

MONTANA SCHOOL POLICIES REGARDING
MARRIED HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

BY

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Submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements
for the Master of Education degree
Montana State College
July, 1960

P 378
J 631

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Marriage has been the fundamental basis of family life since time began. However, within the United States for more than a half century the average age at first marriage has been going down. In 1890, men and women married at the approximate ages of 26 and 22, respectively. In 1956 the corresponding ages were about 23 and 20, in 1959 it was 21 and 18.¹

Biologists have stated that human beings are capable of marriage in their teens; yet teenagers seldom have been ready for marriage because they have lacked the full realization of its responsibilities.² Hanson held that it is good for them to struggle, but it is not good for the struggle to be too severe for the solution of problems--teenagers depend on parents if the problems are too severe, and married life is started as dependent creatures.³

Married high school students have faced one more problem that is of great importance--their education. Does marital status mean an end of their schooling, or should formal education continue unhampered? School officials have attempted to meet this problem with various resolutions.

¹Christensen, H. T., "Why All These Young Marriages?" National Parent Teacher 52:4-6, April, 1958.

²Hanson, E. H., "Are High School Marriages a Good Idea?" Education, April, 1960, p. 510.

³Ibid., p. 510

It should be recognized that not all high schools in the United States have the problem of married students. However, as stated previously the trend for early marriages has been rising, and this could initiate the problem in schools where it does not yet exist.

Problem

The purpose of this investigation was to determine Montana school policies regarding married high school students. This survey resolved itself into answering the following questions:

1. Are married students allowed to continue in school?
2. Are student school activities limited for married students?
3. Are school board resolutions upheld by state court decisions?
4. Are married pregnant seniors allowed to participate in graduation exercises?
5. Is the married high school problem increasing?
6. Do school officials consider married students to be a foremost problem?
7. Are married senior boys and non-pregnant girls allowed to participate in graduation exercises?
8. Are married pregnant girls allowed to attend regular school classes?

Procedures

To complete these objectives the following procedures were used:

1. A review of literature in the field was made to determine school policies and court decisions in various parts of the United

States regarding married high school students as disclosed in recent periodicals.

2. A questionnaire was sent to administrators of 75 Montana schools, to determine policies of schools within the state.

Limitations

This study was a survey of school policies of representative schools outside the state of Montana, and of 75 schools, randomly selected, in Montana. The study was limited to the resource material available in the library of Montana State College, and to responses recorded on a questionnaire sent to 75 high school administrators in Montana.

The first procedure of this investigation was to review recent published school policies and court decisions in various parts of the United States. A report of these findings is given in Chapter II.

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

A review of the literature on school policies and court decisions was made to determine what steps have been taken in dealing with the problem of married students in high school.

General School Policies Regarding Married Students

In Taulbee's article regarding the Artesia High School in New Mexico, it was found that school policy discouraged student marriages.¹ Artesia school officials did not feel that the best educational interests could possibly be served through marriages which take place at such an early age. It was felt that marriage is a full time job, especially during the early days when adjustments have to be made. For those who planned to marry and continue in school, the following policy had to be understood and adhered to:

1. Before getting married, the student had to confer with the high school principal and counselor.
2. As soon as a student returned to school after marriage, he or she was required to have a conference with the principal.
3. If, after the conference, the student continued in school, he had the same status as other students except in those extra-curricular organizations where special provisions had been adopted

¹Taulbee, C., "Dealing With The Student Marriage Problem," National Association of Secondary School Principals Bulletin 41:146-147, April, 1957.

concerning married students.

4. In accepting equal status with other students, married students understood that they would not be given special consideration with respect to school policy. Attendance must be regular; and undue amount of absence regardless of cause could result in dismissal from school. If it became necessary to withdraw from school, the student would lose the work for the semester in which they withdrew.²

Alarmed by six teenage marriages in 1958, the school board of Mesick High School, Mesick, Michigan, established a policy which banned married pupils from extracurricular activities.³ They felt this might help douse the nuptial flame.

In an effort to control the rising problem of high school marriages in Tennessee, the Marion County Board of Education adopted policies incorporating the following ideas:

1. Any student who married during the school term would be automatically dismissed for the remainder of the current term.

2. If the marriage took place during vacation, the student involved was denied the right to attend any county high school during the next succeeding term.⁴

The Garland High School officials of Garland, Texas, adopted the following procedures to discourage juvenile marriages among its students:

²Ibid., p. 147.

