Policy 1105: Membership and Terms of Office

Original Adopted Date: 09/09/2022 | **Last Revised Date: 8/10/2026**

Membership and Terms of Office
The District is governed by a Board of Trustees consisting of seven (7) members. The powers and duties of the Board include the broad authority to adopt and enforce all policies necessary for the management, operations and governance of the District. Except as otherwise provided by law, trustees shall hold office for terms of three (3) years, or until their successors are elected and qualified. Terms of trustees shall be staggered as provided by law.

All trustees shall participate on an equal basis with other members in all business transactions pertaining to all schools maintained by the District. Individual school board members have no authority over school affairs, except as provided by law or as authorized by the Board.

Student Representatives
The Board of Trustees recognizes the importance of maintaining open communication with the student body and providing students with enhanced civic opportunities. In furtherance of these objectives, the Board authorizes the seating of up to two students from the high school to serve in a nonvoting capacity on the Board of Trustees. These student representatives are intended to provide students with a more effective voice at the decision-making level of the school system.

A student representative shall:

- Attend all regular meetings of the Board of Trustees.
- Report on happenings at all district schools under the Reports items on the agenda.
- Raise issues pertinent to the students at all district schools.
- Speak on any issue on the agenda or motion before the Board unless deemed inappropriate by the Board.
- Report back to the High School student body via the student organizations.

A student representative shall not:

- Be able to make, second, or vote on any motion or resolution.
- Be allowed to attend executive sessions nor have access to any confidential materials.

The following procedures will be observed for the seating of the student representatives:

- Student representatives will come from the junior and/or senior classes at the high school. One student shall be a member of the junior class and one student shall be a member of the senior class.
- Advance written permission of the student's parent or legal guardian is required to be eligible to apply for a student representative seat on the Board.
- Any junior and/or senior, through meeting parental consent requirements and upon completion of an application and letter of intent and the fulfillment of academic requirements, will be considered eligible. The Board of Trustees shall determine which students serve.
- After the students have been selected, they will be given an orientation session by the Superintendent or designee.

- The Board of Trustees reserves the right to dismiss a student without cause and call for the selection of a new member.
- The term of office for the two representatives shall be for one school year; however, it is expected that the junior representative serves for two school years if re-appointed. Additionally, the Board retains the discretion to shorten or lengthen the term based on its judgment and needs. Flexibility in the term allows the Board to respond effectively to changing circumstances.

Access to Information:
The student representatives will have access to public materials provided to the Board but must not be provided with or otherwise access confidential records, in accordance with FERPA regulations and other laws protecting the privacy and confidentiality of records and information. The student representative must be excluded from all discussions involving confidential matters.

Montana Code Annotated	Description
20-3-301	Election and term of office
20-3-302	Legislative intent to elect less than majority of trustees
20-3-305	Candidate qualification, filing deadline, and withdrawal
20-3-306	Conduct of election
20-3-307	Qualification and oath
20-3-341	Number of trustee positions in elementary districts -- transition
20-3-351	Number of trustee positions in high school districts
20-3-352	Request and determination of number of high school district additional trustee positions -- nonvoting trustee
20-3-361	Joint board of trustee's organization and voting membership

Cross References

Code	Description
1111	Election

Policy 2050: Innovative Student Instruction

Original Adopted Date: 09/09/2022 | **Last Revised Date:** 8/10/202

Student Instruction

The School District has adopted the protocols outlined in this policy to ensure the delivery of education services to students onsite at the school, offsite at other locations using available resources. The District administration or designated personnel are authorized to implement this policy.

As outlined in District Policy 2100, and except for students determined by the School District to be proficient using School District assessments, the adopted calendar has a minimum number of 360 hours for a half-time kindergarten program; 720 aggregate instructional hours for students in full-time kindergarten through third grade; 1,080 hours for students in fourth through eleventh grade and 1,050 hours for students in twelfth grade. Students enrolled on a part-time basis will have ANB calculated consistent with Policy 3121 and Policy 3150.

The School District may satisfy the aggregate number of hours through any combination of onsite, offsite, and online instruction. The District administration is directed to ensure that all students are offered access to the complete range of educational programs and services for the education program required by the accreditation standards adopted by the Montana Board of Public Education.

