In addition to regular classroom-based instruction, students may earn credit through the following means.

**Correspondence Courses**

High school students may earn, through correspondence, academic credit to be applied toward graduation requirements. Only courses offered by agencies and institutions recognized by the Board will be accepted. The express approval of the Principal/designee shall be obtained before the course is taken, and an official record of the final grade must be received by the school before a diploma may be issued to the student. Under ordinary circumstances, students or their parent(s)/guardian(s) shall pay for approved correspondence courses the student chooses to take.

**Virtual/Online Courses**

High school students may also earn credit toward graduation requirements by completing online courses offered through agencies approved by the Board, such as the Michigan Virtual High School.

Students taking such courses must be pre-registered by the District.

As determined by school/council policy, students applying for permission to take a virtual course shall 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, the express approval of the Principal shall be obtained before a student enrolls in a virtual course. The school must receive an official record of the final grade before credit toward graduation will be recognized.

The District may pay the fee for expelled students who are permitted to take virtual courses in alternative settings.

Through its policies and/or supervision plan, the District shall be responsible for providing appropriate supervision and monitoring of students taking virtual courses.

Approved: June 29, 2009

Grand Rapids Public Schools