³"High School Husbands," Newsweek, June 20, 1960, p. 99.

⁴Hamilton, R. R., The National School Law Reporter, Vol. X, No. 6, May 12, 1960.

1. Married students were restricted wholly to classroom work.
2. Married students were barred from participating in athletics and were not permitted to hold class offices or other positions of honor.⁵

In the following brief statements, Landis in his survey of California High Schools condensed the policies that were used in different locations:

1. Not require students to attend school, regardless of age.
2. Treat married students the same as other students.
3. Hold administrative conference with married student, also with the parents.
4. Encourage the student to withdraw from school.
5. Take no action for boys who marry.
6. Exclude married students from student offices and honors.
7. Require permission from the board of education to continue school.
8. Required notification to school officials of their marriage.
9. Require permission from the principal or superintendent to continue in school.
10. Advise married student to take brief honeymoon before returning to school.
11. Allow married students part-time attendance.
12. Not permit husband and wife to enroll in the same school.
13. Restricted social activities.

⁵Ibid., Vol. X, No. 6.

14. Excuse girls from physical education if they had household duties.⁶

In general, school policies allowed married students to attend regular high school classes, but limited their extracurricular activities.

Court Decisions on Contested Board Policies

The school board policy of banning married students from extracurricular activities at Mesick, Michigan, was upheld by the Michigan Supreme Court. One justice stated, "The Board was merely seeking to preserve high school education."⁷

The Tennessee Supreme Court upheld Marion County of Education's policy of losing one semester of school work immediately following marriage by stating:

"Boards of Education, rather than courts, are charged with the important and difficult duty of operating the public schools. So, it is not a question of whether this or that individual judge or court considers a given regulation adopted by the Board expedient. The court's duty, regardless of its personal views, is to uphold the Board's regulation unless it is generally viewed as being arbitrary and unreasonable."⁸

It was interesting to note that the Garland School Board Resolutions of restricting married students to classroom work was upheld as being reasonable and just by the Texas Supreme Court.⁹

⁶Landis, J. T., "Attitudes and Policies Concerning Marriage Among High School Students," Marriage and Family Living 18:128-136, May, 1956.

⁷Newsweek, op. cit., p. 99.

⁸Hamilton, op. cit., Vol. X, No. 6.

⁹Ibid.

There seemed to be a conflict in California law. Section 16601 of the Education Code, required a parent or guardian to keep a child in school between ages of eight and sixteen. However, the Civil Code, Landis reported, provides that the authority of a parent ceases upon the marriage of a child.¹⁰

There were no specific laws in California, reported in literature, which apply to married students that could be used to expel or suspend the students from school. This was true of most states.¹¹

Administrators' Opinion Poll Regarding Married High School Students

The editors of Nations Schools magazine polled administrators throughout the United States to determine an over-all picture of attitudes regarding married high school students.¹² They found 84.5% favored both husband and wife remaining in school after marriage, whereas 15.5% did not. It was agreed by 82% that husband and wife be allowed to attend the same classes, 18% felt they should be separated.

The poll indicated that the separation of married students from their unmarried classmates at lunchtime and extracurricular activities did not meet with much success. Ninety-three percent felt there should be no separation and 7% felt it would be best. Seventy-three

¹⁰Landis, op. cit., p. 128

¹¹Ibid., p. 128.

¹²"Married Students Should Be Allowed To Stay In School," Opinion Poll, Nations Schools 58:86, November, 1956.

percent voted no separation for extracurricular activities and 22% favored separation.

Taking time-off from school for honeymooning or personal adjustment was frowned upon by 71% and 29% thought it to be a good idea. Suspending pregnant wives was approved by 91%, and 9% thought suspension was not a solution to the problem. Expelling until a later date met with some disapproval; 83% voted no and 17% voted yes.¹³

Summary

An examination of the literature showed a similarity in school policies regarding married high school students. All of the schools reviewed, in accordance with their respective state laws, allowed married students to continue school. If they abused this right, they were asked to leave school under what might be termed "misconduct."

Courts have held that school boards have the legal right in decisions dealing with school policies regarding married students. The barring of these students from extracurricular activities has been ruled reasonable and just. The requirements of regular school attendance with no special privileges for working during school hours has been held to be reasonable also.

The second procedure in determining school policies regarding married students in high school was to survey by questionnaire administrators of Montana high schools. A report of this survey is given in Chapter III.