For the purposes of this policy and the School District's calculation of ANB under Policy 3121 and "aggregate hours of instruction" within the meaning of that term in Montana law, the term "instruction" shall be construed as being synonymous with and in support of the broader goals of "learning" and full development of educational potential as set forth in Article X, section 1 of the Montana Constitution. Instruction includes innovative teaching strategies that focus on student engagement for the purposes of developing a students' interests, passions, and strengths. The term instruction shall include any directed, distributive, collaborative and/or experiential learning activity provided, supervised, guided, facilitated, work based, or coordinated by the teacher of record in a given course that is done purposely to achieve content proficiency and facilitate the learning of, acquisition of knowledge, skills and abilities by, and to otherwise fulfill the full educational potential of each child.

Staff shall calculate the number of hours students have received instruction as defined in this policy and Policy 3121 through a combined calculation of services received onsite at the school or services provided or accessed at offsite or online instructional settings including, but not limited to, any combination of physical instructional packets, virtual or electronic based course meetings and assignments, self-directed or parent-assisted learning opportunities, and other educational efforts undertaken by the staff and students that can be given for grade or credit. Staff shall report completed hours of instruction as defined in this policy to the supervising teacher, building principal, or district administrator for final calculation.

In order to comply with the requirements of the calendar, District Policy and Section 20-1-301, MCA, the District shall implement the instructional schedules and methods identified in this policy.

Remote Instruction Delivered by District Staff

The Board of Trustees authorizes remote instruction of students by District staff in a manner that satisfies the aggregate number of instructional hours outlined in the District's adopted or revised calendar for a school year. Remote instruction is pupil instruction that occurs through virtual learning processes incorporating distance and online learning methods that best prepare pupils to

meet desired learning outcomes. Remote instruction shall include a complete range of educational services offered by the District and shall comply with the requirements of applicable statutes. Students completing course work through a remote instructional setting shall be treated in and have their hours of instruction calculated in the same manner as students attending an onsite institutional setting.

Remote instruction is available to students:

1. meeting the residency requirements for that district as provided in 1-1-215;
2. living in the district and eligible for educational services under the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act or under 29 U.S.C. 794;
3. enrolled in the district and physically attending a school or offsite instructional setting of the district under an attendance agreement pursuant to Title 20, chapter 5, part 3, MCA; or
4. seeking remote instruction in another district when the pupil's district of residence does not provide remote or in-person instruction in an equivalent course.

Equivalency is defined by providing the same level of advantage on successful completion as provided in law. The Superintendent or designee is authorized to collaborate with the student's district of residence on the question of equivalency, review course offerings and policies of the requesting student's district of residence to complete the comparison, and report to the Board of Trustees. A course is not equivalent if the course does not provide the same level of advantage on successful completion, including but not limited to dual credit, advanced placement, and career certification. In the event the student's district of residence asserts in writing its course offerings are equivalent to the District's, the Board of Trustees shall not enroll the student.

The District is not required to provide remote instruction to a nonresident student if, because of class size restrictions, the accreditation of the school would be adversely impacted by providing remote instruction to the pupil.

A district providing remote instruction shall include pupils in enrollment counts for ANB calculation purposes as described in 20-9-311. Unless a student receiving remote instruction is enrolled under an attendance agreement pursuant to Title 20, chapter 5, part 3, MCA, the provisions of out-of-district attendance and tuition laws under Title 20, chapter 5, part 3, MCA, do not apply to remote instruction.

The Board of Trustees authorizes the supervising teacher or district administrator to permit students to utilize remote instruction delivered by District staff when circumstances require. Inquiries about correspondence courses shall be governed by Policy 2167, distance learning provided by non-District staff shall be governed by Policy 2168, and Montana Digital Academy shall be governed by Policy 2170.

Offsite Instruction

Offsite instructional setting is an instructional setting that is an extension of a school of the district, located apart from the school, but within the boundaries of the district, where a school district provides for in-person pupil instruction to a student who is enrolled in the district. The Board of Trustees authorizes the supervising teacher or district administrator to utilize an offsite instructional setting consistent with Board of Public Education standards when required by the circumstances. Inquiries about correspondence courses shall be governed by Policy 2167, distance learning provided by non-District staff shall be governed by Policy 2168, and Montana Digital Academy shall be governed by Policy 2170.

