

2  
3 EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM  
4 Series 600

5  
6 Policy Title High School Credits & Graduation

Code No. 603.20

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8 **HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT REGULATIONS**

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10 One (1) unit of credit shall be granted for successful course work completion for each  
11 semester. One (1) semester equals one-half (1/2) year. If a student drops a subject after  
12 having been enrolled in class six (6) days, (block or hybrid schools – 4 A days or 4 B  
13 days), the subject will be recorded on the transcript with an automatic “F” grade for the  
14 semester with no credit (exceptions: staff approved changes for more appropriate  
15 student placement).

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17 Credit will be accepted with the following provisions:

- 18  
19 1. Credit will only be accepted for high school courses completed in an accredited  
20 high school.
- 21  
22 2. Up to twelve (12) correspondence and/or online credits from regionally  
23 accredited schools will be evaluated for acceptance upon receipt of an official  
24 transcript. The Director of Student Achievement must approve petitions for  
25 acceptance of correspondence or online credit outside the scope of the  
26 accredited program. Courses that do not meet standards may be accepted for  
27 elective credit. Online class credits from Joint School District No. 2 or from the  
28 Idaho Digital Learning Academy (IDLA) have received prior approval - additional  
29 review is not required and no maximum credit limit will be imposed upon these  
30 courses. The final grade must be posted no later than graduation practice.  
31 Students exceeding the twelve credit maximum, and who have completed all  
32 other graduation requirements, will be eligible to receive a diploma from Joint  
33 School District No. 2, but will not be eligible to participate in building  
34 commencement ceremonies.
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36 3. Students may receive dual/concurrent credit for approved college/university  
37 classes. District-level administrators will collaborate with institutions of higher  
38 education to determine appropriate classes, comparative curriculum, credit  
39 conversion, and specific processes for approval. A current list of available  
40 dual/concurrent credit options shall be maintained in the high school counselors'  
41 office and at the curriculum office.
- 42  
43 4. A maximum of six (6) credits (math-2, English-2, earth science-2) from a non-  
44 regionally accredited public, private, parochial or home school, may be accepted  
45 for the ninth (9) grade only based on demonstrated competency as a result of a  
46 district approved and administered test(s) in the area(s) listed above. Building  
47 counselors have competency test procedures/information for students and  
48 parents.
- 49  
50 A. Placement: The school counselor will tentatively place the entering  
51 student in the appropriate courses and grade level with consideration to:

- 52 i) Available documentation - transcripts, report card, test scores,  
53 work samples, etc.  
54 ii) The student /parent/guardian's assessment of his/her knowledge  
55 and abilities as well as courses believed to be successfully  
56 completed  
57 iii) Instructional materials with which the student has had  
58 experience  
59 iv) The student's age  
60 v) ISAT requirements for the grade-level/year  
61 vi) The school counselor will determine final placement after  
62 competency tests have been completed. Appeals may be made  
63 to the Director of Student Achievement. The director's decision  
64 is final.

65 B. Allowable Freshman Competency Credits (6):

- 66 i) English 9A = one (1) credit (1 exam and writing portfolio)  
67 ii) English 9B = one (1) credit (1 exam and writing portfolio)  
68 iii) Earth Science= two (2) credits (1 exam)  
69 iv) Math:  
70 a) Algebra I (first semester) = one (1) credit (1 exam); both  
71 semesters= two (2) credits (1 exam)  
72 b) Geometry (first semester)= one (1) credit (1 exam); both  
73 semesters= two (2) credits (1 exam)  
74

75 **ACCELERATED CLASS CREDIT**

76 All accelerated classes offered below grade nine (9), but of high school difficulty, will be  
77 recorded on the high school transcript as having been completed but with no high school  
78 credit earned. Seventh and/or eighth grade students who complete high school level  
79 coursework while in attendance at an accredited high school or at the Treasure Valley  
80 Math and Science Center will receive high school credit for those courses.  
81

82 **PROFICIENCY TESTING**

83 Students may petition to take proficiency tests for placement only. Upon successful  
84 completion of the adopted proficiency test for an individual course, the student will be  
85 granted a waiver from that course and may take an advanced course in its place. No  
86 credit will be granted for proficiency testing.  
87

88 **TRANSCRIPTS**

89 Students that transfer to another school in the middle of a semester will have grades  
90 posted on their transcript with a W next to the grade earned at the time of the transfer.  
91 Grades given during the semester of the transfer to another school will be excluded from  
92 the GPA calculation. The withdrawal date, as well as the word *withdrawal*, will be  
93 recorded in the title section of the transcript just above the grades.  
94

95 Students that withdraw from school without transferring to another school (drops) will  
96 have grades posted on their transcript with a WF. Grades given during the semester of  
97 the withdrawal will be included in the GPA calculation. The withdrawal date, as well as  
98 the word *drop* will be recorded in the title section of the transcript just above the grades.  
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100 Students that are expelled from Joint School District No. 2 will have grades posted on  
101 their transcript with a WF. Grades given during the semester of the expulsion will be

102 included in the GPA calculation. The withdrawal date, as well as the word *withdrawn* will  
103 be recorded in the title section of the transcript just above the grades.

