

MIDDLE SCHOOL / HIGH SCHOOL

FACULTY HANDBOOK

2018-19



**“STUDENTS ARE THE FIRST PRIORITY AT
FORT BENTON SCHOOLS”**

FORT BENTON SCHOOL DISTRICT #1
1820 Washington Street
Fort Benton, Montana 59442

Adopted:
August 14, 2018

EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

Teaching Certificate

If you received a new teaching certificate this summer, be sure to have it registered with the County Superintendent of Schools. You have sixty days (by law) to do this. Please bring your new certificate to school so that a copy can be made for office records.

Withholding W-4 / Teacher Retirement

If your withholding status has changed, secure a new W-4 form from the district secretary. If no changes are made, deductions will be made as before. If you wish to change your beneficiary on your retirement, notify Mrs. Nelson, district clerk.

School Day for Faculty

The standard operating procedure will be that teachers are required to be at school at 8:00 am and remain until 4:00 pm with the exception of the lunch break. On Fridays or the day before a holiday, teachers are dismissed with the bus departure.

School Related Handbooks

Review this Faculty Handbook and the Student Handbook to familiarize yourself with expectations and procedures in the district. These handbooks are part of board policy when adopted. All teachers will receive a copy of the Student Handbook and are to become familiar with it. Teachers are responsible to help enforce the rules in the Student Handbook. Some things may seem trivial and unnecessary, however, one or two individuals failing to follow procedures often cause hardship and hard feelings on the part of fellow staff members. Every staff member is a vital link in our **T E A M** effort!

Cooperation and flexibility are vital to maintaining Fort Benton MS/HS as an effective school.

Faculty Noon Duty

Each school day there is to be two teachers on noon duty. One teacher is to monitor the cafeteria and high school hallways and a second is assigned to monitor the cafeteria and middle school hallway/outside. Those monitoring the elementary lunchroom, when necessary, will need to make every effort to get there as soon as possible after 5th period is dismissed. If you cannot cover an assigned duty, please switch with another faculty member. The high school secretary must be notified in the event of a change. Some teachers have a week in which they share duty. ***Those who share the week can decide who will have duty on which days.***

2018-2019 Noon Duty			
Week	HS Duty	MS / Elementary Duty	ICU Duty
8/21 - 8/24	Allen	Ferguson	
8/27 - 8/31	Pimperton	Lords	Miller
9/4 - 9/7	Guinnane	Rominger	Shaw
9/10 - 9/14	Spees	Vielleux	Woodhouse
9/17 - 9/21	Dunham	Luoma	Allen
9/24 - 9/28	Ferguson	Pimperton	Lords
10/1 - 10/5	Rominger	Shaw	Spees
10/8 - 10/12	Vielleux	Woodhouse	Dunham
10/15 - 10/17	Luoma	Guinnane	Ferguson
10/22 - 10/26	Lords	Allen	Pimperton
10/29 - 11/2	Shaw	Spees	Rominger
11/5 - 11/9	Woodhouse	Dunham	Vielleux
11/12 - 11/15	Allen	Ferguson	Luoma
11/19 - 11/20	Pimperton	Lords	Guinnane
11/26 - 11/30	Dunham	Rominger	Miller
12/3 - 12/7	Spees	Vielleux	Shaw
12/10 - 12/14	Guinnane	Luoma	Woodhouse
12/17 - 12/21	Ferguson	Pimperton	Allen
1/3 - 1/4	Rominger-1, Pimperton-1	Shaw	Lords
1/7 - 1/11	Vielleux	Woodhouse	Spees
1/14 - 1/18	Luoma	Guinnane	Dunham
1/21 - 1/25	Lords	Allen	Ferguson
1/28 - 1/31	Shaw	Spees	Pimperton
2/4 - 2/8	Woodhouse-4, Guinnane-1	Dunham	Rominger
2/11 - 2/15	Allen	Ferguson-4, Guinnane-1	Vielleux
2/18 - 2/20	Pimperton	Lords	Luoma
2/25 - 3/1	Guinnane	Rominger	Shaw
3/4 - 3/7	Spees	Vielleux-3, Shaw-1	Miller
3/11 - 3/15	Dunham-4, Lords-1	Luoma	Guinnane
3/18 - 3/22	Ferguson	Pimperton	Woodhouse
3/25 - 3/29	Rominger	Shaw	Allen
4/1 - 4/4	Vielleux	Woodhouse	Lords
4/8 - 4/12	Luoma	Guinnane	Spees
4/15 - 4/17	Lords	Allen	Dunham
4/24 - 4/26	Shaw	Spees	Ferguson
4/29 - 5/3	Woodhouse-4, Lords-1	Dunham	Pimperton
5/6 - 5/10	Pimperton-2, Luoma-3	Ferguson-4, Spees-1	Rominger
5/13 - 5/17	Guinnane-4, Shaw-1	Lords	Vielleux
5/20 - 5/23	Allen-1, Lords-1, Rominger-2	Shaw-2, Guinnane-2	Luoma