Proficiency-Based Learning

The Board of Trustees authorizes proficiency-based learning and ANB calculation in situations when a student demonstrates proficiency in a course area as determined by the Board of Trustees using District assessments consistent with District Policy 1005FE, or other measures approved by

the Board of Trustees.

The Board of Trustees waives the minimum number of instructional hours for students who demonstrate proficiency in a course area using district assessments that include, but are not limited to, the course or class teacher's determination of proficiency as defined by the Board of Trustees. This determination shall be based on a review of the student's completed coursework, participation in course delivery, and other methods applicable to the specific course or class. The Board of Trustees authorizes the use of the proficiency determination process for students who have selected this method of delivery, students for whom the School District is unable to document satisfaction of the required minimum aggregate number of hours through the offsite or onsite methods outlined in this policy, or other students whom School District personnel determine satisfy the definition of proficient or meeting proficiency.

This provision is based in the declaration by the Montana Legislature that any regulation discriminating against a student who has participated in proficiency-based learning is inconsistent with the Montana Constitution.

Montana Code Annotated	**Description**
20-1-101	Definitions
20-1-301	School Fiscal Year
20-6-101	Definition of elementary and high school districts
20-7-118	Offsite Provision of Educational Services
20-7-1601	Transformational Learning - Legislative Intent
20-9-311	Remote Instruction
20-9-311	Calculation of Average Number Belonging

Montana Constitution	**Description**
Article X, section 1	Educational Goals and Duties

Cross References

Code	**Description**
1005FE	Proficiency-Based ANB
2100	School Calendar and Day
2158	Parent and Family Engagement and Educational Involvement
2158-P(1)	Parent and Family Engagement and Educational Involvement - Student Pronoun Use
2161	Special Education
2161-P(1)	Special Education - Procedure
2162	Section 504
2162-P(2)	Section 504 - Procedures
2166	Gifted Program
2167	Correspondence Courses

2168	Remote Instruction from Non-District Sources
2170	Digital Academy Classes
2170-P(1)	Digital Academy Classes
2221	School Emergency and Closure
2221-P(1)	School Emergency and Closure - Procedure
2375	Advancement Requirements (9-12)
2410	High School Graduation Requirements
2410-P(1)	High School Graduation Requirements
2410-P(2)	High School Graduation Requirements - Graduate Profile
2410-NF(1)	High School Graduation Requirements - Commitments and Intentions
2420	Grading and Progress Report
2421	Promotion and Retention
2600	Work Based Learning
2600-P(1)	Work Based Learning - Insurance
2600-NF(1)	Work Based Learning - Affiliation Agreement
3121	Enrollment and Attendance Records
3121-P(1)	Enrollment and Attendance Records
3150	Part-Time Enrollment
3612	School-Provided Access to Electronic Information, Services, Equipment, and Networks
3612-P(1)	School-Provided Access to Electronic Information, Services, Equipment, and Networks
3612-NF(1)	School-Provided Access to Electronic Information, Services, Equipment, and Networks - Student Internet Access and Equipment Use Conduct Agreement

Policy 2100: School Calendar and Day

Original Adopted Date: 09/09/2022 | **Last Revised Date:** 8/10/2026|

School Calendar

Subject to §§ 20-1-301 and 20-1-308, MCA, and any applicable collective bargaining agreement covering the employment of affected employees, the trustees of a school district shall set the number of hours in a school term, the length of the school day, and the number of school days in a school week. When proposing to adopt changes to a previously adopted school term, school week, or school day, the trustees shall: (a) negotiate the changes with the recognized collective bargaining unit representing the employees affected by the changes; (b) solicit input from the employees affected by the changes but not represented by a collective bargaining agreement; (c) and from the people who live within the boundaries of the school district.

