Extraordinary circumstances may include, but are not limited to, verified illness or medical treatment, death in the family or death of close friends, and medical, dental or professional appointments. Be prepared to provide documentation of attendance at appointments.

Students are required to meet with their mentor in the morning and afternoon and are expected to attend all of their classes. If a student either misses five consecutive days or accrues six days, they will be dropped from the course and an F will be placed on their transcript. If a student is dropped from a second course due to attendance, the student will be withdrawn from the current block of study and put on the school's waitlist.

**Attendance Definition:** 90% attendance is defined as being in class 90% of the time each class.

**Excused Absences:** Excused absences are absences from school with the parent/guardian's knowledge and consent, which may include, but are not limited to, illness, or death in the family, authorized school activities, or other pre-arranged absence. The excuse must be within 48 hours or the absence

becomes unexcused. Even though an absence is excused by a parent, it still counts against the 90% attendance requirement. Students may lose credit if they have more excused absences than allowed in a block.

**Medically Excused Absences:** Medically excused absences require a medical excuse from the doctor, dentist or professional office with the date or dates of the appointment(s). It is the parent's/guardian's responsibility to provide this documentation, without documentation, a medical absence will not be considered by the Academic Council if a student's credits are reviewed due to excessive absences.

**Unexcused Absences:** Unexcused absences are absences without the knowledge and consent of the student's parent/guardian and count toward the 90% attendance requirement as well as absences that have not been excused by the parent/guardian within 48 hours.

**Absence Procedure:** Teachers take attendance within the first 15 minutes of each class period. Any student not in attendance is recorded electronically and notification is made to the school's administrative assistant. Absences are then reported to the parent or guardian of each student found to be absent through the school's Blackboard messaging system.

The fourth instance during any block of study in which a student is absent, will result in a conference between the student and the school's counselor and principal.

The ninth instance will result in a student being dropped from the course and an F will be placed on their transcript. If a student is dropped from a second course due to attendance, the student will be withdrawn from the current block of study and put on the school's waitlist. If a student is dismissed for a second time for poor attendance, a strong recommendation will be made for the student to enroll in another educational program.

**Tardy:** A tardy arrival by a student to class exceeding 30 minutes will be considered an absence for purposes of calculating total number of days missed for a class. Late arrivals to class not exceeding 15 minutes are recorded as a tardy. Collectively any four tardy arrivals to one or more classes are considered as one absence for calculating block attendance.

**Truancy:** Truancy is defined as a student being absent without the approval of the parent, guardian or school authorities.

The first time during the school year that a student is truant (one period or one day when the student is not where the school and the parent expect him to be or the parent is not sending the student to school), the parent/guardian will be notified by mail, e-mail, or phone of the truancy and consequences. Every effort will be made and documented to make personal contact with the parent regarding the truancy.

When the second truancy occurs, the principal or his/her designee will conference with the student and parent.

After a third truancy, the student will be withdrawn from Bennett Mountain.

**Attendance & Driver's License:** Any student who has been verified by the school as dropped from enrollment will be reported to the Department of Transportation as per Idaho Code 49-303A. This will result in the suspension of the student's license.

### **DRESS CODE - STUDENT APPEARANCE**

At Bennett Mountain, we feel it is important for students to be ready for the day, and we feel attire is part of that process. The staff and administration of Bennett Mountain have the discretion to determine what is and what is not appropriate. Students are expected to be properly and respectfully attired and a degree of modesty is expected while at school and attending school-sponsored activities. Students will not be permitted to wear clothing that is a distraction to the school environment. Final say on clothing resides within the scope of school administration and all decisions will be made to preserve the safety and security of the students and faculty at the school. Additional modifications to attire will be approved by the school administration on a case-by-case basis.

Bennett Mountain apparel is available for purchase at the office.

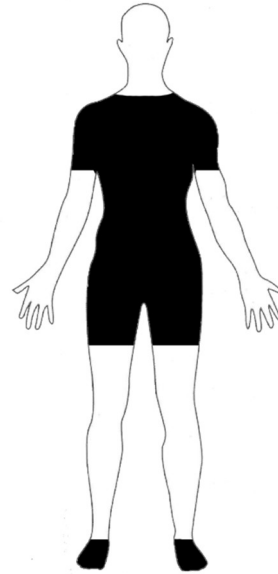
#### **Dress Code Guidelines:**

- Students are expected to wear items that cover the stomach and back and have an appropriate neckline.
- Inappropriate apparel such as pajamas or clothing representing drugs, tobacco, alcohol, sex, gangs, violence or are crude, suggestive or divisive in words or pictures may not be worn.
- Tank tops, crop tops, tube tops, halter tops, spaghetti straps, and see-through blouses are not prohibited unless worn under a top that meets dress code.
- Students are expected to wear jeans, pants, or shorts that are jean material or dress pant material. These items must be at waist level at all times. This includes when a student is sitting, standing or participating in activities. The waist is determined by the hipbone of the individual. Additionally, shorts must be as long as the longest finger when hands are placed to the student's side.
- Pants and shorts cannot have writing EXCEPT for the label of the manufacturer.
- If holes in jeans, pants, or shorts are above three inches of the knee, and skin is shown, leggings must be worn underneath.
- Dresses and skirts are not permitted.
- Scarves are not to be worn in the building.
- Slippers of any style are not permitted
- Inappropriate body markings or tattoos must be covered.
- Jewelry that is considered disruptive to the educational environment is not permitted.
- Sunglasses are not to be worn in the school building.
- Chains are not permitted (Wallet chains, necklace chains, etc.)
- Necklaces must be tucked under top and should not be visible.

- Excessive use of make-up must be removed before entering the building.
- Coats can only be worn outside; before and after school. Coats will be stored in the school's cupboards.

