

## Garden Valley School District No. 71

### INSTRUCTION 2700P

#### High School Graduation Requirements Procedure

#### Publication of Graduation Requirements

Prior to registering in high school, each student will be provided with a copy of the current graduation requirements. Graduation requirements shall also be included in the student handbook.

#### **Regular Diploma High School Graduation Requirements**

#### Credits

Students shall be expected to earn a total of 52 semester credits in order to complete graduation requirements. Students may have a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or greater. Special Education students who have successfully completed their individualized education program (IEP) leading to completion of high school will be awarded a diploma.

Subject	Required Credits
English	8
Senior Project	1
Personal Finance	1
Speech	1
Mathematics*	6
Science**	6
PE	2
Health	1
World History	2
US History	2
Economics	1
American Government	2
Humanities***	4
Electives	15
<b>Total</b>	<b><del>51</del> 52</b>

(The Idaho state minimum is 46 credits plus senior project and personal finance.)

\*Two math credits must be earned in the student's last year of high school. Geometry and Algebra are required within the 6 credits. Students are exempt from the senior math requirements if they take AP calculus. Students that take 8 transcribed credits of high school math including Algebra II, prior to their senior year, are exempt.

\*\*4 credits must be laboratory science.

\*\*\*Recommended classes are: Art, music, and/or foreign language

Note: Classes taken prior to 9<sup>th</sup> grade with a grade of C or better by a qualified high school instructor may be counted toward meeting the specific high school credit requirement. The grade and credit will be transferred to the high school transcript.

### **Honors Diploma High School Graduation Requirements**

#### Credits

Students shall be expected to meet the regular GVHS graduation requirements plus two additional credits in an advanced Science to earn a total of ~~53~~ 54 semester credits in order to complete graduation requirements for the Honors Diploma. Students must have:

- Earned at least a 1200 combined critical reading and critical math score on the SAT or a score of 26 or above on the ACT
- Receive a minimum of 6 AP or DC high school credits
- Earned two credits in Pre-calculus or above
- Have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0
- Earned 2 of the 8 science credits in either Chemistry or Physics

NOTE: Students who earn an Associate's Degree while in high school will automatically qualify for a GVHS Honors Diploma.

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Required Credits</b>
English	8
Senior Project	1
Personal Finance	1
Speech	1
Mathematics *	8
Science	8
PE	2
Health	1
World History	2
US History	2
Economics	1
American Government	2
Humanities	2
Foreign Language	4
Electives	13
<b>Total</b>	<b><del>53</del>54</b>

\*Mathematics: 8 credits of mathematics will be required for all students starting with the graduating class of 2022. Students graduating before 2022 will be required to complete 6 credits of mathematics.

The core of instruction is twenty-nine (29) semester credits (IDAPA 08.02.03.105):

Core of Instruction - Students must pass all 51 credits in order to graduate. Additionally, they must either have a 2.0 grade point average in the following core classes OR demonstrate satisfactory achievement in area(s) of deficiency:

<b>Course</b>	<b>Core Credits</b>
English	8
Speech	1
Social Studies	7
Mathematics	6
Science	6
Health	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>29</b>

#### Middle School Credit

If a middle school student completes any high school course with a C or higher before entering the 9<sup>th</sup> grade, and if that course meets the same standards that are required in high school and the course is taught by a teacher certified to teach high school content, then the student has met the high school content area requirement for such course. The student shall be given a grade for the successful completion of that course and such grade and number of credit hours assigned to the course shall be transferred to the student's high school transcript and the student's parents will be notified in advance when credits are going to be transcribed. However, the student's parent or guardian may elect not to have the credits and grade transferred to the student's high school transcript. The student still must complete the required number of credits in all high school core subjects identified above in addition to the courses completed in middle school, unless the student is a participant of the 8 in 6 program.

#### College Credit in High School (Dual Credit Courses)

College courses can be taken while in high school for high school and college credit simultaneously. One high school credit will be awarded for every 2 college credits earned. The transcript will denote a weighted "DC" grade and corresponding credit value.

Example:

English 101

College credit: 3

High school credit: 1.5

#### College Entrance Examination

A student must take one of the following college entrance examinations before the end of the student's eleventh grade year: ACT or SAT.

A student may elect an exemption in their 11<sup>th</sup> grade year from the college entrance exam requirement if the student is:

1. Enrolled in a special education program and has an Individualized Education Plan that specifies accommodations not allowed for a reportable score on the approved tests;
2. Enrolled in a Limited English Proficient program for three academic years or less;
3. Enrolled for the first time in grade 12 at an Idaho high school after the spring statewide administration of the college entrance exam; or
4. Eligible to take an alternative assessment. In this case, the student may instead take the ACCUPLACER placement exam during their senior year.