CERTIFIED PERSONNEL

The Board will seek to employ the best qualified people available. At the same time, the Board will demand a professional job and quality workmanship.

[See Negotiated Agreement]

Drug-Free Workplace

No employee engaged in work in connection with the Fort Benton Schools shall unlawfully manufacture, distribute, dispense, possess, or use on or in the workplace any narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana or any other controlled substance, as defined in schedules I through V of section 202 of the Controlled Substance Act (21 U.S.C. 812) and as further defined by regulation at 21 CFR 1300.11 through 1300.15. "Workplace" is defined (by the Fort Benton School District) to mean the site for the performance of work done in connection with the Fort Benton schools. That includes any school building or any school premise; any school-owned vehicle or any other school-approved vehicle used to transport students to and from school or school activities; off school property during any school-sponsored or school approved activity, event or function, such as a field trip or athletic event, where students are under the jurisdiction of the school district.

As condition of employment in the Fort Benton School District, each employee who is engaged in performance as a District Employee shall notify his or her supervisor of his or her conviction of any criminal drug statute for a violation occurring in the workplace as defined above. Such notification shall be provided no later than five days after such conviction. As a condition of employment in the Fort Benton School District, each employee who is engaged in performance as a District Employee, shall abide by the terms of the school district policy respecting a drug-free workplace. An employee who violated the terms of this policy may be non-renewed of his or her employment, suspended, or terminated - at the discretion of the Board of Trustees.

Tobacco Free Policy

The District maintains tobacco-free buildings and grounds. Tobacco includes, but is not limited to: cigarettes, cigars, snuff, smoking tobacco, and smokeless tobacco.

Use of tobacco products in a public school building or on public school property is prohibited, unless the use of a tobacco product in a classroom or on other school property as part of a lecture, demonstration, or educational forum sanctioned by a school administrator or faculty member concerning the risks associated with using tobacco products.

For the purpose of this policy, "public school building or public school property" means:

- public land, fixtures, buildings, or other property owned or occupied by an institution for the teaching of minor children that is established and maintained under the laws of the state of Montana at public expense; and
- includes playgrounds, school steps, parking lots, administration buildings, athletic facilities, gymnasiums, locker rooms, and school buses.

Tobacco Free School District

All School District buildings and grounds are tobacco free. As a result, no member of the faculty shall use tobacco on school grounds and/or around students. Students will be suspended from school for the use/possession of tobacco according to Board policy. Teachers are expected to refrain from the use of tobacco at any time, including the classroom or on athletic arenas when servicing students.

GENERAL INFORMATION

District Policy Books

Teachers are expected to read and become familiar with the School Board Policies for District #1. Policy books are on file in the building and can be found in the Faculty Lounge and the Office of the Principal.

Professional Conferences

The following material outlines the Fort Benton School District plan for in-service programs:

-Currently, the district has seven days in-service days. A minimum of three (3) days in-service must be provided to teachers.

Elective in-service alternative to State Convention in October:

1. Two days of in-service may be taken prior to school starting in the Fall as an option over State Convention days in October. A teacher would be required to attend two, 6 hour days to be eligible for this proposal.

2. Workshops may be taken after June 8th and before the first paid contract day in August.

3. Workshops sponsored by the Golden Triangle Curriculum Consortium or the Fort Benton School District are encouraged, others approved depending on request. The Fort Benton School District may offer a specialty workshop in August, from time to time, but not necessarily on an annual basis.

