February 6, 2017

Dear Student:

Historically, school districts allowed their students to attend courses at local colleges or universities in addition to their own high school, in an effort to meet students’ needs and interests. This is called “dual enrollment.”

Effective April 1, 1996, Public Act 160 created the Postsecondary Enrollment Options Act which directs school districts to assist students in paying tuition and fees for courses at Michigan public or private colleges or universities. This law was updated this October through Senate Bills 622, 623, 709 and 710. Students are eligible for dual enrollment if all of the following conditions are met:

1. Students are in grades 9 - 12.
2. Students can qualify for dual enrollment by taking one of the following assessments: PSAT, SAT, ACT, or MME. You must meet the required scores on the listed assessments; see your counselor for your scores. Additionally, eligible students may take courses for which there are no endorsements, such as computer science, foreign language, or fine arts courses, as long as they have taken all sections of the ACT or MME or College Board PSAT or SAT. State endorsement is not required in any specific area for this participation.
3. Students must be in high school not more than four years. Foreign Exchange students are not eligible for dual enrollment.
4. Students must be enrolled in both the school district and postsecondary institution during the local school district’s regular academic year and must be enrolled in at least one high school class.
5. Students can now begin taking classes as ninth graders up to a maximum of 10 total classes during their four years of high school. How many classes are based on what grade they are in when they first dual enroll:
   - Grade 9: not more than two each year for the first three years they participate and four in their fourth year of participation.
   - Grade 10: not more than two courses the first year, and not more than four courses the second and third academic years.
   - Grade 11 or 12: not more than six courses during either of those academic years up to a maximum of 10 total classes.
6. The district must not offer the college courses. An exception to this could occur if the local board of education determines that a scheduling conflict exists, which is beyond the student’s control.
7. The college courses cannot be a hobby, craft, or recreation course, or in the subject areas of physical education, theology, divinity, or religious education.
8. School districts are required to pay the lesser of a.) the actual charge for tuition, mandatory course fees, materials fees, and registration fees; or b.) the state portion of the students’ foundation allowance, adjusted to the proportion of the school year they attend the postsecondary institution.

Please review the contents of this letter with your parents. If you believe you are eligible for dual enrollment after checking your test scores, or qualify for tuition and fee support, and wish to participate, please contact your counselor.

Sincerely,

Chad Scaling, Principal

Dr. David Phillips, Ph.D.