YOUTH OPTIONS

Policy 343.42

The district shall administer the "Youth Options Program" in accordance with state law and regulations. The high school principal or designee shall be responsible for administering the Youth Options Program.

General Guidelines:

An approved "Youth Options Program" course is valued at ¼ high school credit for every one-college credit.
High school credit shall not be granted for any "Youth Options Program" course that repeats the post-secondary course content for which the student has already taken and failed.
High school credit shall not be granted for any "Youth Options Program" course that repeats content for which a student has already received a passing grade and high school credit.
High school credit shall be granted for any "Youth Options Program" course upon successful completion, defined as a passing grade, for the approved course.
If a pupil receives a failing grade or fails to complete (drops) a course for which the school has made payment, the school board will request reimbursement for all costs related to this course. Reimbursement will be requested from the student if he or she is an adult or from the student's parent or guardian.

Pupils who fail to provide reimbursement for a dropped or failed course as described above are not eligible for the youth options program in the future.
Once a student gains 12th grade status, he/she may participate in the Youth Options Program for no more than two semesters.
A student may not exceed the maximum number of post secondary credits (18).
Students attending an institution of higher learning under the Youth Options Program shall be responsible for their own transportation costs.

Courses Taken Through Technical Colleges/Universities:
Upon the student's request and with written approval of the student's parent/guardian, any district student who satisfies the following criteria may apply to attend a technical college or university under the "Youth Options Program" for the purpose of taking one or more courses:

1. The student has completed the 10th grade
2. The student is in good academic standing
3. The student is in good disciplinary standing
4. The student notifies the principal of his/her intent to attend a technical college/university in accordance with the timelines established in state

law; and
5. The student is not a "child at risk" as defined by state statute.

The principal or a designee shall determine whether a course satisfies any graduation requirements and what, if any, high school credits are to be awarded to the student. If a student is not satisfied with the principal's decisions, the student may appeal to the school board and, eventually, to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.
Courses taken at a technical college/university, as part of the "Youth Options Program" shall be paid for as follows:

1. If the course is taken for high school credit and the course is not comparable to a course offered in the district, the district shall pay as required by law.
2. If the course is taken for high school credit, the course is comparable to a course offered in the district and the student is attending a technical college/university for less than 10 credits during any semester, the student shall pay as required by law. If the course is taken for high school credit, the course is comparable to a course offered in the district and the student is attending a technical college for 10 or more credits during any semester, the district shall pay as required by law.
3. If the course is taken for postsecondary credit only, the student shall pay as required by law.
4. If the student is a child with disabilities, the district shall also pay the costs of any special services required for the student as determined jointly by the district and the technical college/university. The district may refuse to permit a child with a disability to attend if the district determines that the cost to the district would impose an undue financial burden on the district.

Students attending a technical college/university under the "Youth Options Program" shall be responsible for their own transportation.

Legal References:

Cross References:

Adoption Date: *4/20/2015*