

Dear Parents:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of your right to request a Personal Curriculum (PC) for your son or daughter. In January 2007, the Michigan legislature passed laws related to new high school graduation requirements. These new requirements are called the Michigan Merit Curriculum (MMC). The MMC contains more rigorous standards for graduation with a high school diploma. The MMC must be followed beginning with students who were in the ninth grade in the fall of 2007.

We hope that the new MMC requirements will improve the quality of education for ALL Michigan public high school students. We are aware that some students have special talents and interests that warrant additions to the curriculum. Other students may have disabilities identified by an Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) that require some accommodations to keep the MMC meaningful and fair. If you believe your son or daughter needs and qualifies for a Personal Curriculum, you must make a request for consideration of a PC, and then a team is formed to determine what curriculum changes are appropriate. **The MMC requirements and allowable PC modifications are printed on the back of this letter.**

The new MMC law requires the following when considering a Personal Curriculum:

- The PC may be requested by the parent/legal guardian, student over 18 (if no appointed guardian), emancipated youth, or school personnel.
- The PC may not be needed if the MMC for a student can be addressed with other reasonable arrangements.
- When needed, a PC is written by a group of knowledgeable people that includes the parent and school staff.
- The PC must adhere to the MMC content standards as much as is possible for the student. In other words, the essential content expectations for graduation must still be met.
- The PC may be requested in order to exceed the requirements of the Michigan Merit Curriculum.
- The PC must be approved by the Superintendent of the school district.
- The PC may be adjusted during the course of the student's high school education using the same process, as appropriate.

More detailed descriptions of the Michigan Merit Curriculum and a Personal Curriculum are available at: <http://www.mi.gov/mde>

If you feel your son or daughter needs and qualifies for a Personal Curriculum, please contact the high school's counseling office for more information or to obtain an application form.

Regardless of your child's path through the Michigan Merit Curriculum to graduation, we are looking forward to working with you to provide meaningful educational opportunities for all of our students.

Sincerely,

Principal
Bay-Arenac ISD



The Personal Curriculum

A Tool for Modifying the Michigan Merit Curriculum (MMC)

Subject Area Credit Requirements	Personal Curriculum (PC) Modifications (Sequence and delivery up to district; support courses can count for credit regardless of year)
4 English Language Arts (ELA) Credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 credit in 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grade All credits aligned with state content expectations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ No modification except for students with an IEP and for transfer students who have completed two years of high school
4 Mathematics Credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 credits aligned with the required state content expectations (i.e., Geometry, Algebra I, and Algebra II) 1 math or math-related credit (not required to be aligned with state content expectations) 1 math or math-related course required in the final year which could include any of the 4 credits described above or may be an additional district credit Note: Students may earn 2 math credits for Algebra II when the credit is earned over 2 years, or 1.5 credits over 1.5 years, without requesting a personal curriculum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 1 credit of Algebra II may be modified to ½ credit Algebra II, statistics, or functions and data analysis ✓ Additional modifications allowed for students with an IEP and transfer students who have completed 2 years of high school
3 Science Credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Biology credit 1 Chemistry or Physics credit 1 additional Science credit All credits aligned to state content expectations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ No modification except for students with an IEP and transfer students who have completed 2 years of high school
3 Social Studies Credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ½ Civics credit ½ Economics credit US History and Geography credit World History and Geography credit All credits aligned to state content expectations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ No modification of Civics ✓ Minimum of 2 social studies credits prior to modification ✓ 1 social studies credit (other than Civics) can be exchanged for an additional English language arts, math, science, or world languages credit ✓ Modifications allowed for students with an IEP and transfer students who have completed two years of high school
1 Physical Education and Health Credit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Credit aligned to state guidelines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Credit can be exchanged for an additional English language arts, math, science, or world languages credit ✓ Additional modifications allowed for students with an IEP and transfer students who have completed 2 years of high school
1 Visual, Performing, Applied Arts Credit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Credit aligned to state guidelines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Credit can be exchanged for an additional English language arts, math, science, or world languages credit ✓ Additional modifications allowed for students with an IEP and transfer students who have completed 2 years of high school
2 World Language Credits (Begins with Class of 2016) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Credits earned in grades 9-12 OR an equivalent learning experience in grades K-12 Credit aligned to state guidelines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ No modification except for students with an IEP and transfer students who have completed 2 years of high school
Online Learning Experience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Online course, learning experience, OR experience is incorporated into one or more required credits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ No modification except for students with an IEP and transfer students who have completed 2 years of high school