4. Expenses (per diem, fees, etc.) for these two August in-service days are the responsibility of the teacher (similar to the State Convention Days).

5. Employees will now have two options concerning the traditional State Convention days in October:
a) attend twelve (12) hours of in-service through the Golden Triangle Curriculum Cooperative.
b) attend twelve (12) hours of in-service at the traditional State Convention days in October.

** teachers may elect to attend both a and b above if they wish.

6. All pre-school year in-service day workshops must be approved by the Superintendent prior to the workshop dates. Failure to secure prior written approval will negate any pre-school year in-service days taken to be used in lieu of the State Convention dates and teachers would then be obligated to attend the State Convention.

7. Fort Benton's in-service plan does not include providing alternative in-service programs during State Convention.

Please contact the Superintendent of Schools if you have any questions. This program was adopted by the Board of Trustees on May 9, 1995.

Teacher Dress / Grooming

Good teachers realize it is professional to dress as well as the situation allows. Proper attire separates the student from the teacher, allowing mutual respect. Teachers are expected to follow this guideline all week, with Fridays being just as important as Mondays.

Use of District Owned Equipment

No school owned equipment/materials may be taken off school grounds without first completing a "district Owned Equipment/Materials Loan Request Form." These forms are available in the office of the Superintendent.

Faculty Meetings

Faculty meetings will be scheduled when deemed necessary by the Principal, or possibly by teacher request. There will be one to two faculty meetings per month for communication purposes. These faculty meetings will be from 7:30 - 8:00 am or from 3:30 pm until 4:00 pm unless otherwise listed. All faculty members, including those involved in extracurricular activities are to attend. Practices for athletics/activities are to start at 4:00 pm on days in which a faculty meeting is to take place unless the practice is supervised by a non-certified staff member.

School Calendar

The official Middle School and High School calendar is located in the office of the Principal. Scheduling of events in the building must go through the Principal/Activity Director. Please inform the Principal/Activity Director before announcing any event. A weekly calendar of events will be listed on the Daily Bulletin each Monday.

Daily Announcements

Teachers are to submit any announcement for the Daily Bulletin to the Secretary by 2:00 pm the night before the Bulletin is prepared. Sponsoring teachers will have to sign all announcements related to students or school activities. The Daily Bulletin will be typed and placed in the teacher's mailboxes each night. The announcements will be read each morning in every classroom. Teachers are asked to make sure students are attentive and listening to the announcements, which are the only way to communicate with the entire student body on a daily basis.

Textbooks/Materials - Proper Previewing

All teachers are responsible to preview textbooks, video productions, etc. PRIOR to implementing such in a class curriculum. Materials should be free from controversial areas such as sexual connotations, language, and content. Good judgment is needed on the part of the teacher to insure we are teaching proper materials that present good morals and ideals to our students. Any textbook or materials that may be perceived as controversial are to be cleared by the Principal in advance of using in the classroom.

Teacher Evaluation Procedures

The evaluation process is a very important aspect of creating a good learning environment for our students. Teachers will be evaluated on both a formative and summative basis. The Principal may make several informal visits into your classroom during the course of the school year. All tenured teachers shall receive one (1) formal evaluation per school year. Non-tenured teachers will receive two (2) formal evaluations per school year. A copy of the evaluation instrument is available in the office of the Principal.

Public Relations: The Role of the Teacher

The staff and administration at Fort Benton Middle/High School have the responsibility to sell our school to the public. The public needs to know about our school. Teachers are encouraged to make a great effort to publicize our school in the local newspaper, school paper, local television, and during Parent-Teacher conferences. All news items should be emailed to The River Press by 12 noon on Monday. We do have an annual staff that has a camera that can be used to take pictures of any special activities your class is doing. We need to write articles and sell our programs to the community. If you would like some pictures taken, be sure to contact The River Press and make arrangements for pictures. Again, the newspaper deadline is Monday at noon, so if you have an article, Friday is a great day to turn it in.

