

# Independence High School

## Student Handbook

2023-2024



### Table of Contents

What Makes Independence High School Special? .....	4
Policies / Procedures for Enrollment and Regular Attendance .....	5
Policies / Procedures for Re-Admittance to the Home High School ....	6
General Information. ....	7-14
- Mission Statement – pg 7	
- Student Expectations – pg 7	
- Block Scheduling – pg 7	
- Bell Schedule – pg 8	
- Lunch Program – pg 9	
- Bus Information – pg 9	
- Phone Policy and Use – pg 9	
- Parent Meetings – Orientation and Input – pg 10	
- Report Cards – pg 10	
- Appeals Committee – pg 10	
- Childcare Center – pg 10	
- Proof of Attendance or Enrollment – pg 10	
- Credit Recovery / Independent Study / Mastery Program – pg 10	
- School Contacts – pg 11	
- Graduation Requirements – pg 11	
- Requirements for Promotion to the 9 <sup>th</sup> Grade – pg 11-12	
- Students with Individualized Education Plans (IEP) – pg 12	
- Students on court ordered probation – pg 12	
- Grading Policy – pg 12	
- Make-up for Absences -12	
- Dress Code – pg 13-14	
- Attendance Policy – pg 14	
- Student Incentive Program (Early Out)- 14	
- Discipline Policy – pg 15	
- Major Discipline Problems- 16	
- Harassment and Bullying Policy – pg 16	
- Restraint and Reclusion Statement – pg 16	

Additional Information:

Credit Evaluation Form 9 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Grade .....	17
School Calendars. ....	18, 19
Credit Recovery – Independent Study Full Time Student Enrollment .....	20
Credit Recovery Enrollment Agreement .....	21, 22
Title 1 Compact. ....	23, 24
Student Referral .....	25
Student Re-admittance Request .....	26

**Independence High School** is specifically designed for students who learn better in a smaller school setting. We offer a safe caring environment where students can learn and become successful productive members of society. Students who attend our school are typically referred by an administrator from one of the traditional high schools in Bingham County who recognizes their need for a different kind of educational program.

We believe each student is an individual with unique talents and educational requirements. We know everyone has different life experiences and we also understand that not everyone learns in the same way or at the same speed. For these reasons we have designed a school that addresses the needs of our students.

**As a student at Independence High School what can you expect?**

- Limited enrollment
- Small class sizes
- Grade requirements
- Community service requirements
- Block scheduling
- Closed campus
- A program for young mothers and fathers and their children
- Emphasis on student responsibility
- Emphasis on skill development
- Emphasis on credit recovery
- Strict attendance requirements
- Pro-active discipline
- Pro-active drug and alcohol prevention including harm reduction
- Zero tolerance for violence, harassment, and gang activities
- Highly qualified teachers – a staff with many years of experience working in an alternative school setting
- Opportunities for college scholarships
- Transferable credits – Independence High School is accredited through Cognia
- Career planning
- Opportunities to gain high school credits through non-conventional routes.
- Opportunities to gain college credits through concurrent enrollment in technical education courses and dual enrollment through Idaho State University.

**Are there programs Independence High School does not offer?**

Yes. We are not a comprehensive high school. Many of the programs offered at comprehensive high schools are not offered here. For instance, students will not have the opportunity to take shop, band, choir, drama, or AP courses at our school. Also, we do not have sports teams. It is not what we do. We provide a specialized service to a select number of students. This does not mean our students must forfeit all opportunities afforded students at a comprehensive high school. For those Independence High School students who meet academic and behavioral standards there is a possibility they can participate in some academic and extracurricular activities at their home high school.

**Policies and Procedures for Enrollment and Regular Attendance:**

1. Any person who is 21 years of age or older is not eligible for enrollment in Independence High School.
2. Students over the age of 18 and under the age of 21 will only be admitted if:
  - a. they have sufficient time to fulfill all requirements for graduation prior to their 21<sup>st</sup> birthday.
  - b. they have not been expelled from any high school.
  - c. they have not left another district with disciplinary actions pending
  - d. having been previously enrolled in Independence High School, they have maintained grade, attendance and behavior standards of the school
  - e. they have been referred by an administrator from their previous high school.
3. Students must have an official referral from an administrator from their current high school. Referrals must state the student is eligible for enrollment based on criteria established by the Idaho State School Board. (See referral form for criteria, page 22)
4. Students having Individual Education Plans (IEPs) must have an official IEP meeting and a recommendation for a change in educational placement by IEP team members prior to enrollment at Independence High School. Independence High School special education staff members must be included in any/all change of placement decisions.
5. All **new students** and their parents/guardians are requested to attend an orientation meeting prior to student enrollment. (See school calendar for orientation dates and times, pages 8 and 9)
6. Enrolled students who are absent on the first day of a block may be dropped from regular school enrollment and enrolled in an on-line or independent study course. Students may be asked to complete this course at home.
7. Students who do not attend school on a regular basis, may be referred to the Blackfoot School District discipline committee or the Bingham County prosecutor's office for disciplinary action.
8. Students who have not completed all 8<sup>th</sup> grade requirements prior to enrollment in Independence High School will not be advanced to the 9<sup>th</sup> grade and will not be recommended for admission into any Independence High School program. (see Requirements for Promotion to 9<sup>th</sup> Grade, page 11 )

## **Policies and Procedures for Re-Admittance to the Home High School**

In the Blackfoot School District, we offer multiple ways for students to be successful in their education. If a student has been enrolled at Independence High School because they have not been successful at their traditional high school, there is an opportunity for them to return to their home school. In order to return to their home high school, the student **MUST** meet the expected requirements, the student, their family, and the administration of both schools **MUST** agree that the student can be successful if they return to the traditional school.

