

Western Sierra Charter Schools

Independent Study Board Policy for
Mountain Home School Charter and
Glacier High School Charter
Relative to [E.C.51747]

(Adopted in public hearing of the Western Sierra Charter School's Governing Board
on 9/4/2008)

These policies apply to all pupils participating in independent study at Mountain Home School Charter and Glacier High School Charter (the "School").

Each student will have a certificated charter teacher assigned to them who will coordinate, evaluate, and provide general supervision for each student's independent study. Other assigned certificated teachers may supervise certain aspects of each student's coursework such as teachers teaching classroom based courses.

Parent(s) and their students will sign a written agreement (Master Agreement) at least each semester of the school year which will give the beginning and ending dates for each pupil's participation in our home based independent study program. Each Master Agreement will be signed and in effect prior to the start of reporting attendance (ADA) pursuant to that agreement. The independent study Master Agreement will require and cover a study plan that represents the same amount of study that would be required of a student in the classroom and be consistent with the School curriculum and course of study of students participating in the regular classroom setting This Master Agreement will be kept on file at the school. The maximum length of time for MHSC students (K-8) and GHS students (9-12), that may elapse between when an assignment is made and the date upon which it is due is twenty school days.

Master Agreement Content: Each independent study Master Agreement shall contain all of the following provisions:

- The manner, time, frequency, and place for submitting a pupil's assignments and for reporting his or her progress.
- The objectives and methods of study for the pupil's work, and the methods utilized to evaluate that work.
- The specific resources, including materials and personnel that will be made available to the pupil.
- A statement of the policies adopted regarding the maximum length of time allowed between the assignment and the completion of a pupil's assigned work, and the number of missed assignments allowed prior to an evaluation of whether or not the pupil should be allowed to continue in independent study.
- The duration of the independent study Master Agreement, recognizing that no independent study agreement shall be valid for any period longer than one semester, or one-half year for when considering pupils on a year-round calendar.
- A statement of the number of course credits to be earned by the pupil upon completion.
- The inclusion of a statement in each independent study Master Agreement that independent study is an optional educational alternative in which no pupil may be required to participate.

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The Master Agreement may include subsidiary agreements, such as course contracts and assignment and work records.

Mountain Home School students will be required to turn in at least four work samples from the variety of subjects they are assigned per each goal/ assignment setting meeting.

Glacier students will be required to turn in one work sample per subject for each goal/ assignment setting meeting.

Failure to complete three work samples in a given subject will result in an evaluation to determine whether it is in the student's best interest to remain in our schools' independent study program. A written record of the findings of any evaluation made pursuant to this subdivision shall be maintained in the pupil's permanent record and treated as a mandatory interim pupil record. The record shall be maintained for a period of three years from the date of the evaluation and, if the pupil transfers to another California public school, the record shall be forwarded to that school.

Adopted: 9/4/2008

Amended: 1/20/10