

INSTRUCTION

Advanced Course Participation

Student Success Plans, Challenging Curriculum, and Enrollment in Advanced Courses or Programs of Study

Definitions

“Advanced course or program” means an honors class, advanced placement class, International Baccalaureate program, Cambridge International program, dual enrollment, dual credit, early college or any other advanced or accelerated course or program offered by a local or regional board of education in grades nine to twelve, inclusive;

“Prior academic performance” means the course or courses that a student has taken, the grades received for such course or courses and a student's grade point average.

Student Success and Academic Plans

The Board of Education recognizes the unique paths that each student takes towards graduation and encourages students to enroll in courses that are both appropriate and academically challenging for them. To facilitate appropriate path planning, beginning in grade 6 and continuing through grade 12, school counselors will work in collaboration with students and parents/guardians to develop a personalized student success plan which will encourage a focus on post-secondary goals and the best preparation for each student to meet those goals, whether they be college or career-focused. The student success plan shall 1) include a student's career and academic choices; 2) provide evidence of career exploration in each grade including, but not limited to, careers in manufacturing, and 3) be developed with consideration given to career and academic choices in computer science, science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

As a part of the student success plan, the Board will create an academic plan for each student who is identified as being eligible to take or enroll in an advance course or program in accordance with this policy and the law. Such academic plan shall be designed to enroll such student in one or more advanced course or programs and allow such student to earn college credit or result in career readiness. Each academic plan shall be aligned with 1) the courses or programs offered by the Board, 2) the remainder of the student's student success plan, 3) the high school graduation requirements under Board policy and the law, and 4) the provisions of this policy relating to the eligibility for student enrollment in advanced courses or programs. A student, or the parent or guardian of a student, may decline to

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implement the provisions of an academic plan created for said student.

Challenging Curriculum and Advanced Courses

Region 14 seeks to offer a rigorous and accessible curriculum to prepare students for their future paths. When determining the best preparation to meet the student's post-secondary goals, special consideration will be given to ensuring that work-based learning opportunities, advanced courses or programs including honors classes, advanced placement classes, dual enrollment opportunities, early college, or any other advanced or accelerated courses or programs offered by the Region 14 Board of Education are available to all students. The Board shall ensure that its course offerings are well publicized and accessible so that families can have the opportunity to choose courses that will benefit their child's learning and advancement in our schools and after graduation.

Identification and Placement in Advanced Courses

Placement in advanced courses will not be exclusively based upon a student's prior academic performance. Rather, placement in advanced courses will be based on a combination of many factors, including, but not limited to, recommendations from teachers, administrators, school counselors or other school personnel; prior academic performance related directly to the advanced course of interest; prerequisite learning; assessment data; and student interest. Any use of a student's prior academic performance shall rely on evidence-based indicators of how a student will perform in an advanced course or program.

Should a student wish to take an advanced course for which a recommendation was not made, a parent or guardian may contact the student's school counselor to enroll the student in the course. Access to advanced courses will not be denied.

Legal References

Connecticut General Statutes §10-221 w

Connecticut General Statutes §10-221x

Connecticut General Statutes §10-221a

As amended by Public Act 21-199

Policy adopted: June 20, 2022

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 14
Bethlehem and Woodbury, Connecticut