Students are enrolled at Independence High School because for some reason (often times grades, behavior, or attendance) they have not been successful at their home high school. A student that wants to return to their home school **MUST** meet the following requirements to demonstrate to the administration of both schools that they have corrected the behavior that led to them not being successful in their education. By meeting the following expectations and requirements, the student demonstrates that they can be successful and graduate with their graduating class under the graduation requirements of their home high school.

For a student to return to their home school, they **MUST** meet **ALL** of the following expectations:

1. **Attendance-** They must have attended IHS for 3 or more consecutive blocks, without being dropped due to attendance.
2. **Behavior-** In order to return, the student needs to show that they can return to their home school and that their behavior will not hinder their education or the education of their fellow students. Students will not be allowed to return to their home school if they are disruptive, disrespectful, or distracting on a consistent basis in class, locations in the building, and at activities. If the student has been suspended for any offense, the student has to be successful in school for three blocks after the suspension to be considered eligible to return.
3. **Grades-** The student has to have earned all available credits during the 3 consecutive blocks before the trimester they want to return to their home school.
4. **Trimesters-** The home school of the student will only accept students back at the beginning of a new trimester or semester, depending on what scheduling system they follow. While a student might have been successful for 3 blocks at IHS and qualifies to return to their home school, depending on when that falls in accordance with the beginning of a new trimester at their home school, that student might have to remain at IHS from anywhere from a couple of weeks to a couple of months, until the home school begins a new trimester.
5. **Credits-** In order to return to their home school, a student must have earned enough credits at IHS to graduate under the graduation requirements of their home school with their graduating cohorts (they must be able to graduate with the students that they entered their home high school with as a freshman). Please understand, due to the fact that a student at their home school should earn roughly 6 credits every trimester at their home school, in order to return to their home school, a student at IHS must roughly earn that same number of credits during that same time frame. For example, due to the fact that a Freshman at BHS might earn 6 credits at the end of Trimester 1, a freshman at IHS must earn 5-6 credits in order to return at the beginning of Tri 2, 10-12 credits to return at the beginning of Tri 3, and 15-18 to return at the beginning of their sophomore year. At the beginning of their sophomore year they should have 15-18 credits, the beginning of their Junior year they should have 30-36 credits, the beginning of their Senior year 43-48 credits. So, depending on the student, we look at their grade level and how many credits they have earned, and we calculate what a student at their home school should have at that time, and if they are on tract, credit wise, with the students their own age at that time of the year.
6. **The Home High School-** While the student might qualify following all of the requirements listed above, the decision to accept that student back to the home school is ultimately up to the administrative team

(principal and vice principals) at the home school. There is a chance that, after discussing that specific student, and where they might be the most successful, it might be determined that the student must remain at IHS to continue their education.

7. Qualified students should request a re-admittance request form at least one week prior to the beginning of the home school's next trimester or semester period.

## **General Information**

# Mission Statement -

Our mission at Independence High School is to empower students to develop confidence in their abilities in a safe and caring environment. Students are held to the highest academic standards and are expected to develop self-discipline, leadership skills, and community connections.

# Student Expectations:

- Students will promote a safe learning environment.
- Students will develop and demonstrate knowledge and skills required for high school graduation.
- Students will demonstrate respect, responsibility, and resourcefulness.
- Students will learn and demonstrate social and communications skills.
- Students will learn to follow rules that help them become successful students.

## **Block Scheduling:**

Independence High School uses block scheduling. There are seven blocks in the 2023-2024 school year. Blocks 1 through 6 are 18 to 20 days long. In these blocks, students will be enrolled in two classes. Block 7 is 24 days long. Having a small number of classes in the school day gives students the ability to focus greater attention on the subjects being taught. (See school calendar, pages 16,17)

## **Bell Schedule:**

# IHS Bell Schedule 2023-24

## Regular Schedule

1st Period	8:15-9:25	70	
Retention/Make-up	9:25-9:40	15	
Break	9:40- 9:45		5
1st Period	9:45-10:45	60	
Break	10:45-10:50		5
1st Period	10:50- 11:50	60	
Lunch	11:50-12:20		30
2nd Period	12:20-1:20	60	
Break	1:20-1:25		5
2nd Period	1:25-2:25	60	
Retention/Make-up	2:25-2:40	15	
Break	2:40- 2:45		5
2nd Period	2:45-3:55	70	

41  
0

50

Note: The Bell Schedule at Independence High School is subject to change if it is deemed necessary by the school or district administration to enhance the educational process or environment at Independence or in the Blackfoot School district.

