

**Extended Instructional Programs:
Academic Credit for Eighth Grade Students**

In order to allow eighth grade students ample time to pursue courses of study required for graduation; and, to expand the students' opportunity to broaden the high school experience; some credit may be allowed for coursework completed during the eighth grade year. For purposes of this policy, individual courses must be considered with specific criteria for credit award accompanying each course.

To be considered for high school credit, the course in question must be specifically approved by Board policy and be part of a student's planned educational program. Only those courses specifically approved and outlined below are eligible for high school credit granted for work done in eighth grade.

Approved Courses:

STRIVE Program: To provide special education students with the opportunity to pursue more vocational training at the regional center and to complete their high school graduation requirements, eighth grade students may receive high school credit for successful completion of the STRIVE curriculum.

To be eligible for credit, M.S.A.D. #3 eighth grade students who are participating in the Regional Special Education Program will be given high school credit after successful completion of the STRIVE curriculum. Specifically one elective credit, one math credit, ½ credit for social studies and ½ credit for health will be awarded.

Successful completion of the STRIVE curriculum requirements will be verified through a certificate signed by the STRIVE instructor, the special education director and the high school principal. The high school principal will cause appropriate notation to be made on the student's transcript and a copy of the certificate will be attached to the student's records.

First Reading: January 1996
Second Reading: March 1996
Adopted: March 1996