Commemorative Holidays

The Superintendent or his or her designee shall develop for Board approval appropriate exercises and observances the purpose of which shall be to educate students regarding the commemorated person or occasion on the following designated commemorative days:
(a) Lincoln's Birthday (February 12);
(b) Washington's Birthday (February 22);
(c) Arbor Day (last Friday in April);
(d) Flag Day (June 14);
(e) Citizenship Day (September 17);
(f) American Indian Heritage Day (fourth Friday in September);
(g) Columbus Day (October 12);
(h) Pioneer Day (November 1);
(i) Freedom Week (last full week of September), to educate students about the sacrifices made for freedom in the founding of the United States and the values on which the United States was founded;
(j) other days designated by the legislature or governor as legal holidays.

Saturday School

In emergencies, including during reasonable efforts of the trustees to make up aggregate hours of instruction lost during a declaration of emergency by the trustees under Section 20-9-806, MCA, pupil instruction may be conducted on a Saturday when it is approved by the trustees.

Pupil instruction may be held on a Saturday at the discretion of a school district for the purpose of providing additional pupil instruction beyond the minimum aggregate hours of instruction required in Section 20-1-301, MCA, provided student attendance is voluntary.

School Fiscal Year

At least the minimum number of aggregate hours must be conducted during each school fiscal year. The minimum aggregate hours required by grade are:

a. A minimum of 360 aggregate hours for a kindergarten program;
b. 720 hours for grades 1 through 3;
c. 1,080 hours for grades 4 through 12; and
d. 1,050 hours may be sufficient for graduating seniors.

The minimum aggregate hours, described above, are not required for any pupil demonstrating proficiency pursuant to 20-9-311(4)(d), MCA.

In addition, seven (7) pupil instruction-related days may be scheduled for the following purposes:

1. Pre-school staff orientation for the purpose of organization of the school year;
2. Staff professional development programs (minimum of three (3) days);
3. Parent/teacher conferences; and
4. Post-school record and report (not to exceed one (1) day, or one-half (½) day at the end of each semester or quarter).

The Trustees may schedule additional professional development days, but may not include any additional professional development day for the purpose of calculation of ANB under Sec. 20-9-311, MCA. The Board of Trustees has established an advisory committee to develop, recommend, and evaluate the school district's yearly professional development plan. Each year the Board of Trustees shall adopt a professional development plan for the subsequent school year based on the recommendation of the advisory committee.

Extended School Year

In accordance with Section 20-1-301, MCA, and any applicable collective bargaining agreement covering the employment of affected employees, the Board of Trustees may establish a school calendar with an earlier start date and a later end date to ensure students receive the minimum number aggregate instructional hours. The purpose of an extended school year will be to maximize flexibility in the delivery of instruction and learning for each student in the School District. When setting an extended school year, the School District will collaborate with students, parents, employees and other community stakeholders. When proposing to adopt changes to a previously adopted school term the Board of Trustees will follow the procedures outlined in in this policy.

Montana Code Annotated	**Description**
20-1-301	School Fiscal Year
20-1-302	School Term, Day, Week
20-1-303	Conduct of School on Saturday or Sunday Prohibited - Exceptions
20-1-304	Pupil Instruction Related Day
20-1-306	Commemorative Exercises on certain days
20-9-311	Calculation of Average Number Belonging

Administrative Rules of Montana	**Description**
10.55.701	Board of Trustees
10.55.714	Professional Development
10.55.906	High School Credit
10.65.101	PIR Days for Base Funding
10.65.103	Program for PIR Days

Cross References

Code	**Description**
1005FE	Proficiency-Based ANB
2050	Innovative Student Instruction
2140	Guidance and Counseling
2221	School Emergency and Closure
2221-P(1)	School Emergency and Closure - Procedure

Policy 2151: Interscholastic Activities

Original Adopted Date: 09/09/2022 | **Last Revised Date:** 8/10/2026 |

The District recognizes the value of a program of interscholastic activities as an integral part of the total school experience. The program of interscholastic activities will include all activities relating to competitive sport or intellectual contests, games or events, or exhibitions involving individual students or teams of students of this District, when such events occur between schools outside this District.

All facilities and equipment utilized in the interscholastic activity program, whether or not the property of the District, will be inspected on a regular basis. Participants will be issued equipment which has been properly maintained and fitted.

An activity coach must be properly trained and qualified for an assignment as described in the coach's job description. A syllabus which outlines the skills, techniques, and safety measures associated with a coaching assignment will be distributed to each coach. All personnel coaching intramural or interscholastic activities will hold a current valid first aid certificate.

