

Dade County Schools Notification of Online Course Options

Dear Parents,

In July 2012, Senate Bill 289 passed allowing students in grades 3 through 12 opportunities to take online courses. This legislation does not require an online course to graduate, but provides an online learning option should you or your student choose this option. In addition, House Bill 175 passed establishing a clearinghouse for stakeholders to find online courses and 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 Dade County Schools formal notification of Senate Bill 289 and 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 a clearinghouse to give parents and students the ability to search for availability of 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 parent 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 - 9th grade Literature).

Step Two: Type in your zip code. You will then see a list of the online course providers in Georgia who offer the course you selected. The program provider 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, Dade County Schools contracts with Odysseyware to provide online opportunities to students for credit recovery, credit completion, and additional academic enrichment.

Although on-line learning is an option made available to you by the State of Georgia, students and parents are strongly encouraged to conference and counsel with the school counselor before making any commitment to on-line 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 3rd through 8th grade. Additionally, enrollment in an online course and an online contract (see attached) must be submitted to the school prior to August 14, 2013. Students/parents will assume all responsibility for registering for online classes and for additional cost such as textbooks, supplies, and educational materials.

For further questions, please contact Superintendent Shawn Tobin at 706-657-4572 or by email at shawntobin@dadecs.org.

Dade County Schools Online Learning Contract

Student Name	
Online Provider	
Course Request	
Start Date for Course	
End Date for Course	
Date Registration Complete	

Caution:

Students/parents should be made aware that grading, due dates, make-up opportunities, workload, rigor, and modifications of any description or type are not governed by Dade County School System faculty and are the responsibility of the online course provider. Grades obtained by the online provider will be submitted in a student's permanent record or transcript. Students who are unsuccessful in online learning may not be eligible to register for additional online classes.

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____

Administrative Approval: _____

Date: _____

Please submit completed form to the Principal of your child's school.