### Lunch Program:



Independence High School participates in the federal lunch program. All students may eat breakfast and lunch without cost to the student.

## **Bus Information:**

Buses are provided for students coming from Firth, Aberdeen and Snake River School Districts. It is the responsibility of the student and their family to contact their home district and the Blackfoot Transportation Office to coordinate bussing for their student.

### **Firth Bus Route: (Firth School District) (208) 346-6815**

#### Morning Route:

##### Firth:

Pick-up in front of the Phillips 66 Station (Quick Stop in Firth)

Bus leaves the Phillips 66 Station at 7:47 am (Driver will not leave the bus to look for students.)

#### Afternoon Route:

##### Shelley and Firth:

Pick-up at Independence High School

Monday - Thursday – 3:45 pm

##### Firth:

Drop-off at Phillip 66 Station (Quick Stop in Firth)

Monday – Thursday – 4:00 pm

### **Aberdeen Bus Route:**

Please contact Aberdeen School District for Pick-up times and places. (208) 241-7627

### **Blackfoot and Snake River Bus Routes:**

Please contact Blackfoot School District transportation department for pick-up times and places. (208) 785-8800

## **Behavior on the Bus:**

Students are required to follow all bus rules as well as all verbal directions of the bus driver. Districts providing bus services to Independence High School may take disciplinary actions against students who do not comply with these stipulations. Independence High School may also implement disciplinary actions. Disciplinary actions may include the denial of bus riding privileges.

## **Phone Use:**

Because student use of cell phones is not allowed during school hours, we let students use an office phone for contact with parents or guardians when emergencies arise. If you have an emergency and need to speak with your student during school hours, please call the school at (208) 785-8825.

## **Orientation Meetings:**

IHS will offer seven orientation meetings. Please see the school calendar for dates and times of meetings. (pages 17,18) Orientation meetings give parents and students a chance to meet with school personnel to discuss student progress, ask questions, have school rules and policies explained, or get help with the registration process.

### **Report cards:**

Report cards will be issued the block following the completed block. Students will be given their report card to take home. Student grades can also be accessed using “Infinite Campus” internet accounts. If you need assistance to access your account please contact the school. Our phone number is (208) 785-8825.

### **Appeals Committee:**

This committee consists of teachers, staff and the principal. The appeals committee considers attendance, academic success and behavior appeals from students. Students that are required to attend must attend with a guardian. The Appeals Committee will discuss with the student and guardian why the student isn't being successful and will come up with a plan to help the student to be academically successful.

### **Childcare Center:**

Childcare is provided for the children of Independence High School students. Students leave their children in the center while they attend class. Parents are given the opportunity to visit their children and attend to their needs at appointed times during the school day. Students who use the childcare center for their children must fill out required paperwork. (The childcare center is a state licensed facility.)

### **Proof of Attendance / Enrollment:**

Students needing proof of attendance must be enrolled in school and attending classes in compliance with the attendance policy. (See School Attendance Policy, page 13) Students working on credit recovery/independent study packets must complete the required number of packets before the school can verify attendance. Students must have completed a minimum of 3 packets and 3 tests per week to be considered a full-time student. (See CR /Independent Study Full Time Student Contract, page 19 and Credit Recovery Enrollment Agreement, page 20, 21)

### **Credit Recovery / Independent Study / Mastery Learning Programs**

Credit Recovery / Independent Study is a program to assist students who are having difficulty in a classroom setting or wishing to make-up credits they have failed to receive. One credit may be earned by completing a series of packets (6 to 10 units depending on the subject) in a specific subject area and passing tests that accompany the packets or they may choose to complete web based on-line courses. (Not all classes are available in these formats and not all students are eligible to take these classes)

Mastery learning is designed to assess students' academic skill levels in specific subjects and assist them in areas of deficiency. This program uses diagnostic testing to determine student deficiencies and requires the completion of academic prescriptions before high school credits are issued.

### **School Contacts:**

Principal – Josh Tornngren  
Counselor – Charlie Hansen  
Admin Assistant / Registrar – Heather Higgins  
504 Coordinator – Charlie Hansen  
Title IX Director – Ryan Wilson

School Phone – (208) 785-8825 Fax (208) 785-8893

## **Graduation Requirements:**

**Students who graduate from Independence High School must earn a total of 46 credits in the following areas:**

### **Required Core Credits** (See student credit evaluation check sheet, page 16)

8 English Credits  
1 Speech Credit  
6 Math Credits – 4 Credits Algebra 1 / Geometry or higher – 2 Credits in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade year  
6 Science Credits – 4 Credits with science labs  
2 Government Credits – 12<sup>th</sup> grade year  
4 United States History Credits – 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> grade students  
1 Economics Credit – 12<sup>th</sup> grade year  
1 Health Credit  
2 Humanities Credits – All Music Classes, Drama, Foreign languages, Art, World Cultures – (CTE /Social Studies classes will not be accepted for humanities credits.)

