

**ADMISSION OF NEW RESIDENTS AND STUDENTS  
FROM UNACCREDITED SCHOOLS**

Grade placement shall be the responsibility of the principal. In general, pupils transferring into the system from accredited schools will be placed in the same grade level as in the school from which they transferred.

The Principal will consider the following when placing a student in grades K-8 from an unaccredited school:

- A Standardized achievement test may be administered to the transfer student. The administration and evaluation of the test will be carried out by the principal or other designated staff.
- The student's initial placement may not be in a grade level higher than warranted by the student's chronological age assuming entry into the first grade at age six (6) and annual advancement thereafter. After initial placement the student may be advanced according to his demonstrated performance.

Credit shall be accepted for students in grades 9-12 from schools accredited by the SD Department of Education or other parallel state accrediting agency. Initial, temporary placement in high school courses will be based on an interview with the Principal until it is determined which courses the student needs in order to satisfy graduation requirements of the Garretson School District and the State of South Dakota. High School credit may be granted for courses taken from an unaccredited school based on the following criteria:

- Placement in, and credit awarded for Mathematics and English coursework will be determined by the level of achievement demonstrated the student on a standardized achievement test, criterion-referenced achievement test or appropriate end of course exam as determined by the Principal.
- Placement in, and credit awarded for other classes may be determined by a combination of end of course exam / departmental exam, interview with the student conducted by the Principal and/or appropriate classroom teachers and a review of completed work.
- Credit will not be granted for any lab science course, unless the student is able to pass the end of course / departmental exam and is able to provide documentation of completion of lab experience which is parallel to and consistent with requirements in the District's science course.

Only students who have completed at least six semesters in a state-accredited school will be considered for academic honors related to the student's Grade Point Average (GPA). In order to receive a diploma from Garretson High School, students who have completed at least a portion of their high school experience in an unaccredited school must meet all of the Garretson School District graduation requirements and be enrolled as a full time student the entire senior year

LEGAL REF.: SDCL 13-27-1, 13-27-3, 13-27-29, 13-28-21

Adoption date: January 11, 2010  
Revised on: March 9, 2020