

**SUBJECT: ADVANCED COURSEWORK****Overview**

The District acknowledges that advanced coursework can foster academic excellence, enhance critical thinking skills, and prepare students for college and career success. In light of the potential benefits and opportunities, the District is committed to offering a variety of advanced coursework options.

For purposes of this policy, "advanced coursework" means any middle, high school, or college level honors, gifted, accelerated, advanced placement, international baccalaureate, dual enrollment, or concurrent-enrollment course, or a course that would offer the ability for a student to earn college credit and/or an industry recognized certification.

**Types of Advanced Coursework**

The District offers a variety of advanced coursework options, including but not limited to:

a) **Accelerated Coursework for Eighth Grade Students**

Eighth grade students have the opportunity to take high school courses in mathematics and in at least one of the following areas: English, social studies, world languages, art, music, career and technical education subjects or science courses. Using written criteria, the Superintendent or designee will determine whether an eighth grade student has demonstrated readiness to take high school courses.

By the end of seventh grade, accelerated students must receive instruction designed to facilitate their attainment of the state intermediate learning standards in each subject area in which they are accelerated.

Credit may be awarded upon successful completion of an accelerated course and passing related examinations if certain conditions are satisfied.

b) **Advanced Placement (AP)**

Advanced Placement examinations afford students the opportunity to earn credit or advanced standing in many colleges and universities. The College Board administers a variety of AP examinations in May of each year. The District will determine a student's readiness for enrollment in any AP class.

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## c) Dual Credit for College Courses

Students who have demonstrated readiness for college-level courses and meet all necessary prerequisites may matriculate at any college that has a cooperative agreement with the District. Collegiate opportunities may include early admission to college, collegiate-level work offered in the high school, or other means of providing advanced work. The administration will review and approve any college courses before they are taken during the school day.

**Notification**

By June 1 of each school year, the District will annually notify students and parents of the benefits and opportunities within the District of participating in advanced courses. This notification will be provided electronically or by mail. This notification must also be posted on the District website.

Notification of advanced coursework must be provided to all students in every grade beginning in either grade 5 or one grade prior to the first year that advanced coursework is offered by the District, whichever grade comes first.

This notification will include:

- a) The benefits of participating in advanced courses;
- b) A description of the advanced courses offered by the District in middle and high school and how to prepare for and enroll in them;
- c) A description of the advanced courses to be offered by the District in the following school year; and
- d) A description of the academic and non-academic support the District provides to help students succeed in advanced courses, as well as any financial assistance available to reduce or eliminate any costs associated with participation in advanced courses, including, but not limited to, related fees, supplies, and assessments.

Education Law Section 817  
8 NYCRR Section 100.2(l)(2) and 100.4(d)

Adoption Date: 9/17/24