The Board recognizes that certain risks are associated with participation in interscholastic activities. While the District will strive to prevent injuries and accidents to students, each parent or guardian will be required to sign an "assumption of risk" statement indicating that the parents are aware of the risks inherent in participating in interscholastic activities. Each participant will be required to furnish evidence of physical fitness (physical form) prior to becoming a member of an athletic team. A participant will be free of injury and will have fully recovered from illness before participating in any event.

Coaches and/or trainers may not issue medicine of any type to students. This provision does not preclude the coach and/or trainer from using approved first aid items.

Administrative Rules of Montana	Description
10.55.707	Teacher and Specialist Licensure
37.111.825	Health Supervision and Maintenance

Cross References

Code	Description
8130	Outdoor Air Quality Restrictions
8132	Activity Trips

Policy 3110: Entrance, Placement, and Transfer

Original Adopted Date: 09/09/2022 | **Last Revised Date: 8/10/2026** |

Entrance, Placement, and Transfer

Entrance, Date, and Age

The trustees will enroll and admit a child to a school in the district when the child is 5 years of age or older on or before the tenth (10th) day of September of the school year in which the child is to enroll but is not yet 19 years of age who is a resident of the District. Parents may request a waiver of the age requirement. All waivers are granted in the sole discretion of the Trustees.

In accordance with Sec. 20-7-411, MCA, the Trustees shall provide or establish and maintain a special education program for each preschool child with a disability who is 3 years of age or older and under 7 years of age, and will enroll and admit into the special education program a child with a disability, as that term is defined at Sec. 20-7-401, MCA, if the child with a disability is at least 3 years of age.

In accordance with Title 20, Chapter 7, Part 18 of the MCA and Policy 2165, the Trustees may enroll a child under the age of 5 into an early targeted intervention classroom or home-based program if the child is 4 years of age or older on or before September 10 of the year in which the child is to participate in the program and the child is an "eligible child" as that term is defined in Sec. 20-7-1802, MCA.

Non-resident students may be admitted at the discretion of the Trustees. Children will be enrolled in the grade identified in accordance with District policy or at the discretion of the of the administration in consultation with the student's parents or guardians. The District requires proof of identity and an immunization record for every child to be admitted to District schools.

The Trustees may at their discretion assign and admit a child to a school in the district who is under 5 years of age or an adult who is 19 years of age or older if there are exceptional circumstances that merit waiving the age provision. As used in this policy, "exceptional circumstances" means any of the following:

(a) the child is being admitted into a preschool program established by the Trustees pursuant to Sec. 20-7-117, MCA;
(b) the child under 5 is determined by the trustees to be ready for kindergarten and the child's parents have requested early entry into the district's regular 1-year kindergarten program;
(c) the child under 5 is being admitted into an early targeted intervention classroom or jumpstart program pursuant to Title 20, chapter 7, part 18 and Policy 2165;
(d) the child is a child with a disability and is being admitted into a special education program pursuant to Sec. 20-7-411, MCA. or
(e) the adult is 19 years of age or older and in the trustees' determination would benefit from educational programs offered by a school of the district.

The trustees may also admit an individual who has graduated from high school but is not yet 19 years of age even though no special circumstances exist for waiver of the age provision of this Policy.

The trustees shall assign and admit a child who is enrolled in a nonpublic or home school and who meets the age and residency requirement of this policy on a part-time basis at the request of the

child's parent or guardian consistent with the provisions of Policy 3150. A part time enrollee shall be calculated for purposes of ANB consistent with Policy 3121.

The Trustees shall assign and admit to a school of the District or otherwise provide special education services to an adult with a disability residing in the District who has neither reached the age of 22 nor previously graduated from high school by earning a regular high school diploma based on the school district's graduation requirements and that was not based upon a lesser credential.

School Entrance

1. The District requires that a student's parents, legal guardian, or legal custodian present proof of identity of the child to the school within forty (40) days of enrollment, as well as proof of residence in the District. Students who are not residents of the District may apply for admission pursuant to Policy 3141. For the purposes of this section "proof of identity" means a certified copy of a birth certificate, a certified transcript or similar student records from the previous school, or any documentary evidence that a school district considers to be satisfactory proof of identity.