¹³Ibid., p. 86.

CHAPTER III

MONTANA SCHOOL POLICIES REGARDING MARRIED STUDENTS

To determine established policy regarding married students attending school, a questionnaire was sent to 75 out of 176 administrators of Montana High Schools. These schools were picked at random from the Montana High School Directory, 1959-60. To facilitate the handling of the questionnaire and responses, the writer placed the schools in the established classes of the Montana High School Association Athletic Conferences--Classes AA, A, B, and C.¹ Responses were received from ten Class AA, eight Class A, 33 Class B, and 22 Class C schools. The following questions were used:

1. Are married students allowed to attend regular school classes? (boys and non-pregnant girls)
2. Are married students allowed to participate in extra-curricular school activities?
3. Are married pregnant girls allowed to attend regular school classes?
4. Are correspondence courses provided for those who wish them outside of regular school classes?
5. Are married pregnant senior girls allowed to participate in graduation ceremonies?
6. Are married senior boys and non-pregnant girls allowed to participate in graduation ceremonies?
7. Has this problem increased in your school in the last ten years?
8. Is this a foremost problem in your school?

¹See Appendix B, p. 29.

Responses to the Questions

The total of 72 responses constituted 97% of the questionnaires sent out. Table 1 reveals the responses of Montana school administrators by number and percent to the questionnaire.

TABLE 1. RESPONSES OF MONTANA SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS BY NUMBER AND PERCENT TO QUESTIONS ON POLICIES REGARDING MARRIED HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

QUESTIONS ASKED	Yes	No
1. Are married students allowed to attend regular school classes? (non-pregnant girls)	68 (94%)	4 (6%)
2. Are married students allowed to participate in extracurricular school activities?	34 (48%)	38 (52%)
3. Are married pregnant girls allowed to attend regular school classes?	33 (46%)	39 (54%)
4. Are correspondence courses provided for those who wish them outside of regular school classes?	48 (66%)	24 (34%)
5. Are married pregnant seniors allowed to participate in graduation ceremonies?	37 (51%)	35 (49%)
6. Are married senior boys and non-pregnant girls allowed to participate in graduation ceremonies?	64 (89%)	8 (11%)
7. Has the married student problem increased in your school in the last 10 years?	35 (49%)	37 (51%)
8. Is this a foremost problem in your school?	5 (17%)	67 (83%)

An investigation of the material outlined in Table 1 disclosed

that Montana practices were not out of line with the policies throughout the nation relating to married students in high schools.

It was found that 68 or 94% of the schools allowed married students to attend regular school classes, while four or 6% discouraged or didn't allow it.

Thirty-four or 48% of the schools allowed married students to participate in extracurricular activities, 38 or 52% did not.

Married pregnant girls were allowed to attend regular school classes in 33 or 46% of the schools and in 39 or 54% they were not. Some schools allowed class participation for expectant girls in all stages of pregnancy to delivery date.

Correspondence courses or out of regular-school-class work was offered to married students in 48 or 66% of the schools and 24 or 34% did not offer any outside class work. Of those schools offering correspondence or extension work, the majority of schools made it clear that courses were offered in conjunction with and to those qualified under Montana State education laws.²

Policies on participation of married pregnant senior girls in graduation ceremonies were evenly distributed. Thirty-seven or 51% of the schools stated that they could participate, 35 or 49% said they could not. Of the 37 schools that permitted participation, about half put limitations on how evident the pregnancy was. If it should cause any talk or embarrassment to the girl, school, or family, she was excluded.

²School Laws of the State of Montana, 75:2006, p. 78.

The question of married senior boys and non-pregnant senior girls participating in graduation ceremonies found the tabulation to be quite different. Sixty-four or 89% of the schools replied yes, whereas eight or 11% said no. Those that refused included three Class B and five Class C schools.

The problem of married students has increased the past ten years in 35 or 49% of the schools and in 37 or 51% it has not. Class B was the only division where the problem has not increased by a large margin. In this division 11 schools reported it has increased and 22 reported no increase. In Classes AA, A, and C, the problem has definitely been increasing.

Even though the problem has increased, it was interesting to note that only five schools reported it to be a foremost problem. Sixty-seven schools said it was not foremost. In a few schools it was not considered a problem at all. Not one Class AA school considered it foremost; only one Class A school did, as did two Class B and two Class C schools.

