

TYLER COUNTY POLICY: IAD

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

PURPOSE: In accordance with West Virginia Department of Education Policy 2510, Tyler County students will participate in an experiential learning experience some time in grades 9-12.

DEFINITIONS:

Experiential Learning – Structured quality work-based, services-based, community-based, and/or research-based learning experiences. These experiences require students to integrate knowledge and skills from academics, career/technical education, and/or the arts and demonstrate the personal qualities, skills, knowledge, and understanding they need to be leaders in the 21st century.

- ✚ Community Service – Learning – These experiences blend both service and learning goals in such a way that both occur and are enriched by each other. Service learning projects emphasize both service and mastery of instructional objectives and are designed to use volunteer community projects to reinforce classroom concepts. Projects can be classroom or individual projects and can be designed to accommodate students of any age or grade. Participation in 4-H, Scouts, and similar youth organizations shall be considered forms of Community Service-Learning.
- ✚ School Work-Based Experiences – These experiences provide students with an opportunity to gain skills and experiences in the student's chosen career. These experiences will occur within the Tyler County School System. (Example: Greenhouse sales).
- ✚ Simulations - Not real work-based experiences, but in certain situations may constitute a good introductory activity or a substitute for actual workplace activities.
- ✚ Shadowing – An active form of observation. Students are assigned to a specific worker for a certain period of time. While watching the worker his/her duties, the student may ask questions or, on a limited basis, even take part in the work. In this way, the student experiences the work environment and better understands the skills needed for specific occupations. Student may interview individuals in careers of interests and submit questions and add a summary of the interview to their portfolio.

Senior Project – All Tyler Consolidated High School seniors are required to complete a Senior Project. This is a culminating activity based on the student's chosen career major. Students are required to complete a research paper, design a product that reflects the area researched and present finding by making an oral presentation. This will be a requirement of students Senior English Class.

Students enrolled in CTE Completer Programs at MOVTI and CTE Complete Programs at the High School will be required to complete a research paper in Senior English and but will participate in simulations and required completion meetings with a panel of judges at MOVTI and/or the high school.

- ✚ Career Days /Speakers – Students attending school planned career days and/or have an opportunity to hear speaker’s present information relevant to a chosen career major may include a summary of this experience in their portfolio.
- ✚ Supervised Agricultural Experiences – (SAE) provides actual and simulated work-based agricultural experiences. There are three basic types of SAE. In an entrepreneurial SAE, the student is self-employed, providing goods or a service that is produced on owned or rental land. Examples include landscaper or livestock producer. Agribusiness or farm placement is the agricultural version of cooperative education. Directed work experience involves an SAE program conducted in school facilities or land laboratories. Greenhouse or fish production facilities would be an example of such.

It is not required that experiences occur during the regular school day or within the school calendar. If an activity occurs during the school day students may be asked to provide their own transportation.

Students taking part in experiences during the school day will need to complete the proper application forms, have the approval of the building principal, and complete required paper work to document the experience.

In order to document work-related experiences, students will be asked to keep a portfolio of activities to be shared with the building principal and senior seminar instructor, prior to graduation.

REFERENCES: WV Board of Education Policy 2320 Performance Based Accreditation System, and WV Board of Education Policy 2510 Assuring the Quality of Education: Regulations for Education Programs; and Tyler County Policy: IC Graduation Requirements

DATE: 9/3/02, 10/22/07, 6/21/10, 7/7/14