

### **CREDIT FLEXIBILITY**

The Board of Education shall award units of high school credit to students in compliance with the State Board of Education's Credit Flexibility Plan. The Plan shall permit students to earn credit through demonstrated subject area competency as well as the completion of classroom instruction.

The Superintendent or his or her designee(s) shall design a Credit Flexibility Plan that conforms to the following requirements:

- A. Any student may earn credits through any of the following or a combination thereof:
1. completion of courses;
  2. testing out or otherwise demonstrating mastery of course content; or
  3. pursuit of educational options, including distance learning, educational travel, independent study, internship, music, arts, after school program, community service or engagement project, or sports.

All methods of earning credit shall be guided by Ohio Academic Content Standards.

- B. The issuance of credit and equivalency to a Carnegie unit shall be determined through any of the following:
1. a teacher;
  2. a multi-disciplinary team;
  3. a professional panel from the community; or
  4. a state performance-based assessment.

All credit shall have equitable value, regardless of how it is earned, and shall be reported on student transcripts without reference to whether it was acquired through course completion, demonstrated mastery, or educational options.

- C. Courses and educational options may be counted for full or partial credit and/or credit in more than one area if partial mastery is demonstrated. Credit from other districts and educational providers may be accepted in accordance with the Operating Standards for Ohio Schools.

- D. Demonstrated proficiency options:
1. shall be allowed on an ongoing basis;
  2. shall be made available on a graded, not pass/fail, basis;
  3. shall count towards course requirements for graduation;
  4. shall not be capped or limited for the purpose of credits earned; and
  5. may include on-line education or postsecondary options or services from another school district approved by the Board.
- E. A student may demonstrate mastery of course content by using one or more options from the list approved by the Ohio Department of Education (“ODE”) or through locally developed assessments generated in accordance with quality guidelines and/or through peer reviewed processes.
- F. A student who elects to use an educational option to earn credit shall pre-identify and agree on the learning outcome as set forth in a written learning plan that reflects criteria established by the District or is developed with the assistance of a District teacher or administrator. The student shall submit the proposed written learning plan to the school principal or designee for review and approval. If the principal or designee determines that the proposed written learning plan does not meet the requirements for earning alternative credit, the principal may request more information or a revised proposed written learning plan from the student.
- The principal shall approve or deny in writing the student’s proposed written learning plan within seven (7) days of receiving the plan or additional information. If the principal denies the proposed plan, the principal must state the reason why the student’s request to earn credit is denied. The student may appeal this denial to the superintendent or designee. The superintendent shall approve or deny the appeal in writing within seven (7) days of receiving the appeal. This decision shall be final.
- G. The Superintendent or designee shall establish standards for the issuance of partial or full credit, or the acceptance of partial or full credit, for when a student does not complete a requirement due to transferring from one school district to another or for early graduation.
- H. Information about the Credit Flexibility Plan, policy, and program shall be communicated to students and parents on an ongoing basis using multiple communication methods.

- I. The Superintendent or designee shall collect performance data, including the number of participating students, total credits earned, and diversity of the student body participating in the Plan, and communication data regarding the methods and frequency of communication to students and parents. The Board shall review the performance data and the Plan annually and submit the performance data to ODE and make it publicly available.
  
- J. The Board encourages students to take advantage of the distance learning opportunities offered through the clearinghouse of interactive distance learning courses established by the Ohio Board of Regents. Board employees shall assist any student electing to participate in the clearinghouse with the selection and scheduling of courses that satisfy the District's curriculum requirements and promote the student's post-secondary college or career plans.

LEGAL REFS.: Ohio Senate Bill 311 (126<sup>th</sup> Gen. Ass. 2007); O.R.C. §3333.83

Adopted: December 13, 2011