Faculty: The Role of the Sponsor

Many teachers will be sponsoring a class, a club, or a group. Sponsors are responsible for the organization's actions and finances. Sponsors make decisions concerning the budget book, purchases, and making sure the budget is followed. Please do not assign students these responsibilities. Being a sponsor is a demanding part of the total teaching position and teachers are well appreciated for putting in time with the student body.

Activity Trips

ALL students transported for any school activities, regardless of numbers of students being transported, must be transported on Montana Highway Patrol Approved School Buses or Activity Buses owned and maintained by the school district. Only in a special case or circumstance may this policy be waived by the District Transportation Director.

School Assemblies

Assemblies are designed to extend the curriculum of Fort Benton Middle/High School. Students should be prepared for the assembly so that they can obtain maximum benefit from the program. Teachers are expected to accompany their class to assemblies and to sit among the students during the assembly for supervision purposes.

School Office Procedures

The school office will be administered as any business office. The office will be open from 7:30 am until 4:30 pm each day.

PROFESSIONAL PROCEDURES

Professional Relationships

A level of cooperation must exist among all teachers and administrators to make the school a pleasant place to work. Any complaint or suggestions as to another teacher's performance should be handled with the parties involved. If the concern cannot be handled among members of the teaching staff, the principal should be consulted. Positive comments are necessary to promote a learning environment that is comfortable for the faculty, administration and students at Fort Benton Middle/High School.

Parental Relationships

Teachers should always be in contact with parents when the need arises - either in a positive or negative manner. Parents need to know when their children are doing excellent, average, and unsatisfactory work. Please be encouraged to make as much contact with parents as possible.

When complaints or suggestions concerning a teacher are brought to the attention of the Principal, every effort will be made to get fair and impartial information from both sides, with both sides meeting in person.

Teachers also must keep in touch with parents concerning problems they may be having in their classes. Parents do not like to be surprised when the problems are too great to solve, so you are responsible to keep an open, informative line of communication with the parents of your students.

Chain of Command

If you have a question, concern, or problem with an aspect of school, make sure you follow the proper chain of command. Check with your building Principal before going to the Superintendent or School Board members. This is professional etiquette and needs to be addressed by all Fort Benton School employees.

Leaving the Building During the School Day

Should a teacher find it necessary to leave the school building during a prep period, the building principal must be informed through the check-out form at the office. Also notify the building secretary personally so that phone calls and messages can be routed appropriately. Teachers do not have permission to leave school during prep periods for personal business on a continual basis. Teachers who leave prior to 4:00 pm on days other than Fridays or days that precede a holiday must be granted permission from the Principal.

Lesson Plans / Teaching Objectives

Planning, organization, and preparing for classes are absolute essentials for good teaching. These tasks go hand in hand in helping to maintain effective discipline. A copy of your set of lesson plans for the coming week will be due in the office by 8:30 am the first school day of each week. Your plans for each lesson should include a brief description of the objective(s) of the lesson and the method(s) that will be used to deliver the lesson.

Homework Guidelines

Homework is a constructive tool in the teaching/learning process when geared to the needs and abilities of students. As an extension of the classroom, homework must be planned and organized, must be viewed as purposeful to the students, and should be evaluated and returned to the student in a timely manner.

Family Night Guidelines

Monday night is Family Night for the Fort Benton community. All school activities must be ended and students out of the buildings by 6:45 pm. As well, teachers should be aware of Family Night and plan to avoid major tests and assignments at this time.

Injured Student Procedures

Students injured at school or at school sponsored activities must receive immediate attention. Be wary of moving the bodily injured student. The parent and principal must be notified as soon as possible and a written "Accident Form" must be filled out and returned to the administration immediately. Parents should always be contacted, or an attempt made to contact them and documented prior to taking the student to a doctor. If the student must be taken to a doctor and the parent/guardian cannot be contacted, a copy of the medical release form must be obtained at the office. The doctor will not provide medical assistance without this form.

Use/Possession of Tobacco in School

The use/possession of tobacco is of serious concern in our school. Teachers are to investigate and cooperate in making sure tobacco is not being possessed, nor used in your presence on school grounds. Teachers are not to "look the other way." Also teachers are to refrain from smoking at any time in the presence of students on school grounds.

