



## Notification of Online Course Options

Dear Parents,

In July 2012, Senate Bill 289 passed allowing students opportunities to take online courses in grades 3 through 12. This legislation does not require an online course to graduate, but provides an online learning option should your student or you choose this option. In addition, House Bill 175 passed establishing a clearinghouse for stakeholders to find online course providers in the state of Georgia. This letter is to inform you about the key components of each piece of legislation and how to find online learning opportunities for your student.

This letter serves as Carroll County Schools formal notification of Senate Bill 289 in compliance with the official Code of Georgia. For more information on Senate Bill 289, please visit: <http://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/en-US/display/20112012/SB/289>

In addition, House Bill 175 mandates the creation of an online clearinghouse of online courses and online course providers to give parents and students the ability to search the clearinghouse for availability to online courses, online course providers, and guidelines for what constitutes high quality online courses.

### Accessing Georgia's Online Clearinghouse:

The Georgia Online Clearinghouse provides students and parents with information and access to high-quality academic and career-oriented courses, aligned to state and national standards, through a variety of online providers. To access the information found in the clearinghouse go to:

<http://www.gadoe.org/layouts/GADOEPublic.SPApp/Clearinghouse.aspx>

Step One: Type in the course you need (for example "9<sup>th</sup> grade Literature)

Step Two: Type in your zip code. You will then see a list of the online course providers in Georgia who have the course you selected. The program provider's names have been linked for users to access their site for registration information.

Step Three: Utilize the provider's site to register the student in the selected online course.

In addition to these online services, the Carroll County school System contracts with Edgenuity to provide online opportunities for students through Small Learning Communities, which are housed at each of the five high schools in Carroll County.

Although online learning is an option, students and parents are strongly encouraged to conference and counsel with the school counselor before making any commitment to online learning.

All online course work must be taken from an accredited school/company for it to count toward credit in high school or toward grade promotion in 3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Additionally, enrollment in an online course and an online contract must be submitted to the school prior to August 1<sup>st</sup>. Students/parents will assume all responsibility for registering for online classes and for any additional cost such as textbooks, supplies, and educational materials.

For further questions, please contact the Teaching and Learning Department at the Carroll County Board of Education at 770-832-3568.