

Credit Flexibility — A New Emphasis on Learning

...Shifting the focus from “seat
time” to performance

HB 311 (Core Curriculum)

- Students may earn units of high school credit based on their demonstration of subject area competency, instead of or in combination with completing hours of classroom instruction.

Why Credit Flexibility

- Increased expectations for High School (Core Curriculum and the class of 2014)
- Demand for students to have 21st Century skills
- Allows students to broaden their scope of curricular options
- Increase the depth of study
- Customize the time needed to complete a degree

How do students earn credit?

- Completing coursework
- Testing out and/or showing mastery of course content
- Pursuing an educational option such as a senior project, internship, service learning, postsecondary coursework, distance learning, etc.
- Any combination of the above

Completing Course Work

- Students earn credit for successfully completing the requirements and hours of instruction in a high school class (seat time)
- 120 hours is equal to 1 high school credit
- 60 hours of physical education is equal to $\frac{1}{4}$ credit

Testing Out/Demonstrating Proficiency (p. 3 of packet)

- Must identify what courses the student wishes to demonstrate proficiency by the end of this school year for next year (June 1st) using the Proposal for Credit Flexibility Plan form (p. 5 of packet)
- Once plan is approved, principal will make arrangements for student to show proficiency.
- English: Students will present a reading and writing portfolio, present the portfolio to teacher of record, and participate in a timed writing.
- Algebra 1: Students will take the ACT Quality Core test to show proficiency. All other math courses will require the student to show proficiency by successfully completing the final exam.

Testing Out/Demonstrating Proficiency Option (continued)

- **Applied Arts classes (Art, Life Skills):** A portfolio will be presented and students will participate in a demonstration of proficiency (ex: students may be asked to participate in several exercises to demonstrate proficiency and safety in areas of art covered at the high school (including drawing, painting, ceramics, metals).
- **Science:** Students will successfully complete the final exam and complete a lab practical to demonstrate proficiency and safety
- **Social Studies (American History, World History, Government):** Students will successfully complete the final exam for the class
- **Health:** Students will successfully complete the final exam and show successful completion of adult CPR.
- **Testing out of Physical Education is not available under this option.**

What happens if my child does not do well on the exam?

- A student will have one opportunity per course to test out of the course at Bowling Green High School.
- Test scores will be reported as follows on the transcript: 90-100%=A, 80-89%=B, 70-79%=C.
- If a student does not wish to accept the outcome of the Credit Flexibility Plan assessment and wishes to enroll in the subsequent class, the test grade will be replaced by the grade earned in the class on the transcript.

Creating a Flex Plan for a Course NOT offered at BGHS (p.3 of your packet)

- This option is for students who wish to develop a plan to study a topic of interest that is not offered at Bowling Green High School.
- Students are required to complete a Proposal for Credit Flexibility Plan and prior approval for the proposal is required; there will be no awarding of retroactive credit.
- Off-site instruction providers must receive prior approval by the Bowling Green Board of Education.
- In the proposal, students must list the goals/objectives of their proposed course, list methods of instruction, timeline segments of learning, and describe assessment measures.
- BGHS teacher will work with outside provider to evaluate student work and quarterly grades will be reported for a
- Any cost for outside provider, travel or materials is the responsibility of the parent, not the school district.

What are the Ohio Academic Content Standards?

- All plans must align with the Ohio Academic Content Standards
- All Content Standards can be found at the ODE website:

<http://www.ode.state.oh.us>

Search: Content Standards

The Outside Provider (p.5 of the packet)

- The outside provider will be identified by the parent.
- The outside provider must be approved by the Bowling Green City School District.
- The outside provider must present a current BCI/FBI criminal background check prior to receiving final approval for the plan.
- Bowling Green School District is not responsible for any harm or injury arising from the conduct of the outside provider.

Approved Educational Option

Students may choose to participate in any of the following alternate means to earn credits for classes offered at Bowling Green High School:

- Distance learning
- On-line coursework
- Independent study
- Summer school
- Correspondence school
- Mentorship programs
- Early college entrance

Educational Options (continued)

- Some of these options may require the student to meet admission standards at the university or other educational option provider and are required to assume all monetary fees associated with these options.
- Students are required to complete a Proposal for Credit Flexibility Plan and must demonstrate proficiency which may include, but is not limited to taking the Bowling Green High school final exam, completing written essays, research papers, portfolios and projects.
- This option can be used for Physical Education using separate packet for Physical Education.

Physical Education

- Must have outside provider to oversee physical education log
- Grade is based on number of hours completed
- Cannot use inter-scholastic sports to complete hours
- Students must identify goals and at least 3 activities in plan

What if my child is a student-athlete?

- Student must be currently enrolled.
- Student must be enrolled in school the immediately preceding grading period.
- In the preceding grading period the student must be enrolled in and **PASSING** course work that will receive the equivalent of five (5) one-credit courses.

What if my child is a student-athlete?

- Limitations on Credit Flex with athletes
- Example: Student athlete tests out of 2 classes and only has 3 classes on his schedule --- student is deemed **INELIGIBLE.**

The NCAA and Credit Flexibility

- NCAA establishes eligibility for Division 1 and 2 college athletes and their scholarships through their Clearinghouse.
- The NCAA does not recognize classes that have not been approved by their clearinghouse.
- Credit Flex plans under the Creating a Flex Plan for a New Course will not be recognized by the NCAA Clearinghouse.

To Do List

- Complete Survey before leaving
- Work with your son/daughter to complete the Proposal for Credit Flexibility (p. 5-8 of packet)
- Turn in packet to your **GUIDANCE COUNSELOR** by June 1st
- Attend a meeting with team to finalize plan.

People to contact

- Jeff Dever, Principal 354-0100 x1001
- Joe Zabowski, Principal 354-0200 x2001
- Dan Foust, Guidance 354-0100 x1011
- Rachel Robinson, Guidance 354-0100 x1012
- Melanie Garbig, Guidance 354-0100 x1013
- Leslie Zilba, Guidance 354-0100 x1014
- Roberta Leslie, Guidance 354-0200 x2011
- Diane Tache, Asst. Supt. 352-3576 x313