

Mahtomedi Public Schools
Independent School District #832
1520 Mahtomedi Avenue
Mahtomedi, MN 55115

Regular Meeting - Board of Education

Date: December 14, 2017

Agenda Item #9. B.

TOPIC: Second Reading of Policies

BACKGROUND: Each year there are reviews or changes to various policies. This year there are also three new mandated policies. In February 2018, the Policy Committee will meet again to examine policies that require yearly approval and policies that MSBA has recommended be modified. For this meeting, though, there are 6 policies for a second reading.

The policies listed below have been reviewed by the policy committee and administration. The following policies all contain revisions and modifications either required by change in Minnesota Statute or recommended by MSBA:

Policy 509 – Enrollment of Nonresident Students

Policy 903 – Visitors to School District Property and Facilities

New Policies:

Policy 614 – School District Testing Plan and Procedure

Policy 721 – Uniform Grant Guidance Regarding Federal Revenue Sources

Policy 805 –Waste reduction and Recycling

Policy 620 –Credit for Learning

There had been a question about the conversion of credits that get awarded for students who are taking Post Secondary Enrollment Classes. The information below is from the Guidance Department at Mahtomedi High School.

Credits and Grades: The high school determines the amount of secondary credit to be awarded upon successful completion of the PSEO course. According to Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.09, subdivision 12 (b), “A district shall grant academic credit to a pupil enrolled in a course for secondary credit if the pupil successfully completes the course. Seven quarter or four semester credits equal at least one full year of high school credit. Fewer college credits may be prorated.” In other words, the conversion of postsecondary college credits to high school credits has to be at least a 4:1 ratio, not any less. Whatever is considered one year of high school credit in a district for a subject area is equivalent to at least four college credits. Example 1: If a high

school student takes a postsecondary English course for four college credits, the student would have earned at least one full year of high school English credit. Postsecondary Enrollment Options Reference Guide | updated August 2017 |. If a student is in a high school where one full year of high school English receives one credit of English, the year of English would be the equivalent of four college credits. Example 2: If a high school block schedule (i.e., 4-5 periods/day) is used whereby a student earns the equivalent of one full year of high school English credit in one semester, the corresponding high school credits earned in the semester would be equivalent to four college credits. Example 3: If a high school traditional schedule (i.e., 6-7 periods/day) is used whereby a student earns the equivalent of one full year of high school English credit in two semesters, the corresponding high school credits would be equivalent to four college credits.

Our conversion is in line with the State requirement and looks like this:

College Credit	- High School credit
5	1.25
4	1.0
3	.75
2	.5
1	.25

Again, information from the Guidance department at the High School: Century is number 1 and then our number 2 and 3 would be Bethel and Northwestern (proximity) and then the U of M. We meet with our students to talk about PSEO and how credits transfer back to our school. Let's say a student was a junior and took composition I at Century for 4.0 credits (1.0 high school). That would mean they needed one more English credit as a senior or they may decide to take Composition II as a junior in semester 2. The Composition II class is worth 3 college credits (.75 high school credit) leaving a student .25 credit short. That same student could choose to take our English 12 or possibly one of our AP English courses. Or, the student could choose a different English class worth 3 credits (.75 credit high school). They would then have exceeded our English requirement.

The colleges in question (Century, UM, Bethel and NW) award credits that are usually 3, 4 or 5 credits. We make sure that they will be able to graduate by meeting with each student and reviewing the courses they are taking and the credits they've earned so far.

The practices and protocols in place at the high school are such that students who take PSEO courses work with the counselor to ensure that if they pass the PSEO classes that they will have enough credits to graduate.

ACTION RECOMMENDED: The board will discuss and provide direction to administration for a third reading/approval on January 4, 2018.

Submitted By:

Concurrence By:

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Name

Superintendent of Schools

Title

Mark Larson

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Superintendent of Schools