

Seat Time Waiver Implementation Plan

WAY Vicksburg Program is a year round school that is open 24 hours a day and seven days a week. The online portion of the program runs 365 days a year. The onsite local learning lab is open five days a week (Monday through Friday). A typical student day might include a trip to the learning lab, an internship, and academic time spent online collaborating with other students and staff members.

Curriculum:

The WAY Vicksburg Program implements a standards-focused project based curriculum. Project design and assessment is based on the Common Core State Standards, Michigan High School Content Expectations (9-12), and Michigan Grade Level Content Expectations (7-8). In the project based learning model students engage in inquiry-based activities related to complex challenges. Embedded in project design and implementation are the global survival skills, such as collaborating across networks; agility and adaptability; effective oral and written communication; critical thinking and problem solving; and accessing and analyzing information. These skills are required to prepare students for success in a global economy, as well as for postsecondary education.

Students at the WAY Vicksburg Program have a variety of ways to engage in the curriculum. Students complete projects that have been developed by teachers; build new project ideas based on pre-designed projects; work collaboratively with teachers to design personalized, standards-focused projects based on individual interests; and work collaboratively with other students to design standards-focused projects. The curriculum at the WAY Vicksburg Program is personalized to the learner level to ensure that all students are actively engaged in their own education.

Projects are assessed for mastery of the content standards utilizing a proficiency-based rubric. Each content standard is assessed independently and targeted feedback is provided to the student at the standard level. All learning artifacts are stored in the student's online portfolio to allow a student to revisit and revise those artifacts at any time in order to increase the proficiency level. These proficiency levels are calculated in order to produce a student's grade point average on a 4.0 scale.

After they assess a project, the teacher(s) provide targeted feedback to the student based on the standards and proficiency levels earned. Teachers also provide appropriate supports based on individualized need, such as a voice over for a student with visual challenges. The assessment results are entered into DRIVE where students and parents can track which standards have been mastered, the percentage of credit earned, and the overall GPA of the student.

WAY Vicksburg Program's targeted population are those students who are seeking an innovative educational program. The curriculum in the WAY Vicksburg Program meets the needs of these students through student empowerment, personalized relationships, allowing student co-creation of projects, utilizing real-world learning, ensuring student choice and voice, and providing a flexible schedule for students.

Learning Lab

The on site learning lab at the WAY Vicksburg Program is an engaging, collaborative environment where students can dive deeply into learning experiences. In addition to hands-on

laboratory activities in all of the core content areas, students are able to extend their learning to build on-line portfolios of their skills and achievements.

Examples of other areas of focus for the learning lab include, but are not limited to:

- Animation and Design (2d and 3d)
- Art Studio/Gallery
- Career Speakers and Fairs
- Entrepreneurship Workshops
- Graphic Arts
- Guest Speakers
- Multi-Media Production
- Music Production
- Student Created Sports Programs
- Student Initiated Leadership Opportunities
- Video Production
- Web Design

In the learning lab, students engage in both teacher designed and student led projects. All community-based projects are mapped to interdisciplinary standards to allow students to see the real world impact of education. The WAY Vicksburg Program also plans to partner with local organizations to allow students to engage in job shadowing and internships in a variety of career fields.

Standardized Assessments:

WAY Vicksburg Program students will take all grade appropriate standardized assessments including the MEAP and MME. These assessments will be administered at the local learning lab.