### **Required Elective Credits**

15 Elective Credits – All credits issued in excess of the Required Core Credits are considered electives.

### **Additional Requirements:**

8 Citizenship hours – (Seniors Only) Serving the community. Roadside clean-up, assisting with children in elementary schools, working at the public library, working at the community dinner table, assisting with the food pantry, cleaning up around city buildings, churches, schools, parks etc. (Note: work that benefits a single individual or a specific family will not be considered for citizenship hours. Students attending IHS less than 4 blocks in their senior year will be required to serve 2 citizenship hours for each block they are enrolled.)

All seniors must complete a senior project consisting of research, writing, and a presentation. Senior projects are completed in Government B and English 12B classes. Students entering IHS having already completed these classes are still required to complete a senior project.

## **Requirements for promotion to the 9<sup>th</sup> grade:**

Blackfoot School District has implemented the State's Middle Level Credit System. This system requires 8<sup>th</sup> grade students to earn 80% of their total credits and attend 90% of each class they are registered for before being promoted to the next grade. Any student not earning the required credits or attending the

required time will be given the opportunity to recover credits and/or be enrolled in an alternate placement. IHS is considered an alternate placement.

(8<sup>th</sup> grade students must have a verifiable referral from MVMS prior to enrollment at IHS and have completed their 8<sup>th</sup> grade year in a middle school or a junior high school setting.)

Prior to promotion to the 9<sup>th</sup> grade, 8<sup>th</sup> grade students are required to:

- Earn 24 middle school credits. 12 in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade and 12 in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade (credits will be transferred from the middle school and added to middle school credits earned at IHS – (See 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade credit evaluation form, page 22)
- Earn a D or better in each class period. At IHS subjects will be combined into a single class period. Middle school students can earn two middle school credits per block.
- Meet IHS attendance and behavior requirements. (See - Attendance and Discipline Policies, page 13,14)
- Students with disabilities must complete all goals and requirements included in their Individual Education Plan. (IEP).
- Limited English Proficient (LEP) students must fulfill the goals and requirements in their Educational Learning Plan. (ELP)

### **Students with IEPs (Individualized Education Plans):**

Students having Individual Education Plans (IEPs) must have an official IEP meeting and a recommendation for a change in educational placement by IEP team members prior to enrollment at Independence High School. Independence High School special education staff members must be included in any/all change of placement decisions.

### **Students on court ordered probation:**

Independence High School works with probation officers in an effort to help students be successful in school. Appointments with probation personnel should be made at times when school is not in session. Students who miss school for court appointments are required to have a written excuse from an officer of the court. Probation officers are given access to the school records of students assigned to them by the court.

### **Grading Policy:**

Teachers provide grading policies at the beginning of each class. Students are required to complete all assigned work with acceptable competency as determined by the teacher.

### **-Make-up Time for Absences:**

Attendance is recorded in single block periods. Students who are absent may make-up time in the block they are absent by staying during retention time, or after school, if agreed upon by the teacher of the class where the time has been missed, and the school administrator.

### **Dress Code Policy:**

It is the policy of Independence High School that students shall dress in a manner which is appropriate for an effective educational environment. While recognizing the importance of allowing students to express their individuality through their attire, the school is responsible for ensuring that student dress is conducive to a positive and respectful environment for all students. All students are, therefore, required to dress in a manner that promotes a safe and healthy school environment, and is not disruptive of the educational climate and process. The dress code policy is will be enforced by all staff members.

## PROHIBITIONS

The following prohibitions will be enforced when the student is on school premises or at any school sponsored event, regardless of location:

1. Students are prohibited from wearing or carrying, clothing, accessories or jewelry, or displaying piercings or tattoos, which, by picture, symbol, or word, depict or allude to any of the following:

- a. Drug usage, including alcohol and tobacco;
- b. Controlled substances of any kind;
- c. Drug paraphernalia;
- d. Gangs;
- e. Violence;
- f. Sexually explicit, lewd, indecent, or offensive material; or
- g. Illegal acts.
- h. Degrading to any group on the basis of race, religion, gender or sexual orientation.

2.If the building administrator or designee has a reasonable belief that gang activity is or may be present in the school, students can be prohibited from wearing, using, or carrying, any clothing, jewelry, or other attire or accessories, or displaying tattoos, emblems, symbols, signs, or codes, which he/she believe are evidence of membership or affiliation in any gang.

3.Students are prohibited from wearing clothing which reveals a student's breasts, abdomen, or buttocks. Shirts must have a modest neckline (No cleavage and be long enough to cover the midriff (front and back). No spaghetti straps, tank tops, tube tops, off the shoulder tops, halter tops, or muscle shirts will be allowed. No backless, strapless, or half tops are to be worn.

4. Students are prohibited from wearing head coverings in school buildings, except as may specifically be authorized by the building administrator or designee. Head coverings based on religious dress and practices will be allowed.

5.Students are required to wear shoes or other footwear in school buildings, unless the building administrator or designee indicates otherwise.

6.The building administrator or designee may identify additional dress code requirements to address specific needs for specific activities.

7. Clothes must conceal undergarments (boxers, thongs, undergarment straps, etc.) at all times. No see through, sheer, transparent, or mesh clothing, excessively tight or torn, or revealing attire is permitted. See-through, sheer, transparent, or mesh clothing is only allowed when worn as an accessory with other clothing that complies with the dress code standard.