Specific Proposals of Individual Montana Schools Regarding Married Students

In addition to answering the questionnaire, a few administrators added comments as to what they do in handling the problem of married students.

In Missoula the young couple was asked to counsel with the Board before marriage regarding the importance of good attendance and high academic standards. In most cases the couples voluntarily

came in and discussed marriage plans.

Sidney required special counseling interviews with married students.

At Whitefish all cases of marriage and pregnancy must come before the Board for special consideration. The Board of Trustees was strongly opposed to student marriages. The Board in all such cases required that the parties concerned appear in person before the Board with a request to continue school as married persons. Each case would be decided on its own merits. Permission to continue studies would be on a probationary basis.

Kalispell required married students to make application to the Board of School Trustees, asking for permission to attend school. If permission was granted, it was on a probationary basis. By this the student was given to understand that if the girl student violated any of the rules and regulations of the school, or became pregnant, she would be required to discontinue. Boys were held to requirements of behavior and scholarship.

In Billings married students were required to stay out of school for an adjustment period of one week immediately following marriage.

Polson required married students to come to the next school board meeting and ask for permission to continue school. If a girl became pregnant she was dropped from school immediately.

The Chester Board of Education adopted the following rules and regulations concerning the attendance of married students:

1. Definition of Terms:

- a. Extracurricular activities, in this instance

will refer to social parties when only students from Chester High School are normally included;

Band and twirling
Chorus
Class membership and social clubs
Plays and dramatics
Cheerleaders
Athletics
Senior trips

- b. The words, married student, as herein defined, will include:

Any student who has been married
Any student who is married
Any student who has born a child out of wedlock
Any student who has begotten a child out of wedlock

2. All married students must appear before the Board of Education for counseling before they may be admitted to Chester High School. A married student must present a written request to the District Superintendent for this meeting with the Board. The Board will meet to consider the request within a reasonable time after it has been made.

3. No girl shall be permitted to attend school while she is known to be three months or more pregnant. She may make application as stated above for readmission with the beginning of a new semester after the termination of pregnancy.

4. No married student shall be permitted to participate in extracurricular activities as defined above.

5. Married students shall be required to maintain at least a C average in at least four subjects during each six weeks period. A student will be warned of his grade deficiency only once during any school year. These students too, must maintain a C average in conduct.

6. The students of Chester Junior High School and High School and their parents shall be informed of the rule at the beginning of each school year. New students will be informed of the rule upon their entry in Chester High School.

7. Effective date shall be September 1, 1960.³

³Chester High School Board Policy, received with questionnaire May, 1960.

Wolf Point issued the following statement of policy to all students and parents:

Ladies and Gentlemen:

As you know, a trend toward earlier marriages is occurring throughout the United States and Montana as well. Needless to say, the Board of School Trustees of District #45 has been aware of the situation especially when the early marriages take place among high school students. Consequently, the following statements of policy were formulated by the Board of School Trustees last fall and posted upon the various bulletin boards at the high school for your youngsters' information:

At its last meeting, the Board of School Trustees of School District #45 adopted the following action for the school year 1960-61:

1. Each pupil who marries must present a formal application to the Board of School Trustees to continue in school as a married pupil. Both parties may be required to appear with the application before the Board of Trustees.
2. Immediately upon marriage, the pupil is excluded from school until disposition has been made of the case by the Board of School Trustees.
3. After studying each application, The Board of Trustees may adopt one of the following procedures:
 - a. Exclude such pupils from school.
 - b. Suggest homework or correspondence in lieu of school attendance, or
 - c. Permit the party or parties to continue in school. If continuance in school results in questionable propriety upon the part of the married student, that student may be suspended at once.
4. Pupils known to be pregnant shall be excluded immediately. Such pupils may, upon application, be permitted to return at a later date.
5. The Board of School Trustees may exclude married students from participating in extracurricular activities.

6. If, in the judgment of the Board of School Trustees, conditions warrant establishing the above policy for the school year 1959-60, the Board of School Trustees may put said policy into effect immediately.

