

The School Board supports online learning as a means of:

- Enabling more personalized learning opportunities;
- Providing students with access to additional or alternative courses, learning activities, and instructional materials;
- Offering a greater variety of learning environments; and
- Encouraging skills and aptitudes that will support life-long learning.

Online instruction and online learning occur in a variety of settings and formats. The District's student nondiscrimination policy applies to online educational opportunities, including the requirement that no student shall be unlawfully denied access to, or the benefits of, a learning activity, course, or program.

In addition to verifying basic alignment with the relevant curriculum, important considerations related to the approval of these online learning activities include at least the following:

1. The instructional materials used in the activity are approved in a manner that is consistent with the District's general selection criteria and procedures.
2. The learning opportunity and the technology resources required to complete the activity are adequately accessible to all students in the applicable grade/class/program, including students with disabilities and students with limited access to technology resources at home.
3. The administration has taken appropriate steps to address the District's compliance with student records and student privacy requirements for any third-party provider whose content, service, or product is used in the activity and who receives, accesses, or uses any personally-identifiable student data.

District Online Courses

For purposes of this policy, "District online courses" are courses the District has approved for possible student registration following a determination that the course meets all of the following requirements:

1. An instructional administrator has favorably evaluated (a) the course's academic content and rigor; (b) the instructional materials used in the course; (c) the course's alignment with applicable standards and curriculum guides; (d) the appropriateness of the student assessment methods used in the course; and (e) the accessibility of the learning environment and the instructional materials.

2. As a result of the course having a significant online instructional component, the students taking the course are not required to meet for class at school (i.e., to be physically present in the same learning environment as the teacher) for substantially the same number of in-person, instructional hours that similar non-online courses are normally scheduled to meet within the District.
3. The course is taught by a teacher who is appropriately licensed by the Department of Public Instruction (DPI.)
4. The District has identified and approved any third-party provider(s), including the provider(s) of the relevant technology platform(s), based on an assessment of each provider's ability to meet applicable District requirements/policies and applicable legal requirements, including requirements related to student records management and student privacy.

Student applications to take District online courses shall be submitted and approved in accordance with established District procedures.

At or prior to the time a student begins an approved online course, the District will provide an orientation to the student that addresses the applicable attendance, participation, and academic progress expectations; the academic and technical support resources that are available to the student; the student's use of the applicable learning platform(s); and such other information as the District's staff deems appropriate.

Failure to meet established participation, progress, or other course expectations in a District online course will lead to appropriate consequences, up to and including removal from the course, denial of credit, and denial of future requests to take online courses. Failure to meet any requirement that the District establishes as an attendance requirement for an online course, without an acceptable excuse under the District's student attendance policies, may also lead to referral for truancy proceedings. Students should expect that most courses will include periodic scheduled meetings, assessments, conferences, or discussions to be held at specific times and, in some instances, at school.

Nothing in this policy prohibits a parent or guardian from submitting other types of requests for program or curriculum modifications in a manner that is consistent with other Board policies and applicable procedures.

LEG REF: Wisconsin Statutes Sections §115.28(53), §115.28(54), §118.13, §118.15(1)(d) – (f), §120.13

Federal Laws §20 U.S.C. Chapter 33

Policy Adopted: January 25, 2023