**Dress code issues occur throughout the school year, so it is essential for all students to consistently be appropriately attired. Students with chronic dress code issues will be dismissed from Bennett Mountain.**

**Black indicates mandatory clothing coverage area. No skin should be exposed in this area!**



### **STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT**

**RESPECT THE** 

**Be Proud**

**Effort in Everything**

**A Positive Attitude**

**Respect & Responsibility**

**Self-Control**

***"Strive for Five"***

Bennett Mountain is a school of choice within the Mountain Home School District. At Bennett Mountain, we stress an atmosphere of respect. Again, we welcome those who truly want to be here and ask the following of our students:

- Attend school daily and arrive to each class on time and ready to learn;
- Work in class and not waste time (no sleeping, disrupting class, playing video games, etc.);
- Respect the rights of others to study and learn;
- Respect public property;
- Comply with school rules;

- Be respectful towards other students, faculty and patrons of the community;
- Communicate in an appropriate way to each other and to any adults while on the grounds of Bennett Mountain or while attending a school-sponsored activity;
- Be properly attired as per school dress code and uniform policy;
- Conduct yourself in a responsible manner.

### **Unacceptable Behaviors Covered Under the Discipline**

**Policy** – (Including But Not Limited to):

- Alcohol and/or substance use or possession - See Mountain Home School District Student Tobacco, Drug and Alcohol Policy.
- Tobacco/nicotine use or possession, including electronic or e-cigarettes, vapor cigarettes and smokeless tobacco.
- Fighting, intimidating, hazing, bullying and other forms of harassment.
- Possession or use of any firearm or weapon is not permitted at school or school activities (includes firearms in vehicles at school.)
- Vandalism, theft, or removal of private or school property.
- Misuse of fire alarms – involvement in false alarms is a violation of the law.
- Violation of local, state or federal law.
- Defiance of authority, insubordination or disrespect towards any staff member.
- Continual improper dress – students must be properly attired as per school dress code and uniform policy.
- Inappropriate romantic gestures on campus or public displays of affection on campus. Full body hugs, kissing, etc.
- Profanity, vulgarity, disorderly conduct.
- No skateboarding or bike riding allowed on campus – unless the student is coming to school or leaving school at the end of the day.
- Misuse of electronic devices.
- Willful disregard of school rules – any student who purposely breaks school rules or is incorrigible or is continuously disruptive of school climate/classroom.

**Discipline Procedures:** Violation of the Discipline Policy will result in a conference with the administration, parent notification and assignment of consequences by the administration.

### **Consequences may include:**

- Suspension from school.
- The student being dropped from the current session and credit(s) being lost.
- The student being dropped from the program completely and credit(s) being lost.
- The student being referred for possible expulsion from the Mountain Home School District.

### **POLICIES & GUIDELINES**

**AHERA(Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act):** The Mountain Home School District is required by the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) to maintain

surveillance, perform small repairs, and manage abatement activities for materials containing Presumed Asbestos Containing Materials (PACM) or Asbestos Containing Materials (ACM), in addition to informing employees and contractors that District facilities may contain PACM or ACM.

All administrators, contractors, maintenance and custodial staff are required to review the *Asbestos Management Plan* located in each facility and complete the *Notification of Asbestos Operation and Maintenance* form before initiating work in any building.

**BACKPACKS/BOOK BAGS/PURSES:** It is recommended that students not bring backpacks/bags/purses since most work will be completed in class and needed school supplies are provided by Bennett Mountain. All bags brought into the school will be stored in a designated cupboard at the start of the school day. If necessary, students will need a staff member to gain access to their bag during school hours. We recommend that students leave their personal belongings at home as Bennett Mountain will not be responsible for lost, stolen or damaged items. Students assume all risks and responsibilities when bringing their personal belongings to school.

### **CELL PHONE & PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY:**

Bennett Mountain High School enforces a strict cell phone and personal electronic device policy beginning with the 2026–2027 school year. This policy replaces all previous expectations.

#### **Purpose:**

- Minimize distractions
- Improve student focus
- Create a consistent learning environment

#### **During Instructional Time**

(Defined as the start to the end of each class period)

Students:

- May **not have a phone or device on their person**
- Must **power off devices**
- Must place devices in a **designated storage area**

Storage may include:

- Phone caddy or vault
- Classroom storage area
- Another teacher-approved location

#### **Additional Expectations**

##### **Audio Devices:**

- No earbuds, headphones, or AirPods during class
- Only allowed with teacher permission

##### **Wearable Devices:**

- Smartwatches may be worn but must be **powered down**
- May be required to be removed during assessments

##### **Restroom Use:**

- Students must leave their phone in the classroom
- Phone must be placed in the designated area or with the teacher

## **Discipline for Violations**

### **1st Infraction:**

- Phone confiscated and taken to the office
- Parent/guardian notified
- Student picks up phone at end of day

### **2nd Infraction:**

- Phone confiscated
- Parent/guardian must pick up device
- Meeting with student, parent, and administration

### **3rd Infraction:**

- Student must check phone into the main office daily

### **Further Infractions:**

- Student may lose the privilege of bringing a phone to school
- Additional disciplinary action may be assigned

Failure to follow required phone check-in procedures will result in further consequences.

## **Liability**

Bennett Mountain High School and the Mountain Home School District are **not responsible** for lost, stolen, or damaged devices.

**CHEATING/PLAGIARISM:** Students are expected to conduct themselves honestly and with integrity in their work. All forms of cheating and plagiarism are prohibited. The following action will be taken should a student engage in cheating or plagiarism:

**First incident:** “F” on assignment and parent/guardian will be contacted about the incident.

**Second incident:** Student will be dropped from the class and receive an “F” for the course. A parent will be contacted.

**Third incident:** Student will be withdrawn Bennett Mountain.

**CHECK IN/ CHECK OUT:** All students must check in or out of school at the front office. Failure to do so will result in the student being considered truant. All students must be checked out by a parent, guardian, or persons designated on the enrollment form. Campus is closed for all students.

**CLOSED/OPEN CAMPUS:** Students have open campus lunch but are subject to losing that privilege. Student attendance, academics, and conduct are all factors in having open campus lunch.

**CREDIT COMPLETION:** Students who have not completed a course by the end of the block will receive an “F” for that course. Teachers may allow additional time to complete the credit and will enter an “Incomplete” till the needed coursework is completed. This will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

## **DISRUPTION AND LOITERING ON SCHOOL**

**GROUNDS:** Idaho Code provides that a person who disrupts the educational process or whose presence is detrimental to the morals, safety, health, academic learning or discipline of the pupils or who loiter in schoolhouses or on school grounds is guilty of a misdemeanor.