A student who misses the statewide administration of the college exam during the student's 11<sup>th</sup> grade year may instead take the exam during his or her 12<sup>th</sup> grade year if the student:

1. Transferred to an Idaho school district during their 11<sup>th</sup> grade year;
2. Was homeschooled during their 11<sup>th</sup> grade year; or
3. Missed the spring statewide administration of the college entrance exam for a documented medical reason.

### Senior Project

A student shall complete a senior project that includes a research paper and oral presentation by the end of grade twelve.

### Idaho Standards Achievement Tests (ISAT)

In addition to obtaining the necessary credits as outlined above, the student will take the Idaho Student Achievement Test (ISAT) as defined by the State Board of Education rules

### Waiver of Requirement

Graduation requirements generally will not be waived. However, in rare and unique hardship circumstances, the Principal may recommend and the Superintendent may approve deviation from the graduation requirements.

### Alternative Programs

Credit toward graduation requirements may be granted for planned learning experiences from accredited programs, such as summer school, university courses, correspondence courses, and online/virtual courses.

Credit for work experience may be offered when the work program is a part of and supervised by the school.

All classes attempted at Garden Valley High School and all acceptable transfer credits shall be

recorded on the transcript. All grades earned, including failures and retakes, shall be recorded as such and utilized in the calculation of Grade Point Average and class rank. Credit shall be awarded only once regardless of repetition of the course.

### Early Graduation

A student who completes all of the graduation requirements set forth by the District and the State Department of Education prior to the completion of eight semesters of school attendance in grades 9-12 may petition the superintendent and board of trustees through the building principal. The superintendent shall submit the petition to the Board of Trustees for Board endorsement and approval at the end of the quarter preceding the requested graduation date.

Participation in graduation ceremonies is a privilege extended to students. Students may be denied the right to participate.

The Superintendent is authorized to create any procedures necessary to assist students to achieve early graduation as well create incentives for participation in any early graduation program. Existing programs providing incentives to complete coursework early are described in Policy 3435 Advanced Opportunities.

#### Cross Reference:

Policy 3435

Policy 2700

Legal Reference: IDAPA 08.02.01.350  
IDAPA 08.02.03.105  
IDAPA 08.02.03.107  
Standards

Early Graduation  
Graduation from High School  
High School Graduation

#### Policy History:

Adopted on: 5-08-2012

Revised on: 2-12-2013

8-12-2014

7-11-2017

6-30-2018

7-10-2018

Amended- First reading: 6-21-2023



Attendance and Absence Procedures

90% Attendance Procedure

All students must be in attendance in each classroom 90% of the time when that class is in session. No credit will be granted to students missing more than seven (7) days per semester.

Extraordinary Absences

Extraordinary Absences are the ONLY absences that WILL NOT be used in calculating the attendance record. They are:

- A. Those that occur due to school-sponsored activities, since these are considered an equivalent educational experience. These exemptions will apply to students participating in sports events, cheerleading, music related events, FFA trips, academic field trips, and others deemed co-curricular.
- B. Bereavement in the immediate family (i.e., grandmother, grandfather, father, mother, sister, brother). Any extended bereavement may be reviewed by the Attendance Board;
- C. Subpoenas to appear in court or court-ordered, jury duty, out-of-district placements for special services; and
- D. Chronic and/or extended illness or hospitalization verified by a doctor's statement.

Absences which will be counted in the 7-day limit will include such areas as:

- A. illness (non-Chronic or extended illness or hospitalization, compared to above),
- B. family trips,
- C. work days,
- D. vacations,
- E. visiting friends or relatives,
- F. suspension in and out of school,
- G. watching tournaments when not an actual participant,
- H. medical, dental, hair or photography appointments,
- I. skiing, hunting, or other recreational activities
- J. attending concerts, shopping; or
- K. any others not mentioned will be reviewed by the Attendance Review Board.

### Elementary Absences

Elementary absences will be cumulative to a total of 14 days per year. A student who exceeds this maximum may be retained in the grade that he/she is presently attending.

### 90% Attendance Notification

The school will notify the parent of unexplained (non-verified) absences/truancies.

Students having more than two unexplained absences/truancies may have their credit denied. The school will notify the parent when their student has reached 3, 5, 7, and 8 absences per class per semester.