8. Shorts and skirts must be no shorter than mid-thigh in length and/or no shorter than the fingertips when arms are hanging naturally at one's side.

9. Dark glasses, including but not limited to sunglasses, shall not be worn in school unless a documented related health problem exists.

10. There may be exclusions to the dress code policy for religious or health reasons as determined by the building administrator or designee.

#### DISCIPLINE

Disciplinary actions for violation of the dress code policy may include suspension and/or expulsion.

## **Attendance Policy**

### **Attendance Intervention:**

**Step 1:** After the 2nd day of absence in a block (1<sup>st</sup> time- cumulative time) the student will be moved to the credit recovery/make-up area for the remainder of the block or will be sent home to work on credit recovery packets. We will attempt to make contact with parents or guardian.

**Step 2:** After the 2nd day of absence in a block (2<sup>nd</sup> time - cumulative time) the student will be moved to the credit recovery/make-up area for the remainder of the block or will be sent home to work on credit recovery. We will attempt to make contact with parents or guardian.

**Step 3:** After the 2nd day of absence in a block (3<sup>rd</sup> time - cumulative time) the student will be suspended from school for 1-5 days and upon return they will be moved to the credit recovery/make-up area for the remainder of the block or will be sent home to work on credit recovery. We will attempt to make contact with parents or guardian.

**Step 4:** After the 2nd day of absence in a block (4<sup>th</sup> time - cumulative time) the student will be referred to the School District discipline committee. We will attempt to make contact with parents or guardian.

\*Note: Any student missing more than 8 days in a school year or 10% of the total accumulated school days the students should have attended may be referred to the Blackfoot School District discipline committee.

### **Make-up schedule: Students can make-up time and work missed according to the following schedule.**

1. IF a student  
Friday School Schedule has not yet been determined,

## **Student Incentive Program (Early Out)**

To help promote academic success, positive behavior and proper attendance, Independence High School has implemented an "Early Out" Program. On the second and fourth Thursday of each block, if a student qualifies, they will be released two hours early, unless a request by a parent is made to keep their student in school. A student qualifies for early out if they haven't been written up more than one time, is passing their class with a 70% or better, and has 1 absence or less. Those that don't qualify stay in their specific class and work on raising their grades. IF a student that doesn't qualify for early out is checked out by a parent, that time will count against them for their attendance.

## Discipline Policy

Step 1: Classroom discipline – (Teacher intervention – minor incidents)

Examples of a minor incident

Tardiness

Classroom disruption

Refusal to complete work

Violation of other specific rules for the classroom

- On the 4<sup>th</sup> incident while enrolled in a class, teacher will attempt to contact parent/guardian –

Step 2: Office discipline – (Administrator – intervention – multiple incidents)

- On the 5<sup>th</sup> incident while enrolled in a class (the teacher has already attempted to contact parent/guardian)  
Administrator or designee will attempt to contact the parent/guardian and the student will be assigned Friday School.

Step 3: Office discipline - (Administrator – intervention – multiple incidents –multiple interventions)

- On the 6<sup>th</sup> incident while enrolled in a class (the teacher and the administrator have already attempted to contact parent/guardian)  
Administrator or designee will attempt to contact the parent/guardian and the student will be removed from regular enrollment and placed in credit recovery. Student may be asked to complete credit recovery packets at home.

Step 4: Office discipline - (Administrator – intervention – multiple incidents –multiple interventions in multiple classes and multiple blocks)

- If a student has discipline issues in more than one class and/or in more than one block they may be suspended from school and referred to the Blackfoot School District Discipline Committee for further disciplinary action.

Note 1: Any staff member may refer a student to the school administrator or their designee for disciplinary intervention, at any time, if in their judgement administrative action is required.

Note 2: The school administrator or designee may at any time refer a student to the Blackfoot School District discipline committee if in their view a student has committed a major offense.

## **Major Discipline Incidents**

In regards to major disciplinary incidents, (Vaping/Smoking, fighting, weapons)Independence High School follows Blackfoot School District Policy. This can be found in the 500: Student, section of the Blackfoot School District Policy.

## **Harassment and Bullying Policy**

Students attending district schools are:

1. Prohibited from engaging in any conduct which could reasonably be construed as constituting harassment on the basis of sex (including sexual orientation), race, color, national origin, age, religious beliefs, ethnic background, or disability.
2. Prohibited from sexually harassing other students, district employees, and patrons; and
3. **Required to report, to the school principal or designee, harassment of which the student becomes aware.** This policy applies to all conduct on the district's premises and at school-sponsored events, conduct during transportation to and from school and school-sponsored events, and conduct off the district's premises that has an adverse affect upon a student's educational environment.

## **Restraint and Reclusion Statement:**

As a part of the emergency procedures in place in our schools, any student who poses an imminent risk of injury to him/herself or others may be physically restrained and/or placed in seclusion by school staff in accordance with school board policies. These could occur along with other emergency actions such as calling the police. Significant violations of the law including assaults on students and staff will be reported to the police. The parent/guardian will be informed when any of these actions have occurred as soon as possible after any such incident. These policies will be available with other school board policies to all parents electronically via our website or as a hard copy on request.