Additionally, Bennett Mountain students are not permitted to be on any other school grounds during the school day unless approved by the school’s administration. Students who do not comply with this policy will face disciplinary action and will be possibly removed from the Bennett Mountain program.

**DISTRICT/STATE ASSESSMENTS:** Accurate assessment of student achievement is essential in ensuring academic growth for all students. Mountain Home School District utilizes state and district-developed assessment tools to ensure that a full range of assessment data is available for parents and school personnel. These data are used in determining placement, participation in extension and remediation programs, and communication of progress as measured against Idaho Core Standards and district curricula. Students are required to participate in State and local assessments.

**DRUG/ALCOHOL-FREE WORKPLACE:** The Board of Trustees recognizes the importance of all employees to the educational system and the importance of federal requirements to establish a “drug free workplace” and it does not tolerate drug or alcohol abuse by its employees and students. Employees and students are prohibited from manufacturing, dispensing, using, possessing, or distributing illegal drugs or alcohol on any school premises or at any school activity. Employees and students are further prohibited from being under the influence of illegal drugs or alcohol on any school premises or at any school activity. To that end, the health, safety, and well-being of all employees and students is a major consideration of the Board (Refer to “Drug/Alcohol-Free Workplace” under “School Safety and Discipline”).

**EMERGENCY DRILLS:** The school will provide regular emergency evacuation and crisis drills as provided by Idaho Code and by Mountain Home School District policy.

## **EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSURES AND LATE**

**START DAYS:** Information regarding school closures will be disseminated through local (Mountain Home, Boise) media, the school district website (<http://www.mtnhomesd.org>), and the Emergency Notification System.

Occasionally, the area experiences a heavy snowfall or freezing rain, which make road conditions unsafe for school buses to operate for the morning run. When these conditions exist, the following procedures will be followed to determine school closure or late start.

**School closure:** If the decision is to not hold school, the superintendent will notify the radio stations, and the station will begin announcing that information at approximately 6:15 a.m. School closure will be effective only for the day of announcement. Schools will be open the following day unless there is an announcement to the contrary.

**Late start:** When, under certain conditions, e.g., road crews need more time to clear the roads or for ice to melt, etc., and it would be best to start school one and one-half hour later rather

than close for the entire day, the superintendent will make that decision.

On late start days, all buses will run one and one-half hour (90 minutes) later and schools will begin a corresponding one and one-half hour (90 minutes) later. Dismissal will be on the regular schedule and times.

### **ENTRY AND DEPARTURE FROM THE SCHOOL**

**CAMPUS:** For the purpose of maintaining student safety, all students must enter and depart from the front of the school (Doors facing Maverik gas station). Any departure from the school at other points of egress will result in disciplinary action being taken by school administration (Unless signed-out during the day).

**FOOD AND BEVERAGES:** Approval from staff is required for students to bring food or beverages.

**GRADE REPORTS:** Teachers make every effort to update their gradebooks often. Student grades can be seen on PowerSchool through Parent Portal. Student teacher conferences occur once each block. Final grade reports will also be provided at the end of each block of study.

**HOMEWORK:** Homework may be assigned when it serves an educational objective that can best be accomplished by an out-of-class assignment or activity. There may be a limited amount of assigned homework.

**LOCKERS/CUPBOARDS:** Bennett Mountain does not use lockers. Instead, the school utilizes common cupboards that are locked and unlocked by staff members. Students are encouraged to leave all personal belongings at home. Students bringing in personal property to school assume all risk and responsibility for their items if they are stolen, damaged, or lost at any point in time

**LATE ARRIVAL/EARLY DEPARTURE:** Whether it be a late arrival or early departure from school, students must sign the clipboard near the office when they are checking in or out.

**MEDICATION PROCEDURES:** It is the desire of the Mountain Home School District that the medication administration at school is kept to a minimum. Every effort should be made to administer medications at home as it does represent a disruption in the student's school day. If your physician feels this medication is necessary during the school day, the following procedure will be followed:

- Completion of a medication authorization form shall be required before medication can be given at school.
- Medications must be presented in their original container with the prescription label. It is unlawful to dispense medication not in their original container.
- A staff member designated by the building administrator will dispense medications.

Secondary school students (grades 9 through 12) may keep and administer their own nonprescription medication, but they may bring only one day's supply of medication to school. A note

from the parent/guardian or the Medication Consent Form should be on file in the office and a copy in the student's possession stating the name of the medication, the reason for taking it, and the dosage. **No student will share medications.** All medication will be discarded at the end of the school year if not retrieved by the parent/guardian.

Our school personnel will cooperate with parents within the guidelines of district policy and handbook procedures but will not be responsible if a child refuses to take prescribed medication. Parents will be notified in such cases. All students requiring medication should be identified to the school staff in writing, by a parent/guardian and/or physician.

Any student found in violation of this policy will be referred to the building principal or designee for appropriate consequences.

**NO TOUCH POLICY:** Bennett Mountain enforces a no-touch policy. Students need to respect others and keep their hands and feet to themselves. No rough housing or harassment of other students will be tolerated. **Public displays of affection are not allowed.**

**SCHOOL SUPPLIES/PERSONAL PROPERTY:** Bennett Mountain will provide all needed school supplies to every student with the exception of listening devices (Ear phones, ear buds, etc.). With this understanding, we discourage students bringing non-school related personal items to school. The school is not responsible for loss or damage of personal property. Students bringing in personal property to school assume all risk and responsibility for their items if they are stolen, damaged, or lost at any point in time.

**SRO IN SCHOOL:** The School Resource Officer Program provides a Mountain Home Police Department officer on a part-time basis for Bennett Mountain. The program's purpose is to assist the police officer in being more available and responsive to students.

The SRO is a member of the school staff, and as such, he/she will contribute information and make referrals to the school team for consideration when appropriate. The officer will work cooperatively with students, school staff, parents, the courts, and community social services agencies in an effort to prevent individual problems from becoming habitual in nature.