The use and/or possession of tobacco at Fort Benton High School is prohibited by both school policy and Montana law. Students caught in possession and or using tobacco products of any kind on school grounds will be suspended from school and local law enforcement authorities will be notified.

Faculty Lounge

The teacher workroom is to be used to prepare for classes during the course of the school day. Professional teachers use the workroom for school preparation work without gossip or negative connotations. No students are allowed here unless invited in.

Illness or Emergency Absences

Teachers and aides must call the principal 622-5112 if a substitute teacher for the day is necessary. If you believe you will be gone for a second day, it is courtesy to notify the office before school dismisses so that the substitute can be asked to return the following day.

Telephone Use

Students are allowed to use the telephone in the morning, at noon, between classes, or after school. Students are not to be released from class to use the phone. Being late to class to use the phone between classes is not an acceptable excuse. Do not get in the habit of allowing students to use the phone during class time. Teachers can use the classroom phone for local calls. When making a long distance call that is school related, please use your 4-digit code number after the beeps. When making a long distance call that is not school related, use your credit card. Personal long distance calls are not to be charged to the school district under any circumstance.

Teacher Supplies

All supplies each teacher requested have been given to you personally. The office has no extra teacher supplies so please use the supplies you ordered. The supplies in the office are those ordered by the office staff for their needs.

Separation of Middle School and High School

The philosophy of our school is to provide the high school students and middle school students with their own separate identity. Because of this philosophy, at no time will a student from the middle school attend a function of the high school and at no time will a student from the high school attend a function of the middle school. The only exception is athletic contests. Middle school and high school students will not belong to the same clubs, organizations, etc. The two schools will be treated as separate as possible to give both ages groups their own educational identity.

Fund-Raising

All requests by school organizations for fund-raising activities must complete a fund-raising form through the Principal for approval prior to the fund-raiser. All fund-raising activities will be placed on a calendar to insure that too many fund-raisers are not scheduled on one specific event. All fund-raising will take place before or after school hours or during the lunch hour. Items will not be sold during the academic school day.

General Guidelines

1. the fund-raising activity must not interfere with the learning process by taking class time.
2. all purchase commitments must be done following district policy concerning purchases.

Extra-curricular Absences

A Travel List of students who are to be excused from school for activity absences must be submitted by the sponsor to the secretary and a copy placed in each teacher's mailbox or sent by email. This must be done at least 48 hours in advance of the absence.

Care of School Property

Every student should be impressed with their personal obligations in the care and treatment of school property. This includes textbooks, furniture, equipment, buildings, supplies, as well as the personal property of others. Point out the appearance of the building as the school year begins and appeal to the students' pride and good judgment to keep it nice throughout the year.

Textbook Care: Students

Every student should be impressed with their personal obligations in the care and treatment of textbooks as well. This includes any damage to textbooks or loss of such books. Textbooks are very expensive so students need to understand they are financially responsible for damaged or lost books. This should be emphasized in each teacher's classroom rules.

School Maintenance Department

Requests for repairs and other custodial services must be made on a Work Order form. This form should be filled out in detail and returned to Russ Axtman, Maintenance Supervisor. Custodians will not care for classroom plants, pets, etc. If you have complaints about custodial/maintenance work, report it directly to Mr. Axtman.

STUDENT SUPERVISION RESPONSIBILITIES

Teachers are professionals and realize that the reason they are in the Fort Benton school system is to provide a quality education for the students enrolled. Professional teachers are in their classrooms whenever they have a class. They always give students proper supervision and keep them on task. Students are not to be left unattended at any time. If an emergency arises requiring you to be out of the classroom, send a student to the office and an adult will be sent immediately to cover while you step out. A group cannot be expected to function properly without the supervision of the instructor. Please do not take pop or coffee into your classroom while you are supervising students.

General Supervision of Students

All teachers are expected to exercise general discipline of all students in the halls, before school, at noon, and after school. There will be no unsupervised students in the building and/or classroom at any time. Liability risks do not allow improper supervision of students.

Student Check-Out Procedures

Students are not permitted to leave the school building or grounds at any time unless they have reported to the office and received permission to leave. Students who become ill must report to the office and check out prior to leaving the school grounds. Students are not to be sent on errands during instructional time.

