

Paideia Academies Inc. Corporate Board Policy on Concurrent/Dual Enrollment

Policy Statement

Paideia Liberal Arts Academy is dedicated to fostering academic excellence and college readiness by providing high school students the opportunity to earn college credit—up to an associate's degree or a comparable certification—while enrolled at Paideia. In partnership with South Mountain Community College (SMCC) and incorporating best practices from Paideia Liberal Arts Academy, this policy establishes a concurrent/dual enrollment program that offers rigorous, college-level instruction. Under this program, tuition for approved concurrent/dual enrollment courses will be covered by Paideia, while students are responsible for purchasing textbooks, course materials, and any ancillary fees.

1. Purpose

- **Dual Credit Pathway:** Enable students to earn high school and college credits simultaneously, advancing them toward an associate's degree or a comparable certification.
 - **Academic Rigor:** Enhance the academic challenge and prepare students for post-secondary education through exposure to college-level coursework.
 - **College and Career Readiness:** Equip students with the skills and experiences necessary for success in both higher education and the workforce by integrating academic and technical skill development.
 - **Collaboration:** Strengthen partnerships between Paideia Liberal Arts Academy, South Mountain Community College, and associated institutions to ensure quality course delivery and smooth credit transfer.
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2. Eligibility Criteria

- **Enrollment Status:** Students must be enrolled in good standing at Paideia Liberal Arts Academy.
 - **Academic Requirements:** Students should meet or exceed the minimum GPA requirement and satisfy any course-specific prerequisites.
 - **Attendance Requirement:** Students must maintain an attendance record with less than 10% absences (i.e., a 90% or higher attendance rate).
 - **Parental/Guardian Consent:** For minors, written consent from a parent or guardian is required.
 - **SMCC Placement Test:** As part of the enrollment process, students must successfully pass the SMCC placement test.
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3. Application and Enrollment Process

- **Application Submission:** Interested students must complete the concurrent/dual enrollment application, which includes submission of academic records, teacher recommendations, a personal statement outlining academic goals, and verification of SMCC placement test results.

- **Review Process:** A Concurrent/dual Enrollment Advisory Committee—comprising representatives from both Paideia and South Mountain Community College—will review applications to determine eligibility.
 - **Registration:** Approved students will receive guidance on course selection and registration procedures to ensure alignment with both high school and college academic standards.
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4. Course Selection and Credit Transfer

- **Course Alignment:** Courses offered through the concurrent/dual enrollment program are designed to meet both high school and college-level academic standards.
 - **Advising:** Students will collaborate with Paideia academic advisors and representatives from South Mountain Community College to select courses that match their academic interests and future goals.
 - **Credit Recognition:** Approved courses will count toward high school graduation requirements and, subject to the policies of the receiving postsecondary institution, will be transferable as college credit.
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5. Tuition and Fee Payment

- **Tuition Coverage:** Paideia Liberal Arts Academy will cover the tuition for all approved concurrent/dual enrollment courses.
 - **Books and Additional Fees:** Students are responsible for the purchase of required textbooks, course materials, and any ancillary fees not covered by the tuition payment.
 - **Payment Process:** Tuition payments will be processed through Paideia's designated business office in coordination with South Mountain Community College.
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6. Student Responsibilities and Academic Expectations

- **Academic Performance:** Students are expected to maintain satisfactory performance in both high school and concurrent/dual college courses.
 - **Compliance:** Students must adhere to the academic integrity and behavioral policies of both Paideia and South Mountain Community College.
 - **Attendance Standards:** Maintaining a minimum of 90% attendance is required; failure to meet this standard may result in removal from the program.
 - **Course Completion:** If a student is withdrawn from or fails a concurrent/dual enrollment course, they may be rendered ineligible for enrollment in the subsequent semester's concurrent/dual enrollment program.
 - **Time Management:** Students must demonstrate effective time management and communicate proactively with instructors and advisors to balance their dual academic responsibilities.
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7. Program Support and Monitoring

- **Advising and Counseling:** Paideia and SMCC counselors will provide academic advising, tutoring, and counseling services tailored to the needs of concurrent/dual enrollment students.
 - **Progress Monitoring:** Regular progress reports will be generated and reviewed by Paideia and SMCC counselors and college instructors to ensure students are on track academically.
 - **Annual Review:** The program will undergo an annual review to assess its effectiveness, incorporate stakeholder feedback, and update the policy as necessary to reflect best practices and evolving educational standards.
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8. Policy Review and Amendments

- This policy will be periodically reviewed to ensure compliance with state guidelines and to remain aligned with best practices from Paideia Liberal Arts Academy and South Mountain Community College.
 - Amendments may be made based on stakeholder feedback, changes in educational standards, or policy updates from partnering institutions.
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Conclusion

Paideia Liberal Arts Academy's concurrent/dual/dual enrollment policy provides a structured, high-quality pathway for students to achieve college credit while completing their high school education. By offering opportunities to earn credits toward an associate's degree or comparable certification, enforcing strong attendance and academic standards, requiring successful placement testing, and delineating clear responsibilities regarding tuition and fees, Paideia reaffirms its commitment to empowering students and preparing them for a successful transition to postsecondary education and career endeavors.

Approved by the Paideia Academies Inc corporate board at its public meeting held on March 3, 2025.



Robert C Winsor II (Brian)
Paideia Academies Inc Chairperson