

Instruction at a Post-Secondary Educational Institution

Students in grades nine through twelve may receive academic or vocational-technical credits that count toward the graduation requirements set out by the board for courses successfully completed in post-secondary educational institutions. The student may receive academic or vocational-technical credits through an agreement between the district and a post-secondary educational institution or with the board's approval on a case-by-case basis.

Students in grades nine and ten who the district has identified as talented and gifted students and any students in grades eleven and twelve are eligible to take post-secondary educational courses. Students are eligible to take post-secondary educational courses if they meet all of the requirements outlined in this policy and as required by the post-secondary educational institution, and if the student has obtained the approval of the Superintendent and/or designee.

Eligible students who intend to enroll in post-secondary educational courses shall notify the school district during the course scheduling process prior to each semester. Eligible students wishing to enroll in post-secondary educational courses may need to apply to the post-secondary educational institution. Students may attend courses at a post-secondary educational institution only after the school district certifies that the student is eligible to attend under this policy.

Students may not enroll in a post-secondary education course if the district offers a comparable course through its curricular program. For purposes of this policy, comparable course is determined at the discretion of administration and generally means that the content of a course provided to a high school student for post-secondary credit consists of substantially the same concepts and skills as the content of a course provided by the district.

Students in grades nine and ten who are in the talented and gifted program and all students in grades eleven and twelve who successfully complete courses at post-secondary educational institutions under an agreement between the district and the post-secondary educational institution or with the board's approval shall be reimbursed for tuition and other costs directly related to taking any post-secondary education course during the school year up to \$250, except as otherwise outlined in this policy. The district may, instead of reimbursing the student, directly pay the post-secondary educational institution.

Students in grades nine through twelve who take courses, other than courses taken under an agreement between the school district and the post-secondary educational institution and/or approved by the board, shall be responsible for tuition, transportation to and from the location where the course is being offered, and other costs directly related to taking any post-secondary education course. The students and/or their parents shall not receive reimbursement for tuition, transportation or other expenses. Students who take courses during the summer months when school is not in session are responsible for tuition, transportation to and from the location where the course is being offered, and other costs directly related to taking any post-secondary education course.

Eligible students who successfully complete courses in post-secondary educational institutions under an agreement between the school district and the post-secondary educational institution or with the board's approval may receive academic and vocational-technical credits in accordance with the agreement. Students who have completed the eleventh grade but who have not completed the graduation requirements set out by the board may take up to seven semester hours of credit at a post-secondary educational institution during the summer months when school is not in session. Upon successful completion of these summer courses, the students may receive academic or vocational-technical credit toward the graduation requirements set out by the board.

Successful completion of any course at a post-secondary educational institution is determined by the post-secondary educational institution. The board shall have complete discretion to determine the amount of academic or vocational-technical credit to be awarded to the student for the courses taken during the school year and for the courses taken during the summer.

The following factors shall be considered in the board's determination of whether a student will receive academic or vocational-technical credit toward the graduation requirements set out by the board for a course at a post-secondary educational institution:

- the course is taken from a public or accredited private post-secondary educational institution;
- a comparable course is not offered in the school district. A comparable course is one in which the subject matter or the purposes and objectives of the course are similar, in the judgment of the board, to a course offered in the school district;
- the course is in the discipline areas of mathematics, science, social sciences, humanities, vocational-technical education, or a course offered in the community college career options program;
- the course is a credit-bearing course that leads to a degree;
- the course is not religious or sectarian; and
- the course meets any other requirements set out by the board.

Should a student fail any course at a post-secondary educational institution and fail to receive credit for any course at a post-secondary educational institution, the student over the age of eighteen or the parent of a student under the age of eighteen shall be responsible for the costs of the course, which may include reimbursing the district for said costs. Prior to registering for any course at a post-secondary educational institution, students under age eighteen shall have a parent sign a form indicating that the parent is responsible for the costs of the course should the student fail the course and fail to receive credit for the course. Students who fail the course and fail to receive credit for the course for reasons beyond their control, including, but not limited to, the student's incapacity, death in the family or a move to another district, in the board's discretion, may not be responsible for the costs of the course. Students dissatisfied with a school board's decision regarding the re-payment of the costs of the course shall appeal to the AEA for a waiver of reimbursement.

All courses approved and paid for by the district, and those courses approved by the district and paid for by the student/family will:

- a. Be recorded on the official student transcript, including the letter grade granted by the post-secondary educational institution or the pass-fail indication granted by the post-secondary educational institution.
- b. Be included in figuring class rank, including valedictorian and salutatorian status, and GPA at the high school.
- c. Be given graduation credit, as determined by the board. Typically, a three (3) or four (4) semester hour post-secondary course will be awarded one (1) graduation credit.

The superintendent shall be responsible for annually notifying students and parents of the opportunity to take courses at post-secondary educational institutions in accordance with this policy. The superintendent shall also be responsible for developing the appropriate forms and procedures for implementing this policy.

Approved: October 19, 1998

Revised: September 29, 2015