'Wandering' Students

Teachers are responsible to keep students in the classroom and on task. Students are not to wander the halls without justifiable reasons, and only in case of need. Students going to lockers, drinking fountains, making a phone call etc. is a feeble excuse to interrupt class and draw attention. Students have plenty of time between classes to take care of these things. If students need to go to the restroom between classes have them report to you first, prior to the tardy bell, then grant them permission to go to the restroom. Be firm, fair, and cordial, maintaining a tight rein on the class first, relax later if you see fit.

PURCHASING-ORDERING PROCEDURES

Each teacher has an equipment budget. If you need materials other than consumable supplies, request a purchase order from the office and complete it fully. Complete the purchase order in detail, including the complete address and telephone number (both regular number and '800' number if available). Also, write down the name of the company personnel that quoted you the prices.

Once the purchase order is complete submit the order to the Principal for final approval. The purchase order will then be approved and the teacher will receive the white copy. Once this copy is received by the teacher, the teacher can call the order in to the company. Always keep in mind that 10% of the total purchase is the usual shipping & handling amount. Make sure you consider this amount in the total cost of the order.

No purchases, local or out of town, are allowed without prior approval of the Principal and a completed purchase order. If purchases occur without following this procedure, the person ordering will incur the expense. Teachers are not to order any supplies, etc. on PREVIEW without a purchase order number to reference the preview by.

Teachers do not have the authority to make orders or purchases against the School District. Teachers do not have the authority to loan equipment or the use of school facilities. The building Principal or Activity Director will make all arrangements for use of school facilities.

Federal-Vocational Education Funding

Any staff member receiving federal/vocational education dollars must spend as soon as possible. Money left unspent will be used at the discretion of the Principal in the vocational education areas.

F.B.A.S. Accounts

NO purchase is to be made without presenting an approved FBAS authorization to the person who will receive payment. These authorization forms are to be signed by the sponsor, student treasurer, and Principal. NO checks will be issued until this authorization is in the high school office. NO funds are to be operated in the RED. The sponsor will be held liable for any charges which exceeds the funds available. Do not send students downtown for purchases without the white copy of the purchase order. The white copy will be kept by the vendor. If you have questions, please ask.

BUILDING INFORMATION

Building Security

Make sure that the windows and door to your classroom are locked before you leave each day. If you return in the evening or on the weekend, please check the windows, classroom doors and exit door when leaving. If you are dealing with students, check outside doors to see that none of them have been wedged open with small stones or other objects. When leaving through the front door, push it shut, and pull on it to make sure that it is locked.

Report Lost Keys To The Principal Immediately!

Staff members may be held accountable for any damages incurred due to unauthorized persons using lost keys if not reported. Staff members may also be held liable for expenses of re-keying the affected areas.

Do Not Give Your Keys To A Student Under Any Circumstances or leave them unattended!

At No Time Should Pupils Be Admitted To The Building For Activities Unless Directly Supervised By A Member Of The Staff!

Building Keys

Every teacher will be issued a minimum number of keys. Please do not request keys that you do not need in your daily routine. Teachers are responsible for their own keys. Please do not give your keys to a student under any conditions. If you have student helpers, it is your responsibility to arrange their entrance and exit to the building. If by chance you lose your keys, notify the Principal immediately.

Classroom Maintenance / Repairs

It is expected that we work cooperatively with the custodian in maintaining an attractive looking building. Teachers are expected to direct their students to clean up their classrooms before dismissal and place their chairs on the desk top. Any assistance you supply the custodians is greatly appreciated. Requests of the custodian of a specific or complex nature, as well as complaints, are to be communicated first to the Principal.

During the summer, repairs are done. If the teacher needs something fixed or repaired, please note this on your end of the year checkout sheet. If you need something repaired, etc. during the school year, fill out a Work Order Form and return it to Mr. Axtman.

Faculty Mailboxes

Teacher mailboxes are located in the teacher workroom. Mailboxes should be checked daily upon arrival and before leaving for the day to insure all information has been received.

