

July 26, 2023

SIN R -0827- P E OB 70
A A CE M
H E C H F EXECIVE O

That the Board rescind Board Report 08-0827-PO7 and adopt a new policy for Awarding High School Credit and Placement for High School Level Courses Taken by Elementary Grade Students. This policy was posted for public comment from June 2, 2023 to July 3, 2023.

P B This policy establishes criteria for awarding high school credit or competency out of high school courses for 7th and 8th grade students who have demonstrated proficiency and mastery in high school courses. This policy shall ensure high school credit and/or competency is awarded to Chicago Public Schools elementary students in compliance with the requirements of section 27-22.10 of the Illinois School Code.

EQUI S A -based strategies reflecting the CPS Equity Framework to ensure access and success in accelerated coursework with a focus on most impacted students who are disproportionately under-enrolled in accelerated coursework opportunities outlined in this policy.

PIC EX O L
I. IN R O D

This policy is consistent with the philosophy that embraces an accelerated model of high school education that leads to students taking more advanced and challenging courses at the high school level. It will more accurately place 7th and 8th grade students in appropriately challenging high school courses. Thus, the matriculation into high school for elementary grade students having already completed high school course work will be a seamless transition. Courses for high school credit or competency that leads to placement into advanced high school courses shall be offered in a manner that will allow qualifying students who wish to take such courses access to them. This policy shall take effect beginning with the 2023-2024 school year.

area that the student demonstrated competency of a specific course, as defined by the criteria of the applicable CPS curriculum office.

- C. Competency: Acknowledgement from a High School or a CPS curriculum office that a student has met the CPS curriculum office’s criteria to demonstrate mastery for the specified course.
- D. High School Credit: Credit given for successful completion of a high school course in a high school setting.
- E. High School Setting Courses: Courses taken at a CPS high school or at a CPS Academic Center.

III. S R EQU R E
B D ENS A

A. All high school courses offered to elementary grade students must meet the following minimum requirements to be considered a qualifying course:

1. Teacher Certification: To teach any high school level course that will award high school credit, the teacher must hold a current high school teaching certificate endorsed in the subject taught. To teach any high school level course that will award competency, the teacher can hold either a 9-12 certification endorsed in the subject taught OR a 5-8 teaching certificate with a middle school endorsement in the subject taught and satisfy any additional district-mandated criteria (qualifying examinations, prerequisite coursework, etc.) or obtain a waiver from the Office of Teaching and Learning;
2. Curriculum: The course must be alignt

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B. Elementary grade students ineligible to receive high school credit for high school courses completed in a setting outside of the district shall be eligible for competency into an advanced high school course as determined by School Administrators in consultation with the CPS curriculum office if they meet the following criteria:

1. Evidence of successful completion of a high school course; and
2. Where applicable, the student takes and earns the required score on an exit exam. As described above, students who earn the required score on an applicable exit exam may be placed in high school courses at higher Academic Levels.

VI. HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT POLICY

High school credit and/or high school competency issued pursuant to this policy is in addition to the high school graduation requirements, and must not replace the content credit requirements pursuant to the Board's Graduation Policy.

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