

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
School District #33 (Chilliwack)**

**521.1
ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION
Challenge for Credit**

All students are entitled to challenge; however, it is anticipated that only small numbers of students will be able to give strong and compelling evidence that they will succeed in the challenge, and that it is in their best interests. Challenge is not envisioned as a way for students to improve their course marks, nor as a replacement for the valuable experience a student gains by learning in the classroom setting.

1. Principles of Challenge

The following principles provide a basis for challenge including:

- a) Students learn in a variety of ways and at different rates
- b) The diverse needs, abilities and aspirations of students should be acknowledged
- c) Relevant learning acquired by students outside school should be acknowledged
- d) Challenge will provide students with opportunities to enrich and broaden intellectual, social and educational experiences (see Ministry definition of an educated person for wording)

2. Student Eligibility for Challenge

- a) Students would be permitted to challenge a specific course only one time.
- b) Students who have been enrolled previously in the course are in most circumstances not eligible to challenge for credit.
- c) Students arriving from other jurisdictions may challenge for credit where equivalency is not appropriate.
- d) Adult students are able to challenge for credit.

Cross Refs:

Adopted: April 22, 1997
Reviewed:
Revised:

- e) Students will be eligible for challenge as a result of teacher recommendation.
- f) Students will be permitted to challenge only courses taught in the district.

3. **Student Requirements for Challenge**

- a) The entire course must be challenged; a partial credit will not be granted through the challenge process.
- b) Students must demonstrate, which may be in a variety of ways, that they have met the prescribed learning outcomes of a course for the challenge to be successful.
- c) In order to challenge a course with a provincial examination, students must first successfully challenge the school portion of the mark, if successful, students will then be provided the opportunity to write the provincial examination at the first available examination date. The final letter grade and percentage mark will be based on the blended school and examination mark.
- d) Students are required to provide compelling evidence that challenge will enhance the Student Learning Plan.

4. **Procedure for Challenge**

Part A: Authorization of Challenge

- a) At the Home School, approval will be determined by a written explanation of how the challenge will meet the educational goals as set out in the Student Learning Plan.
- b) Before approval to challenge a course is granted, students will complete the Checklist for Course Challenge at the Home School.
- c) The approval for accessing challenge must be made by the principal in consultation with the designated teacher-advisor, student's parents/guardians (if applicable), and the student.

Part B: Assessing the Challenge

- a) At a centralized location (Fraser Valley Distance Education School) the challenge process may be monitored, administered, assessed and evaluated.

5. **Evaluating the Challenge**

- a) To successfully challenge for credit, students must meet the same standards as those expected of students who take the course through regular classes.
- b) Students will be awarded credit for successful challenge, and receive a letter grade and percentage mark for the course according to the Ministry Reporting Policy and Guidelines and the Student Progress Report Order.

6. **Challenging Courses with Provincial Examinations**

Students must challenge courses with a provincial examination according to the following procedures:

- a) Students should first challenge the school portion of the course mark.
- b) If the students are successful, then they can be given an opportunity to write the provincial examination at the first available examination date
- c) The school must submit the school mark derived from the challenge process before the provincial examination is written as indicated in the Ministry's Handbook of Procedures
- d) Students may only write the provincial examination at the scheduled times set by the Ministry.
- e) Students will be awarded credit for the course and receive a letter grade and percentage mark for the course according to Ministry Reporting Policy and Guidelines and the Student Report Order.

7. **When to Challenge**

Under normal circumstances students are expected to declare their intention to challenge by June 1 and complete the challenge by August 31. Fees will be established annually in relationship to costs of the challenge and ability to pay.