The officer's time will be spent on formal and informal contacts with students.

The program has the following objectives:

- Friendly contact between the police and the city's youth.
- Assistance and the gathering of information during times of stress and crisis.
- Education of youth regarding the role of laws, courts, and police.
- Protection of youth against harmful acts or involvement with older law offenders.
- Investigation of juvenile cases and the seeking of alternatives to court action whenever possible.

**STUDENT IDENTIFICATION CARDS:** ID cards initially are free and have a replacement cost of \$5.00. ID cards are

not to be altered in any way, nor adorned with other items. Students are expected to have their ID cards in their possession while attending Bennett Mountain.

**STUDENT SUICIDAL TENDENCIES:** If a teacher or other employee of this district obtains direct evidence of a student's suicidal tendencies, the individual must report the information to the building principal and a district counselor, or the proper authorities.

**TOBACCO/NICOTINE PRODUCTS:** All tobacco/nicotine products, including smokeless tobacco and electronic cigarettes are prohibited on campus, even if the student is 18 years old. This includes tobacco products that are seen in cars on school grounds. Students found to be in possession and/or using tobacco products will face disciplinary action and legal consequences. Students and parents must also fulfill requirements set by the Mountain Home School District Drug/Alcohol/Tobacco Use Policy (Refer to "Tobacco" under "School Safety and Discipline).

**TRANSPORTATION:** School buses cover designated routes within the Mountain Home School District boundaries to bring students to school and to return them to their homes at the close of the school day. Any student who lives 1½ miles or more from the school is entitled to ride the school buses. The bus garage may be contacted at 587-8045.

**VANDALISM/THEFT/DESTRUCTION OF SCHOOL PROPERTY:** Any student who steals, destroys or defaces school district property or the property of another individual located at a school site, will receive prompt and decisive disciplinary action, which may include, but is not limited to, suspension or expulsion. If circumstances warrant, the student may be referred to the local law enforcement agency.

The student and his or her parent/guardian will be held responsible for restitution to the full extent of the laws for any damage to school district property.

#### **SCHOOL SAFETY & DISCIPLINE**

In order to provide a safe and orderly environment, it is necessary to have established policies and procedures. Students attending Bennett Mountain can expect school officials to make every effort to provide a safe, violence-free atmosphere, and a classroom as well as a building environment that is free from any unnecessary disruptions or distractions. All rules will be administered consistently and in an equitable manner. Bennett Mountain policy is that all students will be expected to adhere to the policies in this handbook and school district policies.

**CODE OF CONDUCT:** As a matter of law, the admittance to, and the continued attendance in a public school is a privilege dependent upon compliance with the laws of the State of Idaho, the Rules and Regulations of the State Board of Education, and the Rules and Regulations of the Board of Trustees. Violators of the rules will be subject to disciplinary action.

**DRUG/ALCOHOL-FREE WORKPLACE:** The Board of Trustees recognizes the importance of all employees to the educational system and the importance of federal requirements to establish a "drug free workplace" and it does not tolerate drug or alcohol abuse by its employees and students. Employees and students are prohibited from manufacturing, dispensing, using, possessing, or distributing illegal drugs or alcohol on any school premises or at any school activity. Employees and students are further prohibited from being under the influence of illegal drugs or alcohol on any school premises or at any school activity. To that end, the health, safety, and well-being of all employees and students is a major consideration of the Board.

**EXPULSION:** The Board of Trustees may deny attendance at any of MHSD #193 schools by the expulsion of any student who is a habitual truant, who is incorrigible, or whose conduct, in the judgment of the board, is such as to be continually disruptive of school discipline or of the instructional effectiveness of the school, or whose presence in a public school is detrimental to the health and safety of other students, or who has been expelled from another school district.

The Board will expel from school for a period of not less than one (1) year, twelve (12) calendar months, a student who has been found to carry a weapon or firearm on school property.

No student will be expelled nor denied enrollment without receiving a due process hearing.

#### **POLICE/HEALTH AND WELFARE INTERVIEWS:**

Cooperation with law enforcement agencies is essential for the protection of students, maintenance of a safe environment in school and for the safeguarding of all property. At times it is necessary for law enforcement and/or Health & Welfare officials to contact students during school hours. School officials will cooperate with the agency by providing a place to meet with the student and, if possible, sitting in on the meeting. If a student is being interviewed relative to a child protection issue, school officials will not contact the parents unless requested to do so by the interviewing agency. In all other cases, school officials will communicate with the interviewing agency their intent to contact the parents. Unless specifically told to not make the call by the agency, parents will be called when their child is interviewed or questioned.

#### **PROTECTION of PUPIL RIGHTS ACT (PPRA):**

Mountain Home School District No. 193 (MHSD) recognizes that student privacy is an important concern of parents and wishes to ensure that student privacy is protected pursuant to the Protection of Pupil Rights Act (PPRA), 20 U.S.C. § 1232h, as revised by the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB).

PPRA affords parents and students age eighteen (18) or older ("eligible students") certain rights regarding this school district's conduct of surveys, collection, and use of information for marketing purposes, and certain physical exams. These include the right to: (These rights transfer to from the parents to a student who is 18 years of age.)

● Consent before students are required to submit to a survey that concerns one or more of the following protected areas (“protected information survey”) if the survey is funded in whole or in part by a program of the U.S. Department of Education (ED):

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student’s parent;
  2. Mental and/or psychological problems of the student or student’s family, or potentially embarrassing to the student or the student’s family;
  3. Sex behavior and/or attitudes;
  4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
  5. Critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relationships;
  6. Legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, doctors, or ministers;
  7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or parents; or
  8. Income, other than as required by law to determine program eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program.
- Receive notice and an opportunity to opt a student out of:
1. Any other protected information survey, regardless of funding;
  2. Any non-emergency, invasive physical exam or screening required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school or its agent, and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of a student, except for hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings, or any physical exam or screening permitted or required under State law; and
  3. Activities involving collection, disclosure, or use of personal information obtained from students for marketing, or to sell, or otherwise distribute the information to others.
- Inspect, upon request and before administration or use:
1. Protected information surveys of students;
  2. Instruments used to collect personal information from students for any of the above marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes; and
  3. Instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum.

