

FRANCIS HOWELL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Revised Policy 2525-High School Credit Opt-in Form

Due to a revision of FHSD Policy 2525, this document provides the opportunity for students to declare their interest in adding high school courses, completed while in middle school, to their high school transcript. **Note: Once this process is completed, students may not amend their high school transcript to exclude the courses noted below.**

Student Name: _____ ID #: _____ Current School: _____

Course(s) and Grade(s) to be added to high school transcript

Course: _____ Grade: _____

Course: _____ Grade: _____

Course: _____ Grade: _____

Course: _____ Grade: _____

Course: _____ Grade: _____

I have reviewed the High School Credit for Middle School Students-Revised Policy 2525 FAQ.

Yes

No

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Guidance Signature: _____ Date: _____

High School Credit for Middle School Students-Revised Policy 2525 FAQ

Q: What does the change to Policy 2525 mean to my student?

A: If your student completed a high school course while in middle school, they are eligible (but not required) to have the course(s) added to their high school transcript for credit and G.P.A. (Grade Point Average) notation.

Q: What courses are eligible for high school credit?

A: If a student completed Algebra I (or higher), Challenge Science 8 (or higher), Spanish I, French I or German I while in middle school, they are eligible to receive high school credit and G.P.A. notation on their high school transcript. This also includes students who have been formally accelerated and have taken high school coursework at their feeder high school while they were a middle school student.

Q: When does this change in Policy 2525 take effect?

A: Immediately. The opportunity for families to opt-in for credit begins now. Only students who have either already completed high school courses while they were middle school students or are currently enrolled in high school courses as a middle school student will have the chance to voluntarily opt-in for high school credit. Beginning in the 14-15 school year, all students who enroll in high school courses at the middle school will have those courses recorded on their high school transcript.

Q: What are the potential benefits for a student to add completed high school courses taken in middle school to their high school transcript?

A: High school courses completed in middle school can help fulfill graduation requirements in various content areas. This will create greater flexibility in a student's schedule as an upperclassman, so they can focus their efforts on courses that have a greater impact on their career pathway. Also, this policy change validates the efforts of middle school students who successfully complete the same curriculum and assessments as high school students. Finally, completion of high school courses in middle school will allow students to complete the entire sequence of certain programs (i.e. World Languages 1-5, Project Lead the Way-Bio-Medical Sciences and AP math and science courses).

Q: How should I complete the process to make a change to my student's high school transcript due to the change in Policy 2525?

A: Students should bring a completed opt-in form to their high school guidance office. If requested, a high school counselor can meet with the student to review the form.

Q: What if my student is not yet in high school?

A: Once your student completes 8th grade, you will need to initiate a request to add the completed high school courses to your student's transcript with your newly assigned high school counselor.

Q: Is there a deadline to opt-in for credit?

A: There is no deadline to opt-in for credit, but the sooner that families initiate the addition of courses to their student's high school transcript the easier it will be to determine the impact that it may have on a student's future high school course selections.

Q: Can we opt-in for credit only? G.P.A. only?

A: No. The credit and grade will be transcribed. Students do not have an option of taking one or the other.

Q: Can we change our mind once we've asked to have completed courses added to our student's high school transcript?

A: No. Each student/family pursuing the addition of completed high school courses taken in middle school will complete an application to identify those courses they want added to the student's high school transcript. If requested, the student's counselor will review the potential impact of adding those courses to the student's transcript (i.e. Grade Point Average, class rank, graduation requirements, etc.). Once a decision is made to add courses, those courses will not be removed from the student's high school transcript.

Q: What happens if we decide to do nothing?

A: A student's transcript will not change unless a family initiates contact with their high school guidance office and a formal application is completed and approved by all stakeholders (student, parent, school).

Q: Could adding these credits and G.P.A. notation negatively affect my child's cumulative G.P.A. and class rank?

A: Yes. If your student currently has a cumulative G.P.A. that exceeds a 4.0, the addition of any non-weighted classes (Algebra I, Spanish I, French I, German I), will lower your student's cumulative G.P.A. and class rank. It's important to review this information with your student's high school counselor before an application is submitted and approved.

Q: What if my student repeated a high school level course that they took in middle school?

A: If they repeat a course in high school, the course taken in high school is what will appear on the student's high school transcript. For example, if your student completed Algebra I as an 8th grader and repeated Algebra I as a 9th grader, they would not be eligible to add any duplicate credits to their high school transcript.