2. To be admitted to District schools, in accordance with the Montana Immunization Law, a child must have been immunized against varicella, diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, poliomyelitis, rubella, mumps, and measles in the manner and with immunizing agents approved by the department. Immunizations may not be required if a child qualifies for conditional attendance or an exemption is filed as provided by Montana law.

3. The above requirements are not to serve as barriers to immediate enrollment of students designated as homeless or foster children as required by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and the McKinney-Vento Act as amended by ESSA. The District shall work with the local child welfare agency, the school last attended, or other relevant agencies to obtain necessary enrollment documentation and ensure a student receives education services in the best interests of the child. The Superintendent or designee shall serve as point of contact with all applicable agencies to review records, facilitate services and resolve disputes.

Placement

The District goal is to place students at levels and in settings that will increase the probability of student success. Developmental testing, together with other relevant criteria, including but not limited to health, maturity, emotional stability, and developmental disabilities, may be considered in the placement of all students. Final disposition of all placement decisions rests with the principal, subject to review by the Superintendent or the Board.

Children of Relocated Military Families

The Board shall assign and admit a child whose parent or guardian is being relocated to Montana under military orders to a school in the district and allow the child to preliminarily enroll in classes and apply for programs offered by the District prior to arrival and establishing residency.

The student will be placed in student data management system as soon as enrolled under this provision. The student will attend classes during preliminary enrollment and the Board authorizes the administration to provide offsite instruction to the student if not present in the District. The District will include a student enrolled under this provision as part of the calculation of ANB.

Transfer

District policies regulating the enrollment of students from other accredited elementary and secondary schools are designed to protect the educational welfare of children.

Elementary Grades (K-8)
A student transferring into the District will be admitted and placed subject to observation by appropriate teachers and a building principal during a probation period of two (2) weeks. Thereafter, should doubt arise as to initial grade and level placement of a student, school personnel will conduct an educational assessment to determine appropriate grade and level placement.

Secondary Grades (9-12) Credit Transfer
A transfer of credits from any secondary school is subject to a satisfactory examination of the following:

1. Appropriate certificates of school accreditation;
2. Length of course, school day, and school year;
3. Content of applicable courses;
4. School building as it relates to credit earned (i.e., lab areas for appropriate science or vocational instruction);
5. Appropriate evaluation of student performance leading toward credit issuance.

The District will follow Montana Accreditation Rules and Standards, along with local alternate procedures for earning credit, in reviewing requests for transfer of credits. High school principals have authority for approving credit transfers, subject to review by the Superintendent or the Board.

Montana Code Annotated	**Description**
20-1-101	Definitions
20-5-101	Admittance of child to school
20-5-403	Immunization required – release and acceptance of immunization records
20-5-404	Conditional Attendance
20-5-405	Medical or religious exemption
20-5-406	Immunization record
20-7-117	Kindergarten and preschool programs
44-2-511	School enrollment procedure
Title 20, Chapter 5, Part 5	Enrollment of Pupil by Caretaker Relative

Administrative Rules of Montana	**Description**
10.16.3122	Local Educational Agency Responsibility for Students with Disabilities
10.55.712	Class Size Elementary
10.55.713	Teacher load and class size
Title 10, Chapter 55	Accreditation Standards

Cross References

Code	Description
2158	Parent and Family Engagement and Educational Involvement
2158-P(1)	Parent and Family Engagement and Educational Involvement - Student Pronoun Use
2413	Credit Transfer and Assessment for Placement
3121	Enrollment and Attendance Records
3121-P(1)	Enrollment and Attendance Records
3124	Military Compact Waiver
3125	Education of Homeless Children
3125-NF(1)	Education of Homeless Children - McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Dispute Resolution Form
3141	Nonresident Student Enrollment
3141-F(1)	Nonresident Student Enrollment - Application Form
3150	Part-Time Enrollment
3413	Student Immunization
3413-F(1)	Student Immunization - Medical Exemptions
3413-F(2)	Student Immunization - Religious Exemptions
3520	Student Fees, Fines, and Charges
3600	Student Records
3600-P(1)	Student Records - Maintenance of School Student Records
3600-NF(1)	Student Records - Notification to Parents and Students of Rights Concerning a Student's School Records
3600-F(1)	Student Records
8100	Transportation