MHSD adopted a policy, in consultation with parents, regarding these rights, as well as arrangements to and recognizing the importance of protecting student privacy in the administration of protected information surveys and the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes. MHSD will notify parents of this policy and procedure(s) annually, at the start of each school year, and after any substantive changes. The District will also directly notify through the school district website, Mountain Home Newspaper, and during registration, parents of students who are scheduled to participate in the specific activities or surveys noted below and will provide an opportunity for the parent to opt his or her child out of participation of the specific activity or survey. MHSD will make this notification to parents at the beginning of the school year if the District has identified the specific or approximate dates of the activities or surveys at the

time. For surveys and activities scheduled after the school year starts, parents will be provided reasonable notification of the planned activities and surveys listed below, and will be provided an opportunity to opt their child out of such activities and surveys. Parents will also be provided an opportunity to review any pertinent surveys. Following is a list of the specific activities and surveys covered under this requirement:

- Collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales, or other distribution
  - Administration of any protected information survey not funded in whole or in part by ED
  - Any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening as described above
- Parents/eligible students who believe their rights have been violated may file a complaint with:

Family Policy Compliance Office  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20202-5901

**RIGHT TO PRIVACY ACT (FERPA):** The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students over 18 years of age (“eligible students”) certain rights with respect to the student’s education records (Section 9528, Elementary and Secondary Education Act; 20 U.S.C. § 7908 and § 1232g; 10 U.S.C. § 503(c); 34 CFR Part 99). These rights are:

1. The right to inspect and review the student’s education records within 45-days of the day the school receives a request for access. Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The school official will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

2. The right to request the amendment of the student’s education records that the parent or eligible student believes is inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student’s privacy rights under FERPA. They should write the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading, and why it should be changed. If the school decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the school will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information (PII) contained in the student’s education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. Parents and eligible students have a right to inspect and review the record of disclosures.

4. FERPA regulations authorizes disclosure of PII from the education records of a student without obtaining prior written consent of the parents or the eligible student and the disclosure meets certain conditions found in the FERPA regulations to other school officials, a school official is a person employed by the District as an administrator, supervisor,

instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel), with legitimate educational interests, including teachers, school board members, contractors, consultants, volunteers, or other parties to whom the school has outsourced institutional services or functions (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist), provided that the conditions are met in accordance with FERPA regulations; to officials of another school, school system, or institution of postsecondary education where the student seeks or intends to enroll, or where the student is already enrolled if the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer; to the Department of Education/State or local educational authorities in connection with an audit or evaluation of Federal/State-supported education programs, or for the enforcement of or compliance with Federal legal requirements that relate to those programs and these entities may make further disclosures of PII to outside entities that are designated by them as their authorized representatives to conduct any audit, evaluation, or enforcement or compliance activity on their behalf; in connection with financial aid for which the student has applied or for which the student has received; to State/local officials or authorities to whom information is specifically allowed to be reported or disclosed by a State statute that concerns the juvenile justice system and the system's ability to effectively serve, prior to adjudication, the student whose records were released in accordance with FERPA regulations; to organizations conducting studies for, or on behalf of, the school, in order to develop, validate, or administer predictive tests, or administer student aid programs; or improve instruction; to accrediting organizations to carry out their accrediting functions; to parents of an eligible student if the student is a dependent for IRS tax purposes; To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena; to appropriate officials in connection with a health or safety emergency; information the school has designated as "directory information" under §99.37. (§99.31(a)(11)). Federal law requires school districts to provide military recruiters, upon request, with three directory information categories, names, addresses, and telephone listings, unless the parent or eligible student notifies the school district, by submitting a Request of Non-disclosure of Directory Information form, within thirty (30) days of the date of this notice that they do not want the directory information released.

5. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the Mountain Home School District to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the office that administers FERPA is:

Family Policy Compliance Office  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Ave., S.W.  
Washington, DC 20202-5901

Any parent or eligible student may prohibit the release of any or all information designated as "directory information" by submitting a signed letter or a REQUEST OF NON-DISCLOSURE OF DIRECTORY INFORMATION FORM (obtained on the school district website) to the building principal within thirty (30) days of the official school start date.

**Directory Information:** Information contained in an education record of a student that would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed, such as but not limited to student's name, address, telephone listing, and electronic mail address; photographs, videos, and electronic images; date and place of birth, grade level, enrollment status, dates of attendance, major field of study; participation in officially recognized activities, sports, and clubs; weight and height of athletes; degrees and awards received; and most recent previous educational institution attended; student ID number, user ID, or other unique personal identifier used by the student for purposes of accessing or communicating in electronic systems, but only if the identifier cannot be used to gain access to education records. (20 U.S.C. 1232g(a)(5)(A))

**SEARCH AND SEIZURE:** The constitutional rights of students do not stop at the schoolhouse gates. Therefore, students have a right to be protected from *unreasonable* searches by school officials. However, it is the intent of the board of trustees and Bennett Mountain to provide a safe and orderly environment for all students conducive to the pursuit of educational goals. This may include the right to search the student's personal belongings, locker, desk, or vehicle, when it is in the interest of the overall welfare of other students or is necessary to preserve the good order and discipline of the school.

**Random Searches:** In the interest of maintaining safe and drug-free schools, **school** officials may conduct random or "blanket" searches of student lockers, student belongings, desks, and the school parking lot. Random searches may involve the use of drug dogs, metal detectors, or surveillance cameras.

**Student's Person or Possessions:** At any time when the student is on school property or at a school-sponsored event, school officials may search the student's person or possessions (backpack, purse, etc.) if the school official has reasonable suspicion to believe that the student is in possession of illegal or contraband materials or is otherwise secreting evidence of a crime or violation of district policy.

**Automobiles:** Students are permitted to park on school premises as a matter of privilege, not right. The school officials are authorized to conduct routine patrols of school parking lots, inspecting the exteriors of vehicles on school property. The interiors of vehicles on school property may be searched whenever an authorized school official has reasonable suspicion to believe that illegal or contraband materials, other evidence of a crime or violation of district policy or items that may be a threat to safety or security, are contained inside. Such patrols and searches may be conducted without notice, without consent, and without a search warrant.

