

## GRADUATION COURSES TAUGHT IN MIDDLE SCHOOL

To receive credit for an approved course taken prior to 9th grade a student must receive a passing grade in the course.

The Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment and the Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Schools will identify the credit-bearing courses that may be offered in middle school for graduation credit. Teachers who teach these courses will have “highly qualified” credentials. The Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment may conduct a pilot study, offering a course at a small number of schools before implementing it system wide. Approved courses will be published annually in the District Course Catalog.

A credit-bearing course offered at any middle school must meet the following criteria:

- The teacher must be highly qualified as defined by No Child Left Behind requirements;
- The district approved curriculum must be taught; and the district-adopted summative assessment must be administered for that course; and
- Partial credit will not be awarded for completing one semester of a two-semester sequence in middle school.

Students/Parents have the option of declining high school graduation credit for approved courses taught at the middle school level. While the grades in the approved courses are automatically reported and counted toward high school graduation credit, students/parents may void this credit at any time from the first day of the student’s ninth grade year through the last day of the student’s ninth grade year. Once the credit is declined, the grade record removal is permanent and non-reversible.