(2016, Blackfoot School Board Policy No: 553 Restraint and Seclusion, pg. 7)



# Independence High School Credit Evaluation

Student Name: _____																			
Student Date of Birth: _____																			
Expected Graduation Date: _____																			
<b>Required Core Subjects</b>																			
English	8 credits											12 Evt senior pr	Date	Score	Passing Score				
ISAT Math																			
<b>Required Electives:</b>																			
Speech	1 credit											1	Date	Score	Passing Score				
ISAT Language/Reading																			
		Alg/Geo	Alg/Geo	Alg/Geo	Alg/Geo	12th	12th									2	Date	Score	Passing Score
Math	6 credits											3	SAT						
		With Lab	With Lab	With Lab	With Lab											4	Grade	Score	# of Prescription/ modules assigned
Science	6 credits											5	Benchmark Math						
		Gov A	Gov Bvt senior pr													6	9th	Score	# of Prescription/ modules assigned
Government	2 credits											7	Benchmark Reading						
		1A	1B	2A	2B											8	10th	Score	# of Prescription/ modules assigned
US History	4 credits											9	Civics Test						
															10	11th	Score	# of Prescription/ modules assigned	
Economics	1 credit											11	Seminar Project						
															12	12th	Score	# of Prescription/ modules assigned	
Health	1 credit											13	Seminar Project						
															14	Date	Score	Passing Score	
Humanities	2 credits											15	Seminar Project						
															16	Date	Score	Passing Score	
Additional Credits:																			
Additional Credits:																			
Citizenship Hours																			
Alternative Route to Graduation																			
Seminar Project																			
Note:																			
<b>Required Core Credits</b>																			
<b>Required Elective Credits</b>																			
<b>Total Required Credits</b>																			

# Independence High School 2023-2024

August 2023						
Sat	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

September 2023						
Sat	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

October 2023						
Sat	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

November 2023						
Sat	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

December 2023						
Sat	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

January 2024						
Sat	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31						6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

HS Bell Schedule 2023-24	
1st Period	8:25-9:12
Break/Make up	9:25-9:40
2nd Period	9:45-10:32
Break	10:45-11:20
3rd Period	11:25-12:12
Lunch	12:25-12:50
4th Period	12:55-1:42
Break	1:55-2:10
5th Period	2:15-3:02
Break/Make up	3:15-3:30
6th Period	3:35-4:22

Independence High School 2023-2024	
<b>August 2023</b>	<b>January</b>
10- Student Registration 8-3 pm	1-3 Winter Break
11- New Teacher Orientation	13- Teacher in Service
14- Teachers' Home Week	20- New Student Orientation 8-7 pm
23- 3rd Day of School	24- Block 5 begins
22-24- Two Year Early Release	<b>February</b>
28-31- One Hour Early Release	1- Teacher Late Night
<b>September</b>	13- Teacher in Service
10- No School Labor Day	20- New Student Orientation 8-7 pm
13- Back To School BBQ	<b>March</b>
21- New Student Orientation 8-7 pm	4- Block 8 Begins
23- Block 2 Begins	18-21 Spring Break
28- Teacher in Service	<b>April</b>
<b>October</b>	15- New Student Orientation 8-7 pm
15- Halloween Carnival	15- Block 7 Begins
20- New Student Orientation 8-7 pm	24- Teacher in Service
30- Block 3 Begins	<b>May</b>
<b>November</b>	15- End of the Year BBQ
14- Teacher Late Night	20- Last Day of School
20-21 Thanksgiving Break	24- Teacher in Service
<b>December</b>	28- 4th Graduation BFFC
1- Teacher in Service	<b>June</b>
7- New Student Orientation 8-7 pm	0- Summer School Registration 8-7
13- Block 4 Begins	12-27 Block 1 Summer School M-F
21- 2 Year Early Release	<b>July</b>
25-30- Winter Break	1-5 1st School 4th of July Holiday
	8-28 Block 2 Summer School M-F

Student Contact Days 142	
Block 1-	18
Block 2-	20
Block 3-	20
Block 4-	20
Block 5-	20
Block 6-	20
Block 7-	24

Teacher Inservice Days- 11

Note: An X denotes No School

  Start of the Block

End of the Block

Orientation (required for regular enrollment)

Teacher work day / Prof. Dev / Rpt

February 2024						
Sat	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

March 2024						
Sat	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

April 2024						
Sat	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

May 2024						
Sat	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

June 2024						
Sat	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

July 2024						
Sat	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30						6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

**Independence High School      2023-2024**

**August 2023**

10- Student Registration 1-3 pm  
 10 -New Teacher Orientation

14- Teachers Come Back  
 22- 1st Day of School  
 22-24- Two hour Early Release  
 28-31- One Hour Early Release

**September**

4- No School Labor Day  
 13- Back To School BBQ  
 21- New Student Orientation 6-7 pm  
 25- Block 2 Begins  
 29- Teacher In-Service

**October**

19- Haloween Carnival  
 26- New Student Orientation 6-7 pm  
     Readmittance Committee 5-7  
 30- Block 3 Begins

