## **<u>AlternativeNon-traditional</u>** Credit Options

# GALLATIN COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ENROLLED IN COURSES AT A COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OR THROUGH ONLINE HIGH SCHOOL

The grade point average (GPA) for any Gallatin County High School Student accumulates from the first semester of the student's first year in high school through the final semester of the student's graduation year. Students may be granted high school credit for courses completed at the middle school level pending approval by the high school Principal in accordance with SBDM policy. Students who elect to receive high school credit for courses completed at the middle school will have those grades averaged into their high school GPA. Students in Gallatin County High Schools are required to complete a minimum of twenty-five (25) credits for GCHS diploma and twenty-two (22) credits for a basic diploma. Credits for courses completed from outside sources are subject to the Principal's approval.

#### ALTERNATIVE NON-TRADITIONAL OPTIONS FOR REQUIRED CREDIT

The Gallatin County School Board in collaboration with the high school principal will determine the method students will use to meet the required course for graduation when it is not offered in the traditional student/teacher classroom. Credits can be earned through high school online courses monitored and supervised by a certified teacher during the school day, or dual credit college courses for students enrolled in a college or university, or performance based credits approved by the high school SBDM Council. In addition to regular classroom-based instruction, students may earn credit through the following means.

## VIRTUAL GC@Home/Online Courses

<u>Students in grades 5-8 High school students</u> may also earn units of academic credit to be applied toward graduation requirements by completing online courses offered through agencies approved by the Board. Credit from an online course may be earned only in the following circumstances:

- 1. The course is not offered at the high-school;
- 2. Although the course is offered at the high school, the student will not be able to take it due to an unavoidable scheduling conflict that would keep the student from meeting graduation requirements;
- 3. The course will serve as a supplement to extend homebound instruction;
- 4. The student has been expelled from the regular school setting, but educational services are to be continued; or
- 5.4. The Principal, with agreement from the student's teachers and parents/guardians, determines the student requires a differentiated or accelerated learning environment.
- 6.5. Unless otherwise approved by the Principal/designee, students taking such courses must be enrolled in the District.

The District shall recognize only those online courses that meet the international standards for online teachers, courses, and programs that have been adopted by the Kentucky Department of Education.

## CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

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#### **VIRTUAL**<u>GC@Home</u>/Online Courses (continued)

As determined by school/council policy, students applying for permission to take an online course shall complete prerequisites and provide teacher/counselor recommendations to confirm the student possesses the maturity level needed to function effectively in an online learning environment. Online courses may be subject to review by the Superintendent/designee for conformance with Kentucky Academic Standards and District graduation requirements. In addition, the express approval of the Principal/designee shall be obtained before a student enrolls in an online course. The school must receive an official record of the final grade before credit toward graduation will be recognized.

Provided online courses are part of the student's regular school day coursework as approved by the Principal/designee and within budgetary parameters, the tuition fee and other costs for an online course shall be borne by the District for students enrolled full-time, from funds that have been allocated to the school. The Superintendent shall determine, within the budget adopted by the Board, whether additional funding shall be granted, based on supporting data provided by the Principal.

Through its policies and/or supervision plan, the school shall be responsible for providing appropriate supervision and monitoring of students taking online courses.

#### **DUAL CREDIT COURSES**

High school students may earn units of academic credit to be applied toward graduation requirements by completing dual credit courses from an approved college or university through attendance on the college/university campus, through admission to an approved residence program, or through attendance of an approved college course taught at the high school by approved staff.

The high school SBDM Council shall approve a policy to award quality points in alignment with the number grade equivalent at the high school or as a pass/fail course option.

The high school SBDM Council shall approve a policy that will determine if a dual credit course should be awarded a weighted grade point average comparable to a weighted Advanced Placement Course using KEES guidelines as well as other pertinent information.

#### PERFORMANCE-BASED CREDIT COURSES

The District shall award standards-based, performance-based credits for high school subjects to be applied toward graduation. Students requesting performance-based credit to apply toward graduation shall make application to the Principal/designee.

#### TRANSPORTATION

If transportation to and from the college or university is necessary for courses required to meet high school graduation requirements, the school district will be responsible for the student transportation. If transportation to and from the college or university is necessary for courses not required to meet high school graduation requirements, the parent or guardian shall provide written information to high school officials as to how the participating student will be transported, which shall be subject to final approval by the high school Principal.

## CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

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#### FEES AND TUITION

All fees and tuition for any college level course not required to meet high school graduation requirements will be the responsibility of the student. Fees and tuition for a student who chooses to enroll in online high school course taken after the regularly scheduled school day will be the responsibility of the student. Fees and tuition for a student who opts and is approved by the principal to take an elective online high school course during the regularly scheduled school day will be the responsibility of the student. Fees and tuition for a student enrolled in a college level course required to meet graduation requirements will be the responsibility of the Gallatin County School District.

#### **DUAL-CREDIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

The District may offer the opportunity for students to earn dual-credits through the Kentucky Dual-Credit Scholarship Program and follows the guidelines outlined in the "*Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education and Kentucky Department of Education Dual Credit Policy for Kentucky Public and Participating Postsecondary Institutions and Secondary Schools*," located on the Kentucky Department of Education website.

#### **REFERENCES:**

KRS 158.622 KRS 164.786

#### **RELATED POLICIES:**

08.113; 08.2323; 09.1221; 09.3; 09.435

Adopted/Amended: 7/18/2017 Order #: 2017-1386