After careful deliberation, the Board presently feels that item 5 will be changed to read, "The Board of School Trustees will (instead of "may") exclude married students from participating in extracurricular activities." This change will take place at the beginning of the 1960-61 school year.⁴

At Miles City the Custer County School officials made it clear that, in general, they did not approve of the marriage of high school students, and will continue to urge students to delay marriage until they have finished high school. However, should high school students marry they had to observe the rules and regulations which apply to all students, and had to observe the special rules and regulations which applied only to married students, which were:

1. CCHS students who are married must report this fact when they register; or if they marry during the school term, they must inform school officials immediately before attending further classes. Boys should inform the Dean of Boys; girls should inform the Dean of Girls.
2. Married girls must inform the Dean of Girls immediately if and when they become pregnant. School officials will determine how long a married girl may attend school in this condition.
3. Married students may participate in school activities unless school officials decide that it would be in the best interests of the student body for them not to do so.
4. Married students will be subject to suspension if in the opinion of the school officials they adversely affect the morale or morals of the student body by discussing their marital relationships with other high school students or in any way

⁴Wolf Point High School Board Policy, received with questionnaire, May, 1960.

encourage other students to marry before graduating from high school.⁵

The Board of Trustees of Bozeman Senior High School has set up the following policy relative to married students:

Application to Attend: All married students and those contemplating marriage during the school term, must present a written statement to the administration of the school relative to the following:

1. Why the applicant wishes to continue school.
2. Reason for the applicant's marriage.
3. Ability to attend school regularly.
4. Complete understanding of and cooperation with the regulations concerning married students. The Board of Trustees and administration will review and approve or disapprove all applications.

Categories:

- I. Unmarried Pregnant Women:
 1. Immediate withdrawal from school.
- II. Married Male Students:
 1. Permitted to attend and carry, as a minimum, the normal load of four solid subjects. Special privileges to work during school hours and similar requests will not be granted.
 2. Withdrawal from all extracurricular activities.
 3. Periodic consultation with the administration.
 4. Complete cooperation with the officials of the school on all occasions.
- III. Married Female Students:
 1. Permitted to attend and carry, as a minimum, the normal load of four solid subjects. Special privileges to work, cook for the husband, attend children and other similar requests for time-off during school will not be granted.
 2. Withdrawal from all extracurricular activities.
 3. Periodic consultation with the administration.

⁵Custer County High School Board Policy, Miles City, received with questionnaire, May, 1960.

4. Complete cooperation with the officials of the school on all occasions.

IV. Married Pregnant Students:

1. Permitted to attend and carry, as a minimum, the normal load of four solid subjects. Special privilege to work, cook for the husband, attend children and other similar requests for time-off during school will not be granted.
2. Withdrawal from all extracurricular activities.
3. Periodic consultation with administration.
4. Permitted to attend until the physical appearance of pregnancy is apparent or until withdrawal is recommended by a physician.
5. Complete cooperation with the officials of the school on all occasions.⁶

Reactions of Administrators to Questionnaire

In the space given to "Comments" in the questionnaire a variety of interesting notations were made.

One of the Class C administrators felt this subject to be none of the writer's business, and believed that a more important educational subject could be found to be investigated, whereas one Class B administrator felt that, since the latest Kinsey report, too much emphasis has been put on the external beauty of the female body, thus exhilarating the exploratory urge of the sexes. He commented further, that this step has reached down into the high school age and teenage marriages are taking place at a faster rate than ever before. He also felt that the public was unwilling to accept or face the problem with good sound judgments and policies. These married students want to continue and finish their high school education,

⁶Bozeman High School Board Policy, received with questionnaire, May, 1960.

but the public and some school officials are slow to react to their needs.

Another Class B administrator felt that his school could not possibly put forth any policy regarding the married student attending school because of the social stratifications of the community. This happened to be an Indian community where the mores of its society were such as to accept without question or remorse the compulsion of nature to take its course at any age. He stated they had both married and unmarried mothers attending school, while their grandparents care for the children.

One Class AA Dean of Girls stated that many of her girls mentioned they would have waited to marry if there had been a regulation barring them from finishing school. By law, these married students cannot be expelled from school because of their marital status.⁷ However, a few schools pressure them into dropping out of school voluntarily.

Summary

Ninety-four percent of Montana schools allow married students to attend regular school classes in accordance with Montana law. Policies on extracurricular activities were evenly divided between those who do allow participation and those who do not.

Pregnant girls are given permission to remain in school for prescribed times from first evidence to delivery date. Physicians'

⁷School Laws of the State of Montana, Article XI, Section VII, p. 11.

recommendations are considered in all cases.

Schools who offer correspondence courses do so for those who qualify under the Montana school law.⁸

Participation of married non-pregnant girls and senior boys in graduation ceremonies was found to be allowed, whereas girls whose pregnancy was noticeable, in most schools, were excluded. While the problem of married students has increased, it has not yet formed a foremost problem in many schools.