**November**

14- Teacher Late Night  
 20-23 Thanksgiving Break

**December**

1- Teacher In-Service  
 7- New Student Orientation 6-7 pm  
     Readmittance Committee 5-7  
 11- Block 4 Begins  
 21- 2 hour Early Release  
 25-28- Winter Break

**January**

1-4 Winter Break  
 19- Teacher In-Service  
 25- New Student Orientation 6-7 pm  
     Readmittance Committee 5-7  
 29- Block 5 begins

**February**

7- Teacher Late Night  
 23- Teacher In-Service  
 29- New Student Orientation 6-7 pm  
     Readmittance Committee 5-7

**March**

4- Block 6 Begins  
 18-21 Spring Break

**April**

11- New Student Orientation 6-7 pm  
 Readmittance Committee 5-7  
  
 15- Block 7 Begins  
 19- Teacher In-Service

**May**

15- End of the Year BBQ  
 23- Last Day of Schoo  
 24- Teacher In-Service  
 24- IHS Graduation BPAC

**June**

6- Summer School Registration 6-7  
 10-27 Block 1 Summer School M-F

**July**

1-5 No School 4th of July Holiday  
 8-25 Block 2 Summer School M-F

The dates listed above are subject to change due to the needs of Independence High School and or the Blackfoot School District.



# Independence High School

## Credit Recovery Full-Time School Policy



155 East Francis, Blackfoot, Idaho, 83221 (208)785-8825 Fax: (208) 785-8893

**This pertains only to students who must show full time enrollment to be eligible for state or federal programs. Please read this carefully!!!!**

Parents/Guardians and Students:

In order to be considered a full-time student at IHS, students enrolled in Credit Recovery must complete and test (with a passing grade of 70% or better) on at least 3 units of individualized study packets each week. **Students who do not comply with this requirement will be required to attend regular class sessions.**

If students do not complete weekly packet requirements, school officials will complete required state and federal forms and indicate the students in not a “full time student.”

**IHS is required to inform state and federal agencies when students do not complete requirements for full time enrollment.**

I have read and understand this policy.

Student Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name (sign) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent / Guardian (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent / Guardian (sign) \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



# Independence High School

## Credit Recovery Enrollment Agreement



*155 East Francis, Blackfoot, Idaho, 83221 (208)785-8825 Fax: (208) 785-8893*

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Your child has enrolled in the Credit Recovery Program at Independence High School. To continue in this program your child must complete 3 packets of school work and pass at least three tests per block. In the event your child fails to do so he/she will be dropped from the program. As the student's parent/guardian you will be responsible for your student's educational needs. Please fill out the top part of the form below. This form will only be used if your child is dropped from the Credit Recovery Program *and* is no longer in attendance at Independence High School. **NO CREDIT RECOVERY TESTS WILL BE GIVEN UNTIL THIS FORM IS SIGNED AND RETURNED TO IHS.**

As the guardian of \_\_\_\_\_ I am requesting that he/she be removed  
(print student name)  
 from enrollment at Independence High School. At the present time, I do not require Independence High School or Blackfoot School District 55 to provide educational assistance to my child.

I will provide educational opportunities required for the academic and social development of my child.

Parent/Guardian (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian (sign): \_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

**\*\*Do not write below line. For IHS use only.**

\_\_\_\_\_ has been removed from enrollment at Independence High School.

Principal Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



# Independence High School



155 East Francis, Blackfoot, Idaho, 83221 (208)785-8825 Fax: (208) 785-8893

Querido Padre/Tutor,

Su hijo/hija se ha matriculado en el Programa de Recuperación de Crédito (Credit Recovery) en la Escuela Secundaria de la Independencia (Independence High School). Para continuar en este programa, su hijo/hija debe pasar al menos tres examens por cada bloque. En el caso de que su hijo/hija no lo haga, él/ella será despedido del programa y será mandado a casa para la enseñanza particular (home schooled). Por favor llene la parte superior del forma. Este forma será usado sólo si su hijo se ha expulsado nuestro programa por no pasa el examen.

Como el padre/tutor de \_\_\_\_\_ solicito que él/ella sea sacado de la  
(nombre del estudiante)

matriculación en la Independence High School. En la actualidad, no requeremos que la Independence High School ni el distrito escolar de Blackfoot prove asistencia educativa a mi hijo/hija. Voy a ofrecer las oportunidades educativas necesarias para el desarrollo académico y social de mi hijo/hija en casa.

Padres / Tutores: \_\_\_\_\_  
(impreso)

Dirección: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Número(s) de Teléfono \_\_\_\_\_

Padre/Tutor: \_\_\_\_\_ (firmar) \_\_\_\_\_ (fecha)

\*\*No escriba debajo de esta línea. Para el uso del IHS solamente.

\_\_\_\_\_ has been removed from enrollment at Independence High School.

Principal Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### What is a School-Parent Compact?

A School-Parent Compact is a document jointly developed by our School Wide Improvement Team, made up of parent volunteers and school staff. This document, which is required as a component of our Title I Parent Involvement Plan, outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved academic achievement at Independence High School, and describes how parents and our school should build and develop a partnership to help students achieve Idaho’s high standards.

