Educational Philosophy
Series 600

Policy Title Credit for External Coursework Code No. 603.12

The board recognizes that external coursework may be an appropriate alternative for regularly enrolled students to not only meet graduation requirements, but also have the opportunity to take advanced or other courses not offered by the school district.

Pleasant Valley High School students may earn a maximum of two units of credit (unless the exception is granted by the superintendent of schools) to be applied toward graduation requirements by completing external coursework offered through agencies approved by the board. Credit for external coursework may be earned only in the following circumstances:

- The course is not offered at the high school;
- 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;
- The course will serve as a supplement to extend homebound instruction;
- The student has been expelled from the regular school setting, but educational services are to be continued; or
- The principal or their designee, with agreement from the student's teachers and parents, determines the student requires a differentiated or accelerated learning environment.

Students seeking permission to take external coursework shall complete prerequisites and provide an application to their counselor. The express approval of the principal or their designee shall be obtained before a student enrolls in any external coursework intended for credit. The school must receive an official record of the final grade before credit toward graduation will be recognized.

In most cases, the cost of taking external coursework is the responsibility of the student/parent. Exceptions include work which falls under the guidelines of the Post-Secondary Enrollment Option (PSEO) and/or those approved by the administration.

Legal Reference:

Date of Adoption:

September 10, 2007
Reapproved 08-09-10
Reapproved 5-26-15

Legal Reference: (Code of Iowa)
Iowa Code 279.8 (2005)

281 I.A.C. 15

Related Administrative Rules and Regulations: