



BERRYVILLE MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL



“ Aiming High With Bobcat P.R.I.D.E. “

Partners Resolved In Dedication to Excellence

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Dear Parents:

The Arkansas Department of Education conducted an On-site Standards Review (OSR) monitoring in our school district on October 21, 2014. Part of that monitoring process involved reviewing policies contained in the Student Handbooks at all four schools.

A review of the Middle/High School Handbook revealed that a few minor changes needed to be made in order to be in complete compliance with ADE rules and regulations. All changes are attached and noted in **bold** and/or ~~strike through~~ font. These changes will be posted on the district's website for the remainder of the school year and added to the printed copy of the student handbook next year.

Feel free to contact us if you have any questions or need additional information.

Respectfully,

David Gilmore
Middle School Principal

Owen Powell
High School Principal

ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

ATTENDANCE POLICY

All children who are ages five (5) through seventeen (17) on or by August 1 are required to be in school that school year with the exception of five-year-old children for whom kindergarten has been waived by the parent, guardian, or person having custody or charge; students who have received a high school diploma or its equivalent; or students who are enrolled in a postsecondary vocation-technical institution, a community college, or a two-year or four-year institution of higher education. Any person eighteen (18) years of age or older may establish a residence separate and apart from his or her parents or guardians for school attendance purposes.

According to Act 473, 1989, as amended by House Bill 1042, "The Board of Directors of each school district in this state shall adopt a student attendance policy as provided for in Arkansas Code S6-18-209 which shall include a certain number of an excessive absences which may be used as a basis for denial of course credit, promotion, or graduation. However, excessive absences shall not be a basis for expulsion or dismissal of a student. The legislative intent is that a student having excessive absences because of illness, accident, or other reasons should be given assistance in obtaining credit for the courses."

This policy applies to all students in grades K-12 who are regular, special, working, or married. It also applies to all courses or assignments for which a student is enrolled or assigned. Parents wishing attendance information may contact the office.

The first ten absences per semester are excused. Unexcused absences are every absence after the first ten days per semester without a letter or note from a medical professional, government entity, dental, or mental professional rendering services will be accepted. Act. 1322 of 2013. On the eleventh ~~unexcused~~ absence in any class during a semester, the High School student will lose credit for that class. No credit will be indicated on the student transcript by N/C and the grade will be calculated as an F. To regain the credit, the attendance committee shall meet to determine if a student is eligible to recover credit.

ENROLLMENT

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

The schools of the District shall be open and free through the completion of the secondary program to all persons between the ages of five (5) and twenty one (21) years whose parents, legal guardians, or other persons having lawful control of the person under an order of a court reside within the District and to all persons between those ages who have been legally transferred to the District for educational purposes.

To enroll in a school in the District, the child must be a resident of the District as defined in District policy (4.1-RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS), meet the criteria outlined in policy 4.40-HOMELESS STUDENTS, be accepted as a transfer student under the provisions of policy 4.4, or participate under a school choice option and submit the required paperwork as required by the choice option.

The district shall make no attempt to ascertain the immigration status, legal or illegal, of any student or his/her parent or legal guardian presenting for enrollment.

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~~HONORS~~ & AP CLASSES

Students who have high academic achievements and who have been recommended by their teachers may be eligible for ~~Honors~~ and Advanced Placement Classes. In ~~Honors~~ and AP Classes, students are given a one point grade advantage. For example, an A in a regular class receives 4 points, while an A in ~~Honors~~ and AP classes receives 5 points and so on for the rest of the grading scale. Classes are weighted only if the students complete the course and take AP test at the end of course.

Students who transfer into the district will be given weighted credit for the Advanced Placement courses and ~~honors~~ courses approved by the Arkansas Department of Education.

Distance Learning classes will not be weighted.

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CONCURRENT CREDIT

The opportunity for concurrent credit is open to any student in grade 11 or 12 who is in good standing of meeting high school graduation requirements.

A student who successfully completes a college course(s) from an institution approved by the Arkansas Department of Education shall be given credit toward high school grades and graduation at the rate of one (1) high school credit for each three (3) semester hours of college credit. Unless approved by the school's principal, prior to enrolling for the course, the concurrent credit shall be applied toward the student's graduation requirements as an elective. To fulfill core graduation requirements (e.g. English Comp I as a fourth year English or Intro to Statistics as a fourth year math), prior approval is required.

Three-semester hour remedial/developmental education courses shall be the equivalent of one half ($\frac{1}{2}$) unit of credit for a high school career focus elective and cannot be used to meet core subject area/unit requirements in English and mathematics.

Participation in the concurrent credit program must be documented in the student's permanent file by a written agreement between: the student and his/her parent/guardian if student is under the age of 18; the district; and the publicly supported institution the student attends to take the concurrent credit course.

Students are responsible for having the transcript for the concurrent credit course(s) they've taken sent to Berryville High School in order to receive credit for the course(s). High school concurrent credit will not be given until a transcript is received. For students who take concurrent credit courses as partial fulfillment of the required full day of class for students in grades 9-12, the transcript must be received by Berryville High School within 15 school days of the end of the semester in which the course is taken. If the transcripts are not received in time, or at all, this may jeopardize the student's eligibility for extracurricular activities, graduation, etc.

Concurrent credit awarded by a previously attended, accredited, public high school toward a course required for high school graduation will be recognized by Berryville High School.

Any and all costs of higher education courses taken for concurrent credit are the student's responsibility.

SMART CORE: Sixteen (16) units

English: four (4) units – 10th, 11th, and 12th

Oral Communications: one-half (1/2) unit

Mathematics: four (4) units (all students under Smart Core must take a mathematics course in grade 11 or 12 and complete Algebra II.)

- Algebra I or Algebra A & B* which may be taken in grades 7-8 or 8-9
- Geometry or Investigating Geometry or Geometry A & B* which may be taken in grades 8-9 or 9-10

*A two-year algebra equivalent or a two-year geometry equivalent may each be counted as two units of the four-unit requirement for the purpose of meeting the graduation requirement, but only serve as one unit each toward fulfilling the Smart Core requirement.

- Algebra II
- Beyond Algebra II: this can include Pre-Calculus, Calculus, AP Statistics, Algebra III, Advanced Topic and Modeling in Mathematics, Mathematical Applications and Algorithms, Linear Systems and Statistics, or any of several IB or Advanced Placement math courses (Comparable concurrent credit college courses may be substituted where applicable)

Natural Science: a total of three (3) units with lab experience chosen from

One unit of Biology; and

Two units chosen from the following three categories (there are acceptable options listed by the ADE for each)

- Physical Science
- Chemistry
- Physics or Principles of Technology I & II or PIC Physics

Social Studies: three (3) units

- Civics one-half (Y2) unit
- World History - one unit
- American History - one unit

Physical Education: one-half (1/2) unit

Note: While one-half (1/2) unit is required for graduation, no more than one (1) unit may be applied toward fulfilling the necessary units to graduate.

Health and Safety: one-half (1/2) unit

Economics – one half (1/2) unit – dependent upon the licensure of the teacher teaching the course, this can count toward the required three (3) social studies credits or the six (6) required Career Focus elective credits.⁷

Fine Arts: one-half (1/2) unit

CAREER FOCUS:- Six (6) units

All career focus unit requirements shall be established through guidance and counseling based on the student's contemplated work aspirations. Career focus courses shall conform to the curriculum policy of the district and reflect state curriculum frameworks through course sequencing and career course concentrations where appropriate.

CORE: Sixteen (16) units

English: four (4) units -9, 10, 11, and 12

Oral Communications: one-half (1/2)

unit Mathematics: four (4) units

- Algebra or its equivalent* - 1 unit
- Geometry or its equivalent* - 1 unit
- All math units must build on the base of algebra and geometry knowledge and skills.
- (Comparable concurrent credit college courses may be substituted where applicable)

*A two-year algebra equivalent or a two-year geometry equivalent may each be counted as two units of the four (4) unit requirement.

Science: three (3) units

- at least one (1) unit of biology or its equivalent
- one (1) unit of a physical science

Social Studies: three (3) units

- Civics one-half (1/2) unit
- World history, one (1) unit
- American History, one (1) unit

Physical Education: one-half (1/2) unit

Note: While one-half (1/2) unit is required for graduation, no more than one (1) unit may be applied toward fulfilling the necessary units to graduate.

Health and Safety: one-half (1/2) unit

Economics – one half (1/2) unit – dependent upon the licensure of the teacher teaching the course, this can count toward the required three (3) social studies credits or the six (6) required Career Focus elective credits.⁷

Fine Arts: one-half (1/2) unit

STARTING WITH THE GRADUATING CLASS OF 2018 SMART CORE CURRICULUM

English - 4 units

- * English 9th Grade
- * English 10th Grade
- * English 11th Grade
- * English 12th Grade

Mathematics - 4 units; One unit must be taken at 11th or 12th grade

- * Algebra I or First Part and Second Part Algebra I (Grades 7-8 or 8-9)
- * Geometry or First part and Second Part Geometry (Grades 8-9 or 9-10)
- * Algebra II
- * Fourth Math -- Choice of: Advanced Topics and Modeling in Mathematics, Algebra III, Calculus, Linear Systems and Statistics, Mathematical Applications and Algorithms, Pre-Calculus, or an Advanced Placement Mathematics

Natural Science - 3 units with lab experience chosen from:

- * Biology 1 unit
- Two units from the following three options:
 - * Physical Science
 - * Chemistry
 - * Physics or Principles of Technology I & II or PIC Physics

Social Studies - 3 units (see note beside Economics)

- * Civics - 1/2 unit
- * World History - 1 unit
- * American History 1 unit

Oral Communication - 1/2 unit

Physical Education - 1/2 unit

Health and Safety - 1/2 unit

Economics - 1/2 unit (may be counted toward Social Studies or Career Focus)

Fine Arts - 1/2 unit

Career Focus - 6 units

Beginning with the entering 9th grade class of 2014-2015 school year, each high school student shall be required to take at least one digital learning course for credit to graduate. (Act 1280 of 2013)

(Comparable concurrent credit may be substituted where applicable.)

CORE CURRICULUM

English - 4 units

- * English 9th Grade
- * English 10th Grade
- * English 11th Grade
- * English 12th Grade

Mathematics - 4 units

- * Algebra I or its equivalent
- * Geometry or its equivalent
- * All math units must build on the base of algebra and geometry knowledge and skills.
- ** A two-year algebra equivalent or a two-year geometry equivalent may each be

counted as two units of the 4 unit requirement.

Science - 3 units

- * At least one unit of Biology
- * At least one unit of Physical Science

Social Studies - 3 units (see note beside Economics)

- * Civics - 1/2 unit
- * World History - 1 unit
- * American History - 1 unit

Oral Communication - 1/2 unit

Physical Education - 1/2 unit

Health and Safety - 1/2 unit

Economics - 1/2 unit (may be counted toward Social Studies or Career Focus)

Fine Arts - 1/2 unit

Career Focus - 6 units

Beginning with the entering 9th Grade Class of 2014 - 2015 school year, each high school student shall be required to take at least one digital learning course for credit to graduate.
(Act 1280 of 2013)

(Comparable concurrent credit may be substituted where applicable.)