**Seizure of Contraband or Illegal Materials:** School officials may seize and retain, or turn over to law enforcement officials, any contraband or illegal items or evidence of a crime or violation of district policy, found as a result of any search conducted pursuant to this policy.

**SEXUAL HARASSMENT: Purpose:** It is the policy of the Mountain Home School District to provide an educational environment free of sexual harassment. To accomplish this purpose, the policy is designed to secure, at the earliest level possible, an appropriate resolution to an allegation of sexual harassment.

**Definition of sexual harassment:** Sexual harassment means unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal, visual, or physical contact of a sexual nature, made by someone from or in the work or educational setting. Examples of conduct that may constitute sexual harassment include, but are not limited to:

- Suggestive or obscene letters, notes, invitations, derogatory comments, slurs, jokes, epithets, assault, touching, impeding or blocking movement, leering, gestures, display of sexually suggestive objects or pictures or cartoons.
- Among peers, continuing to express interest after being informed that the interest is unwelcome.
- Within the educational environment, implying or actually withholding grades earned or deserved; suggesting a poor performance evaluation will be prepared; or suggesting a scholarship recommendation or college application will be denied as a condition of receiving sexual favors.
- Within the educational environment, engaging in sexual behavior to control, influence or affect the educational opportunities, grades, and/or learning environment of a student.

**Reporting procedures:** Anyone who believes that they are being harassed should report the situation to any of the following persons immediately:

- A guidance counselor
- A teacher
- A principal
- The superintendent

**Confidentiality:** Because of the sensitive nature of any complaint of sexual harassment, all investigations shall be conducted to the maximum extent possible and in a discreet manner to protect the privacy of both the complainant and the accused.

#### **STUDENT COMPUTER, INTERNET & E-MAIL USE:**

Internet access is available to students and teachers in the Bennett Mountain. We believe the Internet offers vast, diverse, and unique resources to both students and teachers. Our goal in providing this service is to promote educational excellence in schools by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication. To gain access to the Internet, all students under the age of 18 must obtain parental permission and must sign and return the form attached to the back of the handbook. Students 18 and over may sign their own forms.

While our intent is to make Internet access available to further educational goals and objectives, students may find ways to access other materials as well. We believe that the benefits to students from access to the Internet, in the form of information

resources and opportunities for collaboration, exceed any disadvantages; but ultimately, parents and guardians of minors are responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their children should follow when using media and information sources. To that end, the Mountain Home School District Board supports and respects each family's right to decide whether or not to apply for access.

#### **District Internet and E-Mail Rules**

Students are responsible for good behavior on school computer networks just as they are in a classroom or school hallway. Communications on the network are often public in nature. General school rules for behavior and communications apply.

The network is provided for students to conduct research and communicate with others. Access to network service is given to students who agree to act in a considerate and responsible manner. Parent permission is required. Access is a privilege - not a right. Access entails responsibility. Individual users of the district computer networks are responsible for their behavior and communications over those networks. It is presumed that users will comply with district standards and will honor the agreements they have signed. Beyond the clarification of such standards, the district is not responsible for restricting, monitoring, or controlling the communications of individuals utilizing the network.

Network storage areas may be treated like school lockers. Network administrators may review files and communications to maintain system integrity and insure that users are using the system responsibly. Users should not expect that files stored on district servers will always be private. Within reason, freedom of speech and access to information will be honored. During school, teachers will guide students toward appropriate materials. Outside of school, families bear the same responsibility for such guidance as they exercise with information sources such as television, telephones, movies, radio, and other potentially offensive media.

Individual users of the Internet are expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. The following are not permitted at Bennett Mountain:

- Chatting
- Sending or displaying offensive messages or pictures
- Playing online video games
- Using obscene language
- Harassing, insulting or attacking others
- Damaging computers, computer systems, software, or computer networks
- Violating copyright laws
- Using another's id/password
- Illegal use of data in folders or work files
- Intentionally wasting limited resources
- Employing the network for commercial purposes
- Using Proxies to bypass firewalls
- Accessing sites which would traditionally be restricted by the district

In the event a student engages in any of the above-referenced activities, his/her access privileges will be revoked and other disciplinary measures may result.

Consequences for Unacceptable Use of the Internet at Bennett Mountain High School:

**First Offense:** Staff and Administration will meet with student to discuss internet violation(s) and determine an appropriate punishment to deter the student from future internet violation(s).

**Second Offense:** Staff/Administration will contact the parent/guardian and student will be suspended for one full school day. The suspension day will factor into the student's 90% attendance agreement.

**Third Offense:** The Internet and/or Network Privileges may be revoked or the student will be required to complete their online learning from in a controlled location for one week as determined by administration.

**Final Offense:** The next offense will result in automatic revocation of privileges for the remainder of the block and student will have the option of completing their classes from a remote location or being dismissed from that block of study.

**Final note to parents or guardians:** The Internet is a powerful learning tool, but it should not be used indiscriminately or without supervision. While your child is at school the teachers will make every effort to assure the resource is used appropriately. As parents/guardians it is your responsibility as well to monitor Internet use at home, not unlike the manner in which you monitor use of TV, video games, or the telephone.

**STUDENT HARASSMENT:** DEFINITION: Harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying is defined as misconduct by a student(s), which is characterized by the aggressor(s) repeatedly engaging in negative actions against another student(s) in an attempt to exercise control over the victim. Harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying are generally characterized by aggressive or intentionally harmful behavior, which is carried out repeatedly over time. It is important that students report to any staff member if they feel they are victims or witness any kind of student harassment.

**PROHIBITION AGAINST HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION AND BULLYING:** It is the policy of this district to maintain a safe school environment for all students while attending school, riding the school bus, and attending district-sponsored activities on school premises or at other locations. Harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying, regardless of the specific nature of the students' behavior is disruptive to a safe school environment and will not be tolerated.