### 90% Attendance Review Board

A Review Board shall review the circumstances involved with a student's possible loss of credit. This Review Board may recommend to deny or reinstate the student's credit. If a decision to deny credit is recommended, the student's case may be appealed to the Board of Trustees for final action.

The Review Board will be composed of 3 staff, attendance clerk, and an administrator/or designee. They will meet as needed to explore the reasons for loss of credit, with the student having the opportunity to bring evidence pertaining to the situation in the form of parents, persons, and/or facts. Adverse decisions made by the Review Board may be appealed to the Board of Trustees.

The decision of the attendance committee may be appealed to the superintendent. This appeal must be submitted to the superintendent within sixty (60) days after the attendance committee submits its decision. The superintendent will bring the appeal to the Board of Trustees where a decision on the appeal will be final and a letter will be sent out.

### Absence Procedure

Three types of classification will be used: extraordinary, excused, and unexplained/truant.

### Excused Absence Procedure

The proper procedure to clear an unexplained/truancy absence is for the parent to call the school at the time of the absence or send a note indicating the reason for the absence.

In order to prevent abductions, the school will call the home when a child is absent to verify illness if the parent neglects to call the school.

When it is not feasible or possible to obtain an advance excused absence due to an emergency, an adequate acceptable excuse must be provided within two (2) school days following the return to school or the absence remains unexplained and an act of truancy. Parents, guardians, doctors or other responsible persons should provide excuses for all students except married students or those of age 18 with a current signed parent consent form on file, who may speak for themselves.

Married students must make satisfactory arrangements with the Principal or Superintendent concerning "excuses" for being absent, and other responsibilities immediately after

marriage if during the school years, or during registration if the marriage was during the summer.

### Assignments and Tests

An excused absence entitles the student to make up all missed work for credit, provided this work is made up as follows:

At all grade levels, two-days make-up time for the first day's absence and one-day make-up time for each additional day is to serve as a guide as to what will be accepted for make-up assignments. For example: 1 Absence=2 days to make up work; 2 absences=3 days to make up work; 3 absences = 4 days to make up work, etc.

### Special Consideration

Any student absence, as a result of special cases not covered by these regulations, is to receive an excused or unexplained absence at the discretion of the Principal or Superintendent.

### Unexplained Absence or Truancy

Any student absent without the consent of the school, the parent, or guardian shall be considered truant. Cutting individual classes shall also be considered truancy. A grade of zero will be given for all classes missed. Truancy will result in a student, parent/guardian, and principal conference and the student may be placed on suspension. Four truanies will result in a recommendation to the Board of Trustees for expulsion from school and the prosecuting attorney will be notified for purposes of filing a complaint against the parent, guardian, or other person responsible for the care of the child in a court of competent jurisdiction. Any parent or guardian of a public school pupil who is found to have knowingly allowed such pupil to become a habitual truant shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

A student who has been expelled for attendance violations may petition the Board for reinstatement. Such petition may be granted upon presentation of a firm and unequivocal commitment to maintain regular attendance.

### Tardy Procedure

Students are considered tardy when they have not entered the classroom by the time the tardy bells stops ringing.

When a student is tardy for class, but has a pass from an administrator or teacher, the tardiness is excused and not recorded on attendance reports. No other excuse for tardies will be accepted. Unless excused, after 15 minutes late, the student will receive an unexplained absence.

Tardies not excused by a pass will be considered unacceptable and considered unexcused and will be subject to consequences as follows:

### Secondary (6-12 grades) (tardies per class per Semester)



2\_tardies = warning  
3\_tardies = 1 hour detention after school  
4\_tardies = 2 hours detention (served on two separate days)  
5\_tardies = 4 hr Friday detention  
6\_tardies= 2-4hr Friday detentions or 1-8hr Friday detention  
7\_tardies= Remanded to attendance review board for possible loss of credit.

Elementary (K-5)

Every three tardies will be considered an absence by Garden Valley School. Students will be subject to consequences from these absences as outlined in this policy. Mandatory meetings between parents, teachers, and administrators will be set after a student has accrued 6 total tardies per semester.

Legal Reference: Art. IX, § 9, Idaho Constitution – Compulsory Attendance at School  
I.C. § 33-202 School attendance compulsory  
I.C. § 33-204 Exemption for Cause  
I.C. § 33-205 Denial of School Attendance  
I.C. § 33-207 Proceedings against parents or guardians Policy

History:

Adopted on: 12-13-2011

Reviewed on: 11/05/2018

Revised on: 12/11/2018

Amended first reading on: 6/21/2023