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**GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

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Joint School District No. 2 high schools are accredited by the Northwest Association of  
108 Accredited Schools.

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Graduation requirements are as follows:

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1) Required classes for the graduating class of 2010:

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<b>High Schools on AB Block</b>	
English	8 credits/RPR
Speech/Debate	1 credit
Math	6 credits/MPR
Earth Science	2 lab credits
Biology	2 lab credits
Global Perspectives	1 credit
U.S. History	4 credits
American Govt.	2 credits
Economics	1 credit
Physical Education	2 credits
Health	1 credit
Technology	1 credit/TPT
Humanities	2 credits
Electives	17+ credits
Total	50 credits

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Students who have earned credits from a Traditional or Hybrid Schedule will be required  
116 to have a total of 46 credits to graduate.

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2) Required classes for the graduating class of 2011:

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<b>High Schools on AB Block</b>	
English	8 credits/RPR
Speech/Debate	1 credit
Math	6 credits/MPR
Earth Science	2 lab credits
Biology	2 lab credits
Lab Science	2 lab credits
Global Perspectives	1 credit
U.S. History	4 credits
American Govt.	2 credits
Economics	1 credit
Physical Education	2 credits
Health	1 credit
Technology	1 credit/TPT
Humanities	2 credits
Electives	15+ credits
Total	50 credits

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121 Students who have earned credits from a Traditional or Hybrid Schedule will be required  
122 to have a total of 48 credits to graduate.

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3) Required classes for the graduating class of 2012:

<b>High Schools on AB Block</b>	
English	8 credits/RPR
Speech/Debate	1 credit
Math	8 credits/MPR
Science*	6 lab credits
Global Perspectives	1 credit
U.S. History	4 credits
American Govt.	2 credits
Economics	1 credit
Physical Education	2 credits
Health	1 credit
Technology	1 credit/TPT
Humanities	2 credits
Electives	13+ credits
Total	50 credits

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Students who have earned credits from a Traditional or Hybrid Schedule will be required to have a total of 50 credits to graduate.

4) Required classes for the graduating class of 2013:

<b>High Schools on AB Block</b>	
English	8 credits/RPR
Speech/Debate	1 credit
Math	8 credits/MPR
Science*	6 lab credits
Global Perspectives	1 credit
U.S. History	4 credits
American Govt.	2 credits
Economics	1 credit
Physical Education	2 credits
Health	1 credit
Humanities	2 credits
Electives	20+ credits
Total	56 credits

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<b>Renaissance High School**</b>	
English	8 credits/RPR
Math	8 credits/MPR
Science*	6 lab credits
Global Perspectives***	1 credit
U.S. History	4 credits
American Govt.	2 credits
Economics	1 credit
Physical Ed./Health	3 credits
World Language	4 credits
21 <sup>st</sup> Century Skills	1 credits

Music or Art	2 credits
Theory of Knowledge	2 credits
Electives	13+credits
Total	56 credits

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135 RPR = Reading Proficiency Requirement (See lines 174-177)

136 MPR = Math Proficiency Requirement (See lines 183-187)

137 TPT = Technology Proficiency Test (See lines 192-194)

138 \*Shall include instruction in Biology; Physical Science or Chemistry; Earth, Space, Environmental,  
139 or approved applied science.

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141 \*\*Renaissance High School (RHS) students are required to successfully complete 56 credits.

142 The state speech requirement will be met at RHS through core classes freshman and sophomore  
143 years which will include a sequence of instructional activities that meet the state high school  
144 communications standards.

145 \*\*\*Global Perspectives is not required for students in International Studies at RHS.

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147 **EXPLANATION OF REQUIREMENTS (ALL GRADUATING CLASSES):**

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149 1. Humanities credits may be taken in any interdisciplinary course, visual or  
150 performing arts, or foreign language course that meets the Idaho State  
151 Humanities Content Standards. Courses that meet this requirement shall be  
152 selected from those identified as "humanities" courses in the Course Description  
153 Handbook. Credits earned from other institutions must meet the above  
154 requirements.155 2. Students are required to demonstrate proficiency in language, reading, and  
156 mathematics by achieving a passing score on each section of the ISAT 10 and  
157 other measures required by the State Board of Education. Commencing with the  
158 Class of 2012, students are also required to demonstrate proficiency in science  
159 by achieving a passing score on each section of the ISAT 10 and other measures  
160 required by the State Board of Education.161 3. Students planning to graduate in the spring semester of their senior year will take  
162 English 12B and American Government B simultaneously in the spring semester  
163 due to the interdisciplinary requirements of the senior project. Students who  
164 choose to take English 12B and American Government B earlier than spring  
165 semester must either complete these courses simultaneously in a combination of  
166 night school/day school or in the Joint School District No. 2 summer school. For  
167 students planning to graduate in January, these two (2) courses must be taken  
168 during the previous summer or in night school. English 12B and American  
169 Government B cannot be taken through other options, such as correspondence.

