

## **VIRTUAL EDUCATION: STUDENT ONLINE LEARNING**

The Granton Area School District recognizes that “virtual education” is an appropriate means for achieving elements of the school district’s educational missions to provide maximum learning opportunities, continuous student progress, and effective instruction and application of technology.

The district identifies elements of virtual education as including learning opportunities that are not defined in terms of place and time or by the daily class schedule or the classroom site. Examples of district-approved virtual education will include learning that is facilitated through

- Interactive television;
- Synchronous and asynchronous on-line;
- Web-based instruction;
- Computer-assisted instruction (CD or DVD); and
- Traditional text or computer assisted correspondence instruction

Virtual education opportunities will have:

- an identifiable curriculum;
- an educational valid authorship;
- be instructed/facilitated by either a licensed instructor or by an instructor who is authorized by an accredited educational institution; and
- ensure quality of content and professional educator involvement.

Credit for an online or virtual course may be earned only in the following situations:

- The course is not offered by the district.
- Unavoidable scheduling prohibits the student from taking the district offered course.
- The course may serve as a supplement to extend homebound instruction.
- The building principal/guidance counselor, with agreement from the student’s teachers and parents/guardians, determines the student requires a differentiated or accelerated learning environment.
- The course must be taken from a list of approved vendors.
- The course must be similar to those listed in the school academic handbooks in terms of curricular content and alignment to state and national standards. Those courses, which do not meet that rigor, must include supplemental materials/activities to ensure content validity. Exceptions could be made for virtual courses used for credit recovery/remediation with approval of the building principal and guidance counselor.

Virtual courses of study must comply with the Wisconsin Model Academic Standards and/or national educational standards. In addition, virtual curriculum must comply with the district’s policy on acceptable material. Relative to high school graduation, a virtual course of study must comply with the district graduation requirements. Relative to the

application of virtual education for pre-college credits, a virtual course of study must comply with the standards of the College Board's Advanced Placement (AP) curriculum.

Virtual learning may be a credit-bearing course of study or a non-credit-bearing exploration or enrichment experience. Typically, credit-bearing courses of study will be applicable to assure a student's continuous progress in middle school and high school. In addition the district recognizes the value of challenging students to explore and enrich their learning beyond the scope of the school's curricular offerings. The Granton Area School District will only use courses supported by CESA #10 unless otherwise approved by the administration.

Virtual courses of study, which have received prior approval and comply with student graduation requirements will be listed and credited on the student transcript. Students must apply for permission to take online or virtual course work. The application and paperwork must be completed by October 1 of each school year for second semester consideration and March 1 for the first semester of the next school year. The student must complete prerequisites and provide teacher/counselor recommendations to confirm the student possesses the maturity level needed to function effectively in an online learning environment. In addition approval by the guidance counselor and the building principle must be obtained prior to a student enrolling in an online or virtual course. Virtual course work may be part of a student's:

- IEP (Individual Education Plan)
- GEP (Gifted Educational Plan)
- ESL (English as a second language)
- 504 plan
- or at risk plan.

Grades received for virtual/online course work will count the same as any other course grade. The school must receive an official record of the final grade before credit is determined. In addition, all tests and quizzes must be monitored by a school staff member that is selected by the guidance counselor or building principal.

The Granton Area School District will pay the tuition fees and material costs for virtual/online courses unless taken for makeup credit. It is understood that all materials, where applicable, will remain the property of the school district. It is also understood that if a student drops the course or fails the course they will reimburse the district for all costs of the course. Students taking courses to replace failed courses will pay the cost of the course and the district will reimburse them on successful completion of the course.

The Granton Area School District will not be responsible for providing equipment for home instruction, home Internet access, or technical assistance.

Adopted:	June 13, 2005
Revised:	February 10, 2014

Legal	Administrative Code: PI 18; PI 40
References:	Wisconsin Statutes: 118.15(1)(d); 118.33; 118.55