

#### 4.1.4 – Student Transfer – Student Assignment to Class

Children entering Van Buren schools from accredited private or public school shall be assigned to grades according to the records of achievement from their previous schools.

Students entering the Van Buren schools from a school that is not accredited by the Arkansas Division of Elementary & Secondary Education, a Department of Education from another state, the North Central Association, or the Arkansas Non-Public School Accrediting Association, Inc., will be evaluated as follows:

Grades 1-8 – School authorities will use all available information in making the initial grade placement decision, including an appropriate placement exam. Age appropriateness will be a consideration in this decision. During the first semester of the student’s enrollment in Van Buren schools, the principal may subsequently change the placement depending on demonstrated performance by the child.

Grades 9-12 -- Students in grades 9-12 attempting to transfer credits from a non-accredited public or private school or from approved home schooling experiences will be required to take appropriate exams in the academic areas for which credit is desired.

The exams will be determined by school authorities. The percent of material mastered on the test will determine the credit. For example:

PERCENT CREDIT
90-100 Full
80-90 Full
70-80 Full
60-70 Full
59 or less 0

Students have the legal right to receive instruction through home schooling. However, the local school district has the responsibility of determining whether or not high school graduation credit is to be given should a student desire to receive public school credit toward graduation. The following procedures have been established:

- A. Students will be given a general achievement test to determine if the student is eligible to be considered for grade level placement. The district will provide an appropriate achievement test for use by the schools.
- B. If a student is eligible as demonstrated by grade level testing to earn credit for specific classes in grades 9-12, specific tests will be given to the student in each of the four core subject areas, English, math, social studies, and science, in which the student requests the credit. (For example: if the student requests a credit in Algebra I, then the student will be given a test that covers the objectives found in a year-long algebra class, etc.) Sixty percent (60%) achievement will be required for passing the test for credit. No grade letter will be issued, only “CR” for “credit earned”.
- C. Any student desiring to re-enter school claiming to have been in home schooling must have proof that application for home schooling has been approved. Copies

of home schooling applications are kept on file in the superintendent's office if the student does not have a copy of the application available.

- a. Upon entering, the student will fill out a form stating what courses he/she has taken in home schooling.
- b. The district will continue to require any student who desired to be a senior to be enrolled for six classes. Thus, if a home school student enrolls as a senior, the student will be required to take six classes regardless of how many credits the student has at the time of enrollment. The student will also be required to be enrolled two consecutive semesters to be considered a senior.
- c. Should a student not achieve at grade level on a general achievement test, grade placement will be determined by the principal after review of standardized test data.

NOTE: Any student of high school age would not be placed below the seventh grade.

The Board of Education reserves the right, after a hearing before the Board, not to allow any person who has been expelled from another district to enroll as a student until the time of the person's expulsion has expired.

Any student(s) who resides in the district, but has not attended the Van Buren School District for at least one (1) full academic year for eligibility for the Succeed Scholarship Program, will not be granted a waiver.

If in the event a request for legal transfer is received fifteen (15) or more days after the beginning of the second or fourth grading periods, eligible enrollment will not begin until the end of the same grading period in which the request was received. (This applies to students attending in area school districts and not to students moving into the region for the first time or students that are requesting a transfer as a result of moving out of the Van Buren School District.)

Legal References:     A.C.A. § 6-18-316  
                           A.C.A. § 6-18-510  
                           A.C.A. § 6-15-504 (f)

State Board of Education Standards of Accreditation VII (E) (1)

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