**PROHIBITED BEHAVIOR:** Students attending district schools are prohibited from engaging in the following behaviors:

1. Physical abuse against a student, including, but not limited to, hitting, pushing, tripping, kicking, blocking, or restraining another's movement; sexual misconduct; causing damage to another's clothing or possessions; and taking another's belongings.
2. Verbal abuse against a student, including, but not limited to, name calling, threatening, sexual misconduct, taunting, and malicious teasing.
3. Psychological abuse against a student, including, but not limited to, spreading harmful or inappropriate rumors regarding another, drawing inappropriate pictures or writing inappropriate statements regarding another, and intentionally excluding another from groups, or similar activities.
4. Cyber bullying, including, but not limited to, using any electronic communication device to convey a message in any format (audio or video, text, graphics, photographs, social network postings or any combination thereof) that intimidates, harasses, or is otherwise intended to harm another individual.
5. Harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying, including any intentional gesture or any intentional written, verbal, or physical acts or threats, against another student that:
  - a. A reasonable person under the circumstances should know will have the effect of:
    1. Harming a student; or
    2. Damaging a student's property; or
    3. Placing a student in reasonable fear of harm to his or her person; or
    4. Placing a student in reasonable fear of damage to his or her property; or
    5. Is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for a student.
    6. Conspiring with another individual to commit any act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying against another student.

The prohibition extends not only to actions taking place on school grounds but also actions which have an impact at school, originate at a remote location and are carried out via any technology, including, but not limited to, the use of landline, car phone, or wireless telephone, or through the use of data or computer software that is accessed through a computer, computer system, or computer network.

**INVESTIGATION:** The school administrator or designee will investigate any allegations of misconduct that are reasonably characterized as harassment, intimidation, or bullying. At the discretion of the school principal and/or superintendent, the alleged perpetrator(s) may be suspended pending the outcome of the investigation.

**INVESTIGATION AND REPORT:** When a report of harassment is received by the principal or the superintendent, immediate steps will be taken to do the following:

1. Obtain a oral/written statement from the complainant regarding the allegations;
  2. Obtain a oral/written statement from the accused;
  3. Obtain oral/written statements from witnesses, if any; and
  4. Prepare a written report detailing the investigation.
- An investigator may be appointed to conduct the investigation or the principal or superintendent may conduct the

investigation. The investigation should be completed within ten (10) workdays.

**DISCIPLINARY ACTION:** Students who engage in harassment, intimidation, or bullying will be disciplined as determined to be appropriate, up to and including suspension and/or expulsion.

**REPORT TO LAW ENFORCEMENT:** The school administrator will refer allegations of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying to law enforcement if he/she reasonably believes that the student has engaged in conduct violating Idaho Code Section 18-917A.

**STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:** Suspensions and expulsions of students with disabilities as defined by Public Law 94-142 and subsequent amendments, (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act), Section 504 of the 1973 Rehabilitation Act, and the Americans with Disabilities Act will follow federal guidelines as well as the provisions of this policy.

**SUSPENSION AT THE DISCRETION OF THE PRINCIPAL OR HIS/HER DESIGNEE:** If suspension is the consequence of a student's misbehavior, the principal may suspend a student for a period not to exceed (5) five days. The Superintendent or the Board of Trustees may extend this for an additional period of time. Parents/guardians will be contacted by the administration and a conference scheduled to review the reason(s) for the suspension. Should a parent or student wish to appeal the suspension, they may do so by contacting the District Office to set up a hearing with the Board of Review officer.

Students that are suspended from school may make up their schoolwork, and will receive credit in accordance with policy. **(Important: It is the responsibility of the student to ask for make-up work when a suspension from school occurs.)**

#### **ACTIONS THAT MAY RESULT IN A SUSPENSION FROM THE SCHOOL:**

**Bus Conduct:** Continued disorderly conduct or refusal to submit to the authority of the driver.

**Dress Regulations:** Inappropriate clothing that is not in alignment with the school uniform guidelines, or does not meet the requirements of safety, cleanliness, and decency, will not be tolerated.

**Bullying:** Willful intimidation of an individual with the intent to cause anxiety and fear in the mind of the bullied person at the school. Students that are bullying others may be given a citation by the Mountain Home Police Department, and will be suspended or expelled.

**Electronic Devices:** If an electronic device is seen by school personnel or is observed in use during school hours, it will be confiscated and the necessary disciplinary action will be

administered by the school administration. Repetitive violations of this policy may result in suspensions from school.

**Important: Electronic devices brought to the school are done so with the understanding that it is at the personal risk of the owner.**

**Theft or destruction of school property:** Acts which endanger the lives of students, employees, or visitors, resulting in damage to school buildings, school property or possessions of students, staff members, or visitors are not permitted. The parent or guardian is responsible for payments of damages and the student will receive the consequence that is judged reasonable and proper.

**Display of public affection:** Graphic displays of public affection are inappropriate at school and will be addressed as a discipline issue.

**Defiance:** Refusing to comply with any reasonable request of a teacher or staff member in or out of the classroom, including refusing to give their name to the teacher, staff person or administrator upon request.

**Vehicles:** Failure to observe traffic and parking regulations.

#### **ACTIONS THAT WILL RESULT IN MANDATORY SUSPENSION OR EXPULSION:**

**Harassment/hazing of a school employee or student:** Acts that interfere with the private life of a school employee/student, whereby an employee/student or his/her family is harassed or attacked, and/or his/her property threatened or damaged, or the degrading or disgracing of an individual.

**Assault and battery:** Assault or battery upon another student or upon school personnel, at any time or place related to school attendance or functions. **"You Throw...You Go!"**

**False fire alarms and bomb threats:** False reporting that a bomb or other explosives have been placed in school buildings or on school grounds, or activating a school fire alarm.

**Insubordination, disrespect, etc:** Either in language or in action, refusal to follow directions, arguing, or profanity used in communication with staff.

**Tobacco:** Use or possession on school premises or elsewhere while under the authority of the school.

**Alcohol, drugs and narcotics:** Use/being under the influence, possession, or sale of alcohol, narcotics, paraphernalia or other hallucinogenic drugs or substances on school property or elsewhere under the authority of school personnel will result in indefinite suspension. Students may be given a drug test if the administrator has reasonable suspicion that any student is under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or narcotics. Any student found guilty of distribution or sales of controlled substances will be referred to the Board of Review for their immediate action. (See District Policy for additional information.)

