

**DUAL AND CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT PROGRAM POLICY**

**I. PURPOSE**

This policy is in accordance with the Rhode Island Dual Enrollment Opportunity Act (R.I.G.L. 16-100) and the Rhode Island Board of Education Regulations for Dual Enrollment and is intended to expand opportunities for students at Mt. Hope High School (MHHS) to participate in college-level courses. This participation will enhance students' educational experience and college readiness by providing access to advanced coursework and multiple pathways to graduation.

**II. DESIRED OUTCOMES**

Students will have increased opportunities to take and earn credit in postsecondary coursework through dual and concurrent enrollment and Advanced Placement (AP) courses. Families will see reduced costs for college, and students will be more likely to achieve postsecondary success and earn college degrees.

**III. DEFINITIONS**

**Advanced Placement Courses:** rigorous, college-level classes in a variety of subjects that give students an opportunity to gain the skills and experience colleges recognize.

**Concurrent Enrollment:** A student is enrolled in a college-approved course for college credit that is offered at the high school and taught by a secondary school teacher who may be approved by the postsecondary institution. This includes AP courses and career and technical courses in which articulation agreements are available.

**Dual Enrollment:** A student is enrolled in a secondary school while simultaneously enrolled part-time or full-time as a non-matriculating student at a postsecondary institution, such as a community college, college or university.

**Early College Enrollment:** A senior has received approval to enroll as a postsecondary full-time student in a degree program that is substituted for his/her senior year.

**Graduation Coursework Requirements:** the coursework requirements set forth in section L-6-3.1 of the Board of Education's Secondary School Regulations. **Secondary Schools:** schools in all Rhode Island school districts, charter public schools, career and technical centers, approved private day and residential schools, and collaborative schools granted the authority by the Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE) to offer a high school diploma.

**Postsecondary institutions:** Rhode Island public institutions of higher education.

#### **IV. DUAL AND CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT CONDITIONS**

The Bristol Warren Regional School District (BWRSD), the University of Rhode Island (URI), the Community College of Rhode Island (CCRI), and the Rhode Island College (RIC) will ensure that students have the opportunity to earn both high school and postsecondary credit for approved dual and concurrent courses. These credits will be recorded on the student transcript, provided the student meets all participation requirements, including but not limited to those concerning grading, attendance, and conduct. Students enrolled in dual concurrent, and AP courses will fulfill all proficiency-based graduation requirements and credit requirements, as described within BWRSD Graduation Requirements Policy IKF.

Grades from concurrent and approved dual enrollment courses will be averaged into the student's Grade Point Average (GPA) in accordance with the high school grading policy.

- Dual enrollment courses will count toward a student's high school coursework graduation requirements if the student (1) complies with the postsecondary institution's course policies and successfully completes the course and (2) meets the MHHS requirements, including but not limited to those concerning attendance and conduct.
- The MHHS guidance, administration and identified teaching staff will work with the assigned staff at the postsecondary institution to oversee the enrollment of students in dual and concurrent enrollment courses.
- For any concurrent enrollment course, MHHS is responsible for providing students with disabilities the protections, services and accommodations, as prescribed by federal and state law.

#### **V. NOTIFICATION OF OPPORTUNITIES**

It is the responsibility of the BWRSD and the school administrator(s) to ensure that students, staff, and parent/legal guardian are provided with information regarding the BWRSD Dual and Concurrent Enrollment Policy, including the benefits and challenges of participation. Students and their families will be notified of dual and concurrent enrollment opportunities through a variety of approaches, including but not limited to the MHHS Program of Studies, Student Handbook, MHHS webpage, and during course scheduling and guidance planning sessions. Students may select dual enrollment courses that do not interfere with their MHHS course schedule. The BWRSD will encourage participation of underrepresented populations in dual and concurrent programs.

#### **VI. ELIGIBILITY**

All students are eligible to participate in early college, dual enrollment and concurrent enrollment courses, given their ability to meet the requirements of the college/university, availability of space, lack of interference with their MHHS course schedule, successful completion of necessary prerequisite courses, and receipt of approval from the principal.

Before registering for a dual enrollment course, students or parent(s)/guardian(s) must first obtain approval of the principal, using the attached BWRSD Dual Enrollment Approval and Agreement Form (Exhibit A). The approval of the principal is required for both initial registration and continued participation in dual enrollment courses. Approval is based on factors which include but are not limited to:

- (1) readiness to graduate on time and meet graduation benchmarks,
- (2) maintaining a GPA of 3.0 or higher,
- (3) no disciplinary infractions,
- (4) compliance with the attendance policy.

