



Montana High School Association

1 South Dakota Avenue ♦ Helena, MT 59601 ♦ (406) 442-6010 ♦ Fax: (406) 442-8250 ♦ www.mhsa.org

April 2010

TO: MESA MEMBER SCHOOLS

FROM: MARK BECKMAN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

RE: 2009-2010 NORTHWESTERN ENERGY ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Enclosed is your school's entry form for the 2009-2010 Academic Excellence Award. The program has been very successful since its inception in 1988. Hopefully the response will be as good or even better this year. Awards will again be presented to a winning school in each of the four classifications. **Please review the criteria carefully**, and if you have any questions, don't hesitate to call.

Entry is on a **voluntary** basis, and the winning schools will be announced after the **July 1** deadline. Awards will be made in each of the **four** communities by NorthWestern Energy representatives and by MHSA representatives at a time deemed appropriate by the winning school and the MHSA Executive Staff.

We are also enclosing a form, which is for each school's administrator's use, if he/she chooses, with all of the MHSA activities listed. The purpose of the form is so that a student's G.P.A. is only included once in the total average. This form or a similar verifying document might be requested, as stated on the entry form, after all entries are received. **Only this year's 2009-2010, grades are to be utilized.**

One final item is that we realize some schools have "honors" programs where students can receive more than 4.0 grade point averages. The Academic Excellence Award not only is based on a 4.0 scale, but 4.0 is also the limited "top" grade.

We wish you a successful spring at your respective school.

MB/tls

Enclosures

MONTANA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
1 South Dakota Avenue
Helena, MT 59601
Phone: 406-442-6010 Fax: 406-442-8250

NorthWestern Energy
ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AWARD

The following criteria shall be utilized by MHSА member schools to calculate their students' accumulative average for the award:

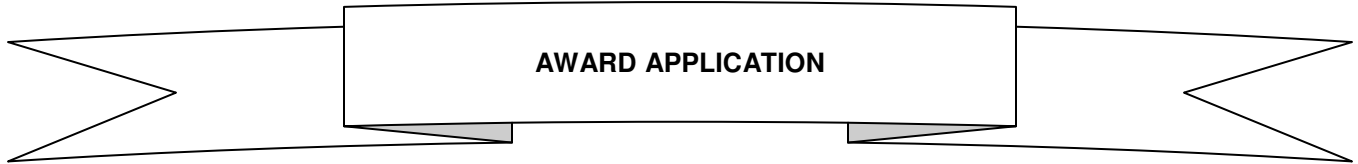
I. G. P. A. GUIDELINES

- A. The G.P.A. shall be based on a 4.0 system.
- B. A student's (grades 9-12) G.P.A. shall be based on both fall and spring semesters (of the current year only) even though he/she participates in only one or the other.
- C. The G.P.A. shall follow Article II, Section (2), of the MHSA Handbook.
- D. All classes which award credit and are graded shall be included for each student's G.P.A.

II. PARTICIPANTS

- A. **Varsity** letter winners in all MHSА sanctioned sports shall be included.
- B. All music students who received a **superior** rating at the **district** music festival shall be included (including all students in groups).
- C. All speech/drama students who participated in the **state** meet shall be included.
- D. All **varsity** cheerleaders shall be included.

Averages for students enrolled in Special Education shall not be included.



School _____ Classification _____

Enrollment as of October 1 _____

Number of Students Averaged _____

Total G.P.A. (to the nearest thousandth) _____

Signature of Superintendent or Principal

Date

List of students averaged and G.P.A. must be available upon request.

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO THE MHSА OFFICE BY JULY 1ST