CLASSROOM PROCEDURES

Preparing for a Substitute Teacher

In the event you will miss school because of appointments, field trip, activity trip, personal leave, etc. please inform the secretary in the main office. "Teacher Request For Leave" forms are located in the teacher's lounge. To ensure a meaningful and productive day for the substitute and your students in your absence, a substitute information folder must be available. This folder should include information about your schedule, classroom rules, location of supplies and materials, and other information appropriate for your level.

The following are suggestions for your folder:

1. seating chart
2. daily class schedule
3. list of classroom rules
4. list of dependable students
5. list of helpful faculty members nearby
6. a well-prepared lesson plan book
7. special assignments such as noon duty, etc.
8. fire alarm instructions
9. procedure for taking attendance

Textbooks

All books owned by the school must be stamped with the school name and numbered. All books should be numbered as follows: "FBPS": 1- 94, 2-94, 3-94, etc.

Records must be kept on all textbooks and the condition. Students will pay for the replacement of books on a prorated basis (\$50 total - \$5 off for each year they are used) for any textbook that is lost or damaged. Teachers are responsible to keep a list of textbooks and which student has been issued a certain book. The student is responsible to turn in the exact book issued at the end of the year.

Student Aides

If a teacher wishes to use a student aide, the teacher must request permission from the Principal within one week of the start of each semester.

Keep in mind the following:

- * student aides must be supervised the entire period.
- * student aides are not to be sent off campus for errands.
- * student aides must be included in the roll book and attendance must be kept on them.
- * student aides will receive a "pass" or "fail" grade for the work they do.
- * student aides are not to do any grading for teachers.

Student Visitors

It is not common practice to have brothers, sisters, cousins, friends, etc. visit school. It is important to minimize the number of interruptions in your classroom operation. Only students approved by the Principal and yourself can visit. Please do not allow a visitor without administrative approval. In addition, all visitors are required to stop and check in at the office. If a student or parent stops by your room without going through the office, please direct them to follow proper procedures when visiting the school.

Field Trip Absences

Field trips are encouraged if well-planned and followed up by teaching specific goals. Please let the Principal know well in advance if a field trip is planned. Always send an information sheet home with the students stating the departure time, but more importantly the return time. All buses are to be scheduled through the Superintendent of Schools. [See 'Extended Field Trips' in Student Handbook]

Fire Drill Procedures

In each room a fire escape route plan is posted. In case of fire, do the following:

1. Have pre-appointed students to close the windows.
2. Have students go to a pre-determined area away from the building and stay there.

3. The teacher leaves the room last, shuts off the lights, and takes his/her grade book. Take roll outside to make sure all students are present. The bell will ring for students to return to the building.
4. Make sure there is no horseplay during fires or fire drills.

Student Passes

Teachers are to keep students in their classrooms and on task for the entire period. If a student must leave class for justified reasons, written hall passes are required. Use of telephone, except in the case of emergency, will not be allowed during class time.

GRADING / ASSESSMENT

Grading Guidelines / Procedures

Grading systems do vary, however the important consideration is consistency and fairness.

In the interest of consistency and fairness, the following grading scale will be used by all teachers in all classes at Fort Benton Middle School/High School. A copy of this grading scale should be posted in each classroom.

A = 90-100	Superior
B = 80-89.5	Above Average
C = 70-79.5	Average
D = 60-69.5	Below Average
F = Below 60	Failing

Note: A grade of "I" will be given to a student who has not completed requirements to earn a grade. These requirements must be completed within a two-week period from the end of the quarter/semester. Students who do not complete requirements by that time period will receive a grade of "F" on the report card. It is the responsibility of the teacher to make sure all grades of "I" are either changed to the final grade after work has been completed, or "F" if work has not been completed within the time period. If the incomplete is a result of excused absences then the students will have two (2) days to make up the work for each day missed as stated in Student Handbook 5-7.

Recommendations:

- a. the grading system should be understood by the students. Grading criteria should be explained orally and also presented in written form.
- b. the grade should be based on a variety of sources: Tests, quizzes, daily class work, daily class participation, written and/or oral projects, homework.
- c. students should receive a grade per week.
- d. no assignment should count more than 20% of a student's final grade.
- e. students should receive feedback for all assignments in a timely manner...at least every two weeks.