Chapter IV contains a summary of the findings of the study, together with conclusions and recommendations.

⁸Ibid., 75:2006, p. 78.

CHAPTER IV

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This study was made to determine school policies regarding married high school students in Montana. Answers to the problem were sought through: (1) a review of school policies and court decisions to determine what steps have been taken in dealing with the problem throughout the nation, and (2) a questionnaire sent to 75 Montana high school administrators to determine what steps have been taken in dealing with the problem in the state.

The review of literature showed the trend for early marriages has been rising with the result that more married youngsters are trying to complete their high school education. State laws have not provided for the expulsion of married students from high school after marriage. The courts have, however, upheld the school officials' right to pass rules and regulations which limit married students in their school activities.

The survey by questionnaire revealed that policies in Montana schools closely followed nation-wide policies regarding married high school students. Many schools excluded married students from extracurricular activities such as honor societies, band, chorus, class offices, athletics, cheerleading, class plays and any other activities that the school deems extracurricular. These were considered fringe benefits of the educational system, and therefore school officials have had the vested right to regulate them to the best advantage of the student body as a whole.

In general, Montana school administrators felt that attendance of regular school classes was right and lawful. Participation of married students in graduation ceremonies was condoned with exceptions to noticeably pregnant girls, they were excluded. It was agreed also that the problem of married high school students has been increasing, but it was not considered a serious problem in the large majority of schools.

Conclusions

As a result of the study the following conclusions were drawn:

1. Nation-wide, school boards cannot prohibit married students from attending regular scheduled classes.
2. Nation-wide, school boards have been able to limit participation by married students in extracurricular activities.
3. Montana school practices, with regard to married students, closely coincide with national trends.

Recommendations

It is recommended that an investigation be made of subject matter that may be included in the high school curriculum to help teenagers realize and better understand the implications and rigorous demands of married life. It is further recommended that an investigation be made into what federal courts would rule as extracurricular school activities and the school boards right to exclude married students from them.

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APPENDIX

APPENDIX A

Questionnaire Sent to 75 Montana High Schools

April 12, 1960
Plentywood, Montana

Dear Sir:

In partial fulfillment for the requirements of a Master of Education degree at Montana State College, I have chosen for my research paper "School Policies Regarding Married High School Students." To help me with this project, would you please take a few moments of your time to answer the following questionnaire by checking the answer that best fits your school situation regarding this matter.

Thank you,

Sincerely,

Dale L. Johnson
Plentywood, Montana

1. Are married students allowed to attend regular school classes?
(non-pregnant girls)

Yes _____

No _____

2. Are married students allowed to participate in extracurricular school activities?

Yes _____

No _____

3. Are married pregnant girls allowed to attend regular school classes?

Yes _____ If so how long?

No _____

4. Are correspondence courses provided for those who wish them outside of regular school classes?

Yes _____

No _____

5. Are married pregnant seniors allowed to participate in graduation ceremonies?

Yes _____

No _____

6. Are married senior boys and non-pregnant girls allowed to participate in graduation ceremonies?

Yes _____

No _____

7. Has the married student problem increased in your school in the last 10 years?

Yes _____

No _____

8. Is this a foremost problem in your school?

Yes _____

No _____

Comments:

APPENDIX B

List of Schools Responding to Questionnaire

LIST I

Class AA

Anaconda
Billings
Billings (West High)
Bozeman
Butte
Great Falls
Helena
Kalispell
Livingston
Missoula

Class B

Baker
Big Timber
Browning
Chinook
Choteau
Circle
Columbia Falls
Conrad
Cut Bank
Deer Lodge
Dillon
Eureka
Fairfield
Fairview
Harlem
Harlowton
Libby
Lodge Grass
Malta
Nashua
Plentywood
Polson
Poplar
Red Lodge
Ronan
Roundup
Scobey
Shelby
Stevensville
Thompson Falls
Sunburst

Whitefish
Wolf Point

Class A

Glasgow
Glendive
Hardin
Havre
Laurel
Lewistown
Miles City
Sidney

Class C

Absarokee
Belgrade
Belt
Broadus
Charlo
Chester
Culbertson
Ennis
Fromberg
Jordan
Philipsburg
Plains
Richey
Rudyard
Saco
St. Ignatius
Savage
Simms
Superior
Terry
Whitehall
Wibaux