170 4. Reading/Language/Math/Technology Proficiency Requirements:

171 a. Students who do not meet the district's standard of proficiency on the  
172 spring grade 8 ISAT in reading must successfully complete a one (1)  
173 credit semester course in reading. The credit for this course shall come  
174 from the student's elective credits.175 b. Students in grade 11 and 12 who fail to meet the ISAT10 proficiency in  
176 language and/or reading must successfully complete the Language Arts  
177 Lab intervention class. The class will be taken concurrently with the  
178 student's regular English class and the credit for this course shall come  
179 from the student's elective credits.180 c. Students who do not meet the district's standard of proficiency on the  
181 spring grade 8 ISAT in mathematics must successfully complete a one (1)

- 182 credit/semester course in mathematics. Credits for this course shall come  
 183 from the student's elective credits. This course shall not meet the  
 184 mathematics credit requirement for graduation.
- 185 d. Students who have passed Algebra I but fail to meet the tenth grade ISAT  
 186 10 proficiency in mathematics must be enrolled continually in a district  
 187 math course until proficiency level is obtained or met through an  
 188 alternative option.
- 189 e. Students may challenge the technology credit requirement by  
 190 demonstrating proficiency on the Joint School District Technology  
 191 Proficiency Test.
- 192 5. Students who plan to take either competitive speech or debate to fulfill their  
 193 graduation speech requirement must take the course for the full year and take  
 194 the speech end-of-course examination (EOC).
- 195 6. Students who plan to take Orientation to Health Professions/Sports Medicine I  
 196 must take the course for the full year and take the health end of course  
 197 examination.
- 198 7. The physical education requirement may be met by successful completion of:  
 199 a. Two (2) semesters of physical education classes or Lifetime sports or  
 200 b. Two (2) credits of multi-sport fitness or dance class or by  
 201 c. Any combination of the aforementioned options
- 202 8. Seniors must demonstrate proficiency on the ISAT 10 (policy 501.9).
- 203 9. Students are required to demonstrate achievement and proficiency in basic  
 204 standards in science, social studies, health, and humanities.
- 205 10. Students are required to demonstrate proficiency on the district's senior project  
 206 that includes the technical paper and oral presentation.
- 207 11. Students must meet the district's mathematics proficiency requirements. This  
 208 proficiency shall include successful completion of two (2) semesters of algebra or  
 209 hands-on algebra.
- 210 12. *Commencing with the class of 2012* students must successfully demonstrate  
 211 proficiency in geometry.
- 212 13. *Commencing with the class of 2013* - students must take one (1) of  
 213 the following college entrance examinations before the end of the student's  
 214 eleventh grade year: COMPASS, ACT or SAT. Two (2) semesters of the  
 215 required credits for mathematics must be taken during senior year.

### 216 217 **CLASS RANKING**

218 Class ranking for graduating seniors will be determined using the following formula: Un-  
 219 weighted GPA + # of AP classes x .02.

### 220 221 **EARLY GRADUATION**

222 Students may apply to graduate early providing they have completed the required  
 223 courses and have met the necessary credit and proficiency requirements in fewer than  
 224 eight (8) semesters but in not less than six (6) semesters. Two (2) weeks before  
 225 graduation ceremonies, graduates must notify school officials that they wish to  
 226 participate.

### 227 228 **GRADUATION EXERCISE PARTICIPATION**

229 Full time students who have completed the required courses and who have met the  
 230 necessary credit, attendance (district policy 501.10), and proficiency requirements as  
 231 stated are eligible to participate in graduation exercises. Those students who have not  
 232 fulfilled all graduation requirements as stated may not participate in the graduation

233 exercise. Students who drop out of their home high school and complete the second  
234 semester of their senior year via night school, summer school, correspondence courses,  
235 or online courses will be eligible to receive a diploma from Meridian Joint School District  
236 No. 2, but will not be eligible to participate in the graduation exercise.

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238 **RECOGNITION OF HONOR STUDENTS**

239 Commencing with the graduating class of 2009, honor students will be those who meet  
240 the following GPA requirements on their transcripts for any class for which high school  
241 credits were earned. AP courses are graded on a 5-point scale (includes Calculus II).

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243	Highest Honors	4.1-5.0	both high school colors
244			
245	High Honors	3.77-4.099	both cords Silver CHS, EHS, & MVHS, Gold 246 for MHS and RMHS.
247			
248	Honors	3.5-3.7699	both cords Maroon for CHS, Green for EHS, 249 Blue for MHS & MVHS, Purple for RMHS.

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251 **SELECTION OF VALEDICTORIANS**

252 Commencing with the graduating class of 2009, no valedictorians will be chosen;  
253 students will be honored with highest honors, high honors and honors. For 2009 and  
254 beyond, two (2) students from the top ten percent (10%) of the graduating class will be  
255 asked to deliver addresses during the graduation exercise. The graduating class will  
256 select the two representatives by vote with administrative approval.

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259 Date of Revision:  
260 12/19/08

Legal Reference: Idaho Code