Grade Book Procedures

Grade books are kept on record and are considered as part of the school records. The grade book is the legal description of what happens in your classroom. Because of this, it must be turned in to the Principal at the end of the school year. Do not destroy it. During the summer there are, on occasion, questions about grades. The Principal must be able to figure grades and procedures in the event the teacher is unavailable, so please keep them as professional as possible.

Grade Reporting / Report Cards

Report cards are sent home at the end of each nine-week grading period. Teachers are expected to enter grades and comments via the Infinite Campus computer grading system within the designated time period.

Honor Roll and Eligibility lists will be issued by the Principal at the close of each nine-week grading period.

Progress Reports

Our students learn more when there is frequent contact between the student's parents and their teachers. It is the policy of Fort Benton Middle/High School that parents be notified whenever students are not doing the work expected of them. This is anytime during the grading period, not just at midterm. It is very important to keep an open line of communication with the parents of students you instruct on a daily basis. Parents should be notified of their student's progress at least every two weeks. This can be done by giving students a printout of their grades, verbally telling the student of their grade (document), or sending a printout of grades home through district mail. Parents can also access their student's progress on the internet. The Principal will continually monitor this process throughout the school year.

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

Determining academic eligibility is the responsibility of all teachers. Eligibility is checked every Tuesday at 8:00a.m. Grades must be accurate and up-to-date by 8:00a.m. every Tuesday. In order for classwork to be CONSIDERED for "Eligibility Tuesdays," late and/or missing coursework must be submitted by Monday at 4:00pm.

Midterm Reports

At midterm of each quarter grading period, teachers will complete Midterm reports to be sent home to parents. This report is done for all students by posting the students' current grade and performance into the Infinite Campus classroom program by the stated deadlines. These reports will be printed and mailed home by the secretary. Teachers who fail to submit Midterm reports to the secretary by the stated deadline will be responsible to mail the reports themselves through the district mail.

Midterm reports should include:

- reasons for the poor grade received.
- both a letter and percentage grade.
- recommendations for improvement.
- any information on attitude problems, if any exist.

STUDENT DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES

Student Discipline Referrals / Assignment of Detention / Removal of Student from Class

Teachers are expected to manage student behavior in their classrooms. It is recognized, however, that certain misbehavior or accumulated misbehavior will require the assistance of the Principal. In such cases, teachers are to complete a discipline form and send it to the office of the Principal.

Teachers may assign a student after school detention. If possible, that student should serve that detention in the teacher's classroom. Notify the Principal by e-mail of the detention and the reason

for its assignment. The assignment of detention is an important part in the process of effective classroom management. Students are to be given a choice of serving the detention that day after school or during the next scheduled detention. Failure of a student to attend an assigned teacher detention will result in a referral to the Principal.

Note: Only the Principal is authorized to assign detention on Saturday.

Teachers are allowed to remove a student from class on a temporary basis when necessary. Students removed from class must be sat in the hall outside the classroom until a discipline referral has been sent to the Principal. Do not send students to Principal's office without a discipline notice, explaining the situation. Only the Principal can remove a student from class permanently and only in extraordinary circumstances.

Students Leaving the School Building / Grounds

Students are not to leave the school grounds/building, for any reason, without checking out through the office with parental permission. Teachers are not to send students on errands off campus at any time. The school does not want to be in the position where a parent calls for their child, and the student cannot be found.

STUDENT CONCERNS

Student Illness and/or Injury

Any student who becomes ill in school should notify his/her teacher and the office as soon as possible. If the student is not seriously ill, the teacher may send the student, with a pass, to the office to get permission to go to the sick room. If the student is seriously ill, either send for the Principal or accompany the student to the office.

Teachers are not to grant permission for a student to leave campus. Students must check out through the office.

In case of accidental injury, the teacher must complete an Accident Form and deliver it to the Principal on the same day as the injury occurred at school.

Video-Materials

All video materials must relate directly to the course subject matter and objectives. Movies in and of themselves, are not considered an instructional tool except in special circumstances approved by the Principal.

Guest Speakers

Teachers are encouraged to use guest speakers in their classes to take advantage of the expertise that is available. The Principal must be informed of all guest speakers prior to presentation at our school.

Independent Study Classes

Teachers are not to approve Independent Study for students without advanced approval from the principal.