Policy 3120: Compulsory Attendance

Original Adopted Date: 09/09/2022 | **Last Revised Date:** 8/10/2026

Compulsory Attendance

Parents or legal guardians or legal custodians are responsible for seeing that their children who are age seven (7) or older before the first (1st) day of school attend school until the later of the following dates:

1. Child's sixteenth (16th) birthday; or
2. The date the child completes the eighth (8th) grade.

The provisions above do not apply in the following cases:

a. The child has been excused under one of the conditions specified in 20-5-102.
b. The child is absent because of illness, bereavement, or other reason prescribed by the policies of the trustees.
c. The child has been suspended or expelled under the provisions of 20-5-202.
d. The child is excused pursuant to Section 2 of 20-5-103.
e. The child is excused pursuant to 40-6-701(1) or Policy 2158.

Compulsory attendance stated above will not apply when children:

1. Are provided with supervised correspondence or home study; or

2. Are excused because of a determination by a district judge that attendance is not in the best interests of the child; or

3. Are enrolled in a non-public or home school; or

4. Are enrolled in a school in another district or state; or

5. Are excused by the Board on a determination that attendance after the age of sixteen (16) is not in the best interests of the child and the school.

Montana Code Annotated	Description
20-1-308	Religious instruction released time program
20-5-101	Admittance of child to school
20-5-102	Compulsory enrollment and excuses
20-5-103	Compulsory Attendance and Excuses
20-5-104	Attendance officer
20-5-106	Truancy
20-5-107	Incapacitated and indigent child attendance
20-5-108	Tribal agreement with district for Indian child compulsory attendance and other agreements
20-5-202	Suspension and expulsion
40-6-701	Interference with fundamental parental rights restricted

Cross References

Code	Description
2158	Parent and Family Engagement and Educational Involvement
2158-P(1)	Parent and Family Engagement and Educational Involvement - Student Pronoun Use
2335	Health Enhancement Curriculum and Related Issues
2335-NF(1)	Health Enhancement Curriculum and Related Issues - Annual Notice
2335-NF(2)	Health Enhancement Curriculum and Related Issues - 5 to 14 Day Notice
2335-NF(3)	Health Enhancement Curriculum and Related Issues

Policy 5321: Sick Leave

Original Adopted Date: 09/09/2022 | **Last Revised Date:** 8/10/2026

Sick and Bereavement Leave

Classified employees, Business Managers/District Clerks, and Superintendents will be granted sick leave benefits in accordance with § 2-18-618, MCA.
"Sick leave" means a leave of absence with pay for:

(a) a sickness suffered by an employee or a member of the employee's immediate family; or

(b) the time that an employee is unable to perform job duties because of:

- a physical or mental illness, injury, or disability;
- maternity or pregnancy-related disability or treatment, including prenatal care, birth, or medical care for the employee or the employee's child;
- (quarantine resulting from exposure to a contagious disease;
- examination or treatment by a licensed health care provider;
- short-term attendance, in the District's discretion, to care for a relative or household member who is not a member of the employee's immediate family until other care can reasonably be obtained;
- necessary care for a spouse, child, or parent with a serious health condition, as defined in the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993; or
- death or funeral attendance of an immediate family member or, at the District's discretion, another person.

Immediate family is defined as an employee's spouse and any member of the employee's household, or any parent, child, grandparent, grandchild, or corresponding in-law.

Montana Code Annotated	**Description**
2-18-601(15)	Definitions
2-18-618	Sick leave
2-18-619	Jury Duty – Service as Witness
39-2-104	Mandatory leave of absence for employees holding public office
49-2-311	Reinstatement to job following pregnancy
Title 39, Chapter 31	Collective bargaining for public employees

United States Code	**Description**
42 U.S.C 2000e	Equal Employment Opportunities

Cross References

Code	**Description**
5328	Family Medical Leave
5328-P(1)	Family Medical Leave
5329	Long-Term Disability Leave
5329-P(1)	Long-Term Disability Leave - Procedure
5330	Maternity and Paternity Leave
7330	Payroll Procedures
7330-NF(1)	Payroll Procedures - Schedules