

November 20-21, 2008

**ITEM 141-101-R1108**

**High School Student Identification Number**

**THAT:**

The Board of Regents of Higher Education approves a policy requiring the units in the Montana University System (MUS) to collect high school student identification numbers from Montana high school graduates entering the University System.

**EXPLANATION:**

In order to better analyze and track the success of Montana high school students into the Montana University System it is necessary to connect data generated at the K-12 level with information housed in MUS databases. The high school student identification number is a critical data element necessary for establishing this linkage.

Current efforts to link the MUS data warehouse with OPI's data system are greatly enhanced if both data sets contain the high school student identification code. Furthermore, with opportunities to utilize the electronic transfer of student transcripts from high school to college, the MUS will be positioned well to connect course level information in high school with student success in college.

Beginning in academic year 2007-08 all Montana public high school students were issued unique identification codes. In many instances, these codes are printed on high school transcripts and made available for collection by MUS admissions and records staff.