

**A. ONLINE INSTRUCTION GENERALLY**

The Watauga County Board of Education (the “board”) recognizes that online instruction is a valuable tool for affording students extended educational options. The board will provide opportunities for students to participate in online instruction to the extent that it is academically and financially prudent.

School counselors shall advise students on North Carolina Virtual Public School courses and other online courses available for credit. Enrollment in an online for credit course will count toward satisfying board requirements related to minimum instructional days, seat time policies, student attendance, and athletic and/or extracurricular obligations.

A student, with the principal’s prior approval, may enroll in an online course with assistance from the school e-learning advisor. The principal shall designate a school counselor at the school to serve as the e-learning advisor, who will be responsible for coordinating the enrollment of students in online courses, monitoring students’ progress in those courses, and supervising any required testing. In addition, the principal shall ensure that the e-learning advisor implements a plan for supporting credit recovery students throughout the semester.

The superintendent shall develop regulations consistent with State Board of Education requirements and this policy for students enrolling in online instruction.

**B. REMOTE LEARNING**

When warranted by exigent circumstances and approved by the superintendent, schools may temporarily transition to remote instruction if permitted by law. Board policies remain in effect during periods of remote learning, except that the board reserves the right to deviate from any policy when adherence is impossible or impractical under the circumstances and the deviation is not inconsistent with law. To the extent practicable or when required by law, affected employees, students, and parents or guardians will be notified of the change in advance.

Legal References: G.S. 115C-84.3, -238.85; State Board of Education Policy CCRE-001

Cross References: Dual Enrollment (policy 3101)

Adopted: August 3, 2015

Revised: August 14, 2017, February 12, 2018 and January 13, 2020 (Legal references only); August 12, 2020 (Legal references only); March 8, 2021; June 28, 2021; September 12, 2022; December 12, 2022 (Legal references only)