### Activities to Build Partnerships

- Aug 10- Parent / Student Orientation
- Sept 13 - Back to School Night (BBQ)
- Sept 21 - Parent / New Student Orientation
- Oct 19- Family Night - Carnival
- Oct 26 - Parent / New Student Orientation
- Dec 7- Parent / New Student Orientation
- Jan 25 - Parent / New Student Orientation
- February 29 - Parent / New Student Orientation
- April 11- Parent / New Student Orientation
- May 15 – End of the BBQ
- May 24- IHS Graduation

## Independence High School

### School-Parent Compact

2023-2024



REVISED 05/11/2023







## Teachers, Parents, and Students

—Together for Success

### *Teacher/School Responsibilities*

As teachers and staff at IHS, we will:

- encourage and support student learning.
- believe that each student can learn..
- use positive actions and words.
- maintain and foster high standards of academic achievement and positive behavior.
- have high expectations for students and be committed to continuous growth for the teacher, staff, and the school.
- respect cultural differences of students, their families and other staff members.
- help students resolve conflicts in positive, nonviolent ways.
- coordinate efforts with other staff to support the success of each student.
- create a caring, inclusive, stimulating, and safe school/classroom setting.

### *Student Responsibilities*

Student's responsibilities for a strong partnership . . .

I, as a student will:

- always do my best in my work and in my behavior.
- work cooperatively with my classmates and teachers..
- show respect for myself, my school, teachers, and others.
- obey the school and bus rules.
- 

### *Family Responsibilities*

Parents/guardians can support student learning in the following ways:

- see that their student attends school regularly and on time.
- supply the necessary materials for class participation.
- maintain and foster standards of high academic achievement and positive behavior.
- make sure all homework is completed and returned on time.
- promote positive use of my student's extracurricular time.
- communicate on a regular basis with student's teachers
- show respect and support for student's teachers and the school
- volunteer and participate, as appropriate, during school events.

## Contact Us

[Company Name]  
155 E. Francis  
Blackfoot, Idaho 83221

(208) 785-8825  
tornj@d55.k12.id.us

Visit us on the Web:  
<https://www.bfsdindependencehs.org/>

## *Goals for Student Achievement*

Independence High School staff works hard to provide students opportunities for continuous improvement. Professional development for Independence High School staff focuses on effective instructional strategies for teaching English/Language Art and Math skills. Strategies learned through professional development also help teachers create safe, supportive learning environments for students so they can master challenging grade level standards

- take pride in my school and school work.
- come to school prepared with my homework and my supplies.
- believe that I can and will learn.

## **School Goals and Focus areas**

Independence High School will have a graduation rate of 67% or better. (Current rate is 65%)

**Independence Alternative High School Referral Form**  
**155 East Francis**  
**Blackfoot, Idaho 83221**

**Student Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Administrator making the referral** \_\_\_\_\_

**School Name** \_\_\_\_\_

Students must meet Idaho State At-Risk standards please circle all that apply:

This student has:

1. Repeated a grade
2. Absenteeism over 10%
3. A GPA less than 1.5
4. Failed a basic skill subject
5. Fallen behind 2 or more credits
6. Substance abuse behavior problems
7. Become a parent or is pregnant
8. Become an emancipated student
9. Dropped out of school
10. Behavior problems—Please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** To qualify under Idaho's Standard for At-Risk Youth students must meet any three of the first five criteria or any one of criteria #s 6-11.

11. Been court referred

Additional comments: \_\_\_\_\_

This student is being referred to Independence High School for the:

\_\_\_ **1<sup>st</sup> time**      \_\_\_ **2<sup>nd</sup> time**      \_\_\_ **3<sup>rd</sup> time**

IHS Blocks	Block s			Block s			Block s
	<b>1</b>			<b>6</b>			
	<b>2</b>			<b>7</b>			
	<b>3</b>			<b>8</b>			
	<b>4</b>						
	<b>5</b>			1			

*\* Students must complete and receive credits in the block(s) indicated (or an equivalent number of blocks) before re-admittance to their home school will be considered.*

**Parent/Guardian** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

**Independence High School  
Request for Re-admittance to Home High School**

General Information:

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Home High School Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date student entered IHS in the current school year \_\_\_\_\_

Date student wishes to Re-enter Home High School \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> Tri - 3<sup>rd</sup> Tri

Student Progress:

	Block s	Attendanc e	Behavior	Grade				
	1							
	2							
	3					End of 1 <sup>st</sup> Trimester		
	4							
	5					End of 2 <sup>nd</sup> Trimester		
	6							
	7							
	8							

\_\_\_\_\_ This student has completed requirements established for re-admittance to the home high school. (See requirements and additional comments on the back of this sheet)

\_\_\_\_\_ This student should be considered for re-admittance to the home high school. (See requirements and additional comments on the back of this sheet.)

Credit Status:

IAHS Credit Check:

Home High School Credit Check:

Total Credits Earned: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Credits Earned: \_\_\_\_\_

Credits Required: \_\_\_\_\_

Credits Required: \_\_\_\_\_

Credits Remaining: \_\_\_\_\_

Credits Remaining: \_\_\_\_\_