As a condition of participation in early college, and dual and concurrent enrollment courses, students or parent(s)/guardian(s) must agree, in writing, to allow for a complete exchange of information between the school and the postsecondary institution.

Students and parent(s)/guardian(s) have the right to appeal dual and concurrent enrollment decisions through an appeals process that shall consider all valid sources of evidence that demonstrate a student's eligibility for participation in dual and concurrent enrollment courses commensurate with the eligibility requirements set forth in this policy.

## **VII. COSTS**

- Tuition, Application, and Associated Fees: The Prepare RI Dual Enrollment Fund will provide funding for eligible students to participate in concurrent and dual enrollment courses with URI, RIC and CCRI at no cost to students and families. Students and their families are responsible for all costs associated with dual enrollment courses taken at private or out of state postsecondary institutions.
- Books and Materials: The BWRSD will reimburse families for the cost of textbooks and associated course materials for approved dual and concurrent courses that are paid for through the Prepare Rhode Island Fund or other district identified programs. Students and families are responsible for course-related fees beyond tuition and textbooks.
- Transportation: Students and their families are responsible for transportation to postsecondary institutions.

In the event that the Prepare Rhode Island funding is not available, all expenses for dual and concurrent enrollment courses will be the responsibility of students and their families. Low-income students, as defined by the Rhode Island Department of Education, shall not be denied access to dual or concurrent enrollment coursework funded through Prepare Rhode Island, based on their inability to pay course-related fees.

**Cross-Reference:**

BWRSD Graduation Requirements Policy IKF

**Legal References:**

R.I.G.L. - 16-2-9 – General Powers and Duties of School Committees

R.I.G.L 16-100 Dual Enrollment Opportunity Act

Rhode Island Board of Education Dual Enrollment Regulations

Adopted: December 14, 2015

Revised: February 26, 2018

## BRISTOL WARREN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

# Dual Enrollment Approval and Agreement Form

### Dual Enrollment Conditions

In accordance with its Dual and Concurrent Enrollment Policy IGBC, The Bristol Warren Regional School District (BWRSD) and the the University of Rhode Island (URI), the Community College of Rhode Island (CCRI), and the Rhode Island College (RIC) will ensure that students have the opportunity to earn both high school and postsecondary credit for approved dual and concurrent courses. These credits shall be recorded on the student transcript provided the student meets all participation requirements, including but not limited to those concerning grading, attendance, and conduct. Students enrolled in dual enrollment courses will fulfill all proficiency-based graduation requirements and credit requirements, as described within BWRSD Graduation Requirements Policy IKF.

Grades from approved dual enrollment courses will be averaged into the student's Grade Point Average (GPA) in accordance with the high school grading policy.

### Eligibility

All students are eligible to participate in dual enrollment courses, given their ability to meet the requirements of the college/university and availability of space, and obtain approval of the principal. Specific prerequisite courses may be identified within the Program of Studies. The approval of the principal may be denied or withdrawn when:

- (1) Student is not on track to graduate on time and has not met graduation benchmarks,
- (2) Student's GPA falls below 3.0,
- (3) Student's conduct negatively impacts his/her achievement, and
- (4) Student currently violates the attendance policy.

As a condition of participation in dual and early college enrollment courses, students or parent(s)/guardian(s) must agree, in writing, to allow for a complete exchange of information between the school and the postsecondary institution.

### Costs

**Prepare RI Fund:** will pay fees for courses offered at/through the URI, CCRI, and RIC. Students and their families will be responsible for all costs associated with courses offered through institutions and programs not eligible for Prepare Rhode Island funding.

**The BWRSD:** will reimburse families for the costs of textbooks for approved dual enrollment courses that are paid for through the Prepare R.I. Fund, or other district identified programs.

**Students and families:** are responsible for transportation associated with dual enrollment courses and fees that are beyond tuition and textbooks for state reimbursed courses.

In the event that the Prepare R.I. funding is not available, all expenses for dual enrollment courses will be the responsibility of the student and his/her parent(s)/guardian(s). No low-income student, as defined by the Rhode Island Department of Education, shall be denied access to dual enrollment coursework based on their inability to pay course related tuition and fees.

