

#### 5.4 (continued)

3. Students who successfully complete a three (3) unit career/technical program may be eligible to have one (1) credit waived in a particular content area if the curriculum for both the program and course have a similar alignment.

#### **Virtual Instruction** (January, 2019)

The district may offer virtual instruction courses to full-time enrolled students through district staff or by contracting through a third party approved by the board of education, including virtual courses offered through the Missouri Course Access Program (MOCAP).

To be considered eligible to enroll in virtual instruction, a student must be enrolled full-time and have previously attended at least one semester in a public or charter school, unless prevented from attending a prior semester due to documented medical or psychological diagnosis or condition. A district counselor must approve in advance the course as academically acceptable based on district course and graduation requirements and appropriate for the student. A parent or student may appeal a counselor's decision on a virtual instruction course to the Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction or as otherwise provided herein.

If the district disapproves a student's request to enroll in a course or courses provided by MOCAP, the reason shall be provided in writing and it shall be for good cause. Good cause justification to disapprove a student's request for enrollment in a MOCAP course shall be a determination that doing so is not in the best educational interest of the student. The district shall inform the student and the student's parent/legal guardian of their right to appeal to the board of education, where they shall be given an opportunity to present their reasons for their student to enroll in the MOCAP course in an official school board meeting. In addition, the district shall provide its good cause justification for denial at the board meeting. Both the student or parent/legal guardian and district shall also provide their reasons in writing to the board and the documents shall be entered into the official board minutes. The board shall issue their decision in writing within thirty (30) calendar days, and then an appeal may be made to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, which shall provide a final enrollment decision within seven (7) calendar days.

To receive credit for a virtual instruction class, a student must remain enrolled in the district throughout the

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course until credit is earned. All grades and credits earned through district-sponsored virtual instruction will be accepted as if earned within the district.

#### **Additional Provisions/Regulations**

1. Graduating seniors with a cumulative grade point average of 3.5, or above, shall have this fact noted on the graduation program and their diploma. To be eligible for this graduation honor, a student must have attended a Blue Springs high school for at least one (1) full semester.
2. Weighted courses for students transferring into the district high schools will be given honor points only for college credit and AP courses offered at the Blue Springs high schools.
3. A student who drops out of school prior to graduation due to circumstances beyond his/her control may be awarded a diploma when he/she has earned sufficient high school credits by correspondence from a state-recognized college or secondary school.
4. Fourth-year seniors who fail to meet the graduation requirements for a diploma may attend summer school in a state-recognized program to earn the necessary credits for a diploma. To be eligible for the diploma of a given year/graduating class, the student must complete all required credits (correspondence, summer school, etc.) prior to the beginning of the succeeding school year.
5. Only students who have met all the graduation requirements to earn a diploma prior to the graduation ceremony will be allowed to participate in the actual graduation ceremony, except for students eligible under the IDEA who have completed four years of high school shall be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony of the student's high school graduating class and all related activities even if the student's IEP prescribes special education, transition planning, transition services, or related services beyond the student's four years of high school so long as the student's IEP team determines the student is making satisfactory progress toward the completion of the IEP and participation in the graduation ceremony is determined appropriate.