



Three Rivers School District  
**PLANNED COURSE STATEMENT**

<b>Course Title:</b> Private Pilot and Drone Operation	<b>Grade Level(s)</b> <b>11-12 (16+ age)</b>
<b>Length of Course:</b> Semester	<b>Credit Area:</b> Elective
<b>Prerequisite:</b> none	<b>Amount of Credit:</b> <b>0.5</b>
<b>Adopted/Supplemental Materials:</b> FAA, Pacific Aviation North West curriculum	
<b>Dual Credit Articulation:</b> NA	

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course is an ideal introduction for high school students who are passionate about aviation and eager to begin a path toward exploring careers in aviation and commercial drone operation. The knowledge and skills gained in this course will help students build a solid foundation for flight training, whether they choose to pursue their pilot's license or simply wish to understand the science of flight and drone technology. Additionally, the course encourages critical thinking, problem-solving, and attention to detail. These skills are valuable both in aviation and beyond. Students will explore the theoretical knowledge required to become a private pilot and safe drone operator, including the principles of flight, navigation, weather patterns, airspace, aviation regulations, and flight safety. Through a combination of lectures, hands-on activities, multimedia resources, and real-world flight planning exercises, students will build a comprehensive understanding of what it takes to operate an aircraft and drones safely and effectively. The course aligns with the curriculum for the FAA Private Pilot Knowledge Test as well as the FAA's Part 107 Commercial Drone test and serves as a solid first step for anyone considering becoming a pilot or drone operator. Upon completion, students will gain both the knowledge and confidence to pursue further flight training and aviation-related career paths.

**GRADING:** This class will be graded as a pass/fail grade.

**COURSE GOALS:**

Students will:

- **Understand Aerodynamics and Aircraft Systems**
  - Explain the four forces of flight, identify key aircraft components, and understand aircraft performance.
- **Navigate in the Air**
  - Master aviation navigation tools, understand airspace classification, flight planning and route selection.
- **Interpret Weather and Flight Conditions:**
  - Analyze weather reports and forecasts, weather hazards, and basic meteorology concepts.
- **Understand Aviation Regulations and Pilot Responsibilities:**
  - Study FAA regulations (FARs), private pilot certification requirements and pilot safety and risk management.

- **Develop Communication Skills:**
  - Learn radio communication protocols, understand ATC and traffic pattern communications and use of standard phraseology.
- **Foster Decision-Making and Safety Awareness,**
  - Risk management and situational awareness, informed decision-making and emergency procedures.
- **Prepare for the FAA Private Pilot Knowledge Test and FAA Part 107 Commercial Drone Test:**
  - Comprehensive review of key topics, practice test questions and simulations and test-taking tips and strategies.
- **Hands-On Learning and Flight Planning:**
  - Flight planning simulations and aircraft walkaround and preflight checks
- **Career Pathways in Aviation:**
  - introduction to aviation careers and steps to becoming a pilot or commercial drone operator.

#### **ASSESSMENT STRATEGIES:**

- Lab practicals
- Written tests/quizzes
- Formative assessment in class discussions
- Simulator application

#### **ACCOMMODATIONS AND MODIFICATIONS:**

- Scaffolding and chunking of learning materials
- Possible shortened assignments and/or reading sections
- Oral assessment if written tests are not feasible

#### **CAREER RELATED LEARNING STANDARDS:**

- Employability skills rubric