**Extortion:** taking possessions from another person by threat or force.

**Fires, explosives, or threat thereof:** Fires or explosives that threaten or cause serious damage to human life or property on campus or at school sponsored events are not permitted. The parent/guardian is responsible for payment of damages.

**Forgery:** Forging notes, signatures, excuses, or other school documents.

**Gang activities:** Participation in any manner that exhibits to others the association with gangs, i.e. hand signs, labels, tagging, threats, name calling, etc. (First offense may only be a detention and parent conference.)

**Keys:** Illegal possession, unauthorized use of, or duplication of keys to school buildings or premises.

**Lewd and lascivious acts:** Engaging in or performing lewd and lascivious acts on school grounds or at school-sponsored activities.

**Profanity/vulgarity:** Habitual use of profanity or vulgarity.

**Trespassing/forced entry:** Trespassing or forced entry into school buildings or school functions.

**TOBACCO: Philosophy** The Board of Trustees of this School District believes there are health risks involved with the use of tobacco products and that research shows a direct correlation between the early use of tobacco and the experimentation with alcohol and other controlled substances at an earlier age. The Mountain Home School District is committed to cooperating with parents and the community to help students understand the health risks and legal consequences of tobacco use in the promotion of health and well-being of all students.

It is the intent of this policy to be consistent with all federal, state, and municipal statutes and ordinances related to the prohibition of the use, possession or distribution of tobacco products by students.

In those circumstances where district employees have probable cause to believe that a violation of this policy has occurred, school administration is to be notified and involved in consultative and investigative roles.

**Policy** It is a violation of this policy for any student to use, possess, procure or attempt to procure or dispense or distribute any tobacco while on school property or while attending a school activity or event or while being transported to or from school or school-sponsored events in school owned and/or contracted for vehicles of any kind or at any location, public or private, where students are attending as representatives of this district.

**Possession includes** on the person, backpack, vehicle and/or any other location over which the student is exercising some control by the placement of any tobacco.

**Enforcement Procedures:** Students found in violation of this policy will be subject to the following disposition:

1. First Offense:

- a. Parents or legal guardian will be contacted.
- b. The School Resource Officer or other law enforcement official will be notified.
- c. The student will be suspended for three (3) days.

2. Second Offense:

- a. Parents or legal guardian will be contacted.
- b. The School Resource Officer or other law enforcement official will be notified.
- c. The student will be removed from the current block of study and will have a hearing with the School Board to determine the future of the student in the MHSD.

**USE OF PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES AT SCHOOL:**

The bringing of personal electronic devices to school is greatly discouraged. Electronic devices can be very disruptive to the learning environment when used inappropriately by people, and can be targeted for theft. As a result, please note the following statement: **Students bringing electronics to school assume all risk and responsibility for their items if they are stolen, damaged, or lost at any point in time.**

Intentional theft or damage to a personal electronic item may be reported to school officials; however it will not become the primary concern of the school administration or the school resource officer.

Additionally, any personal electronic devices brought to the school are to be used only outside of the school building and before or after school. If they are observed in use inside the school building, they will be confiscated and the necessary disciplinary actions will be administered by the school administration. Repetitive violations of this policy may result in suspension or removal from school.

**Important:** Confiscated personal electronic devices are subject to random searches by school administration if there is reasonable suspicion by the school administration the device is being used in a manner contrary to school, district, state, or national policies involving safety and the maintenance of a drug/alcohol/violence/harassment free zone for learners.

Any violations discovered in association with personal electronic devices, i.e. pornography, will be dealt with in the appropriate manner as dictated by school and district policies, with the support of local law enforcement if appropriate to the situation.

**WEAPONS:** The Mountain Home School District and Bennett Mountain are committed to providing a safe environment for all students and staff when they are at school,

on a school bus, or at a school-sponsored activity. Students are not allowed to bring weapons or other objects/substances that may pose a threat to the health and safety of other students, staff members or visitors, or could be used to disrupt the educational process.

**Prohibitions** Students attending Bennett Mountain are prohibited from:

- Possessing or carrying objects/substances which are manufactured, used, or intended for use as a weapon, or facsimiles thereof, at school, on a school bus, or at any school-sponsored activity without prior permission of school officials.
- Possessing, carrying, using, and/or threatening to use, any normally non-dangerous object or substance with the intent or result of causing harm to another individual at school, on a school bus, or at any school-sponsored activity.
- Knowingly assisting another student(s) to possess, carry, or use a weapon at school, on a school bus, or at any school-sponsored activity.

**ZERO TOLERANCE:** Students in violation of zero tolerance guidelines will be referred to the District Review Committee or recommended for expulsion and referred to the appropriate authorities.

Mountain Home School District No. 193 has adopted a zero tolerance stand against:

- 1-Weapons and violent acts at school, on or near owned or contracted school property, or at school sponsored events, as interpreted by the Board of Trustees
- 2-Verbal or written bomb threats, or placing or detonating a bomb
- 3-Students found to be distributing, either by selling or sharing, dangerous drugs or students engaged in drug related behavior on or near owned or contracted school property, or at school sponsored events, as interpreted by the Board of Trustees.

Bell Schedules

<b>Regular Bell Schedule Monday-Friday</b>		
<b>Session</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Minutes</b>
Student Study	7:40-8:55	75
Mentorship	8:55-9:00	5
1	9:00-10:15	75
2	10:20-11:35	75
Lunch	11:35-12:10	35
Check-In	12:10-12:15	5
3	12:15-1:30	75
4	1:35-2:50	75

<b>1:10 Release</b>		
<b>Session</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Minutes</b>
Student Study	7:45-8:55	70
Mentorship	8:55-9:00	5
1	9:00-9:50	50
2	9:55-10:45	50
3	10:50-11:40	50
Lunch	11:40-12:15	35
Check-In	12:15-12:20	5
4	12:20-1:10	50