

Bellaire Public Schools

204 W. Forest Home Ave.
Bellaire, MI 49615-9565

James R. Emery, Superintendent /HS Principal
Kristi Poel, Elementary/MS Principal
Brad Fischer, Athletic Director



Personal Curriculum

The law requires that all students pass a very stringent set of courses to receive a diploma from any public school in the state. The law now allows a parent/legal guardian/adult student/emancipated minor student, or a student's teacher or counselor to request modifications to these high school graduation requirements under limited conditions. Those modifications are made through a "personal curriculum" developed for the student. All students are entitled to a personal curriculum, and if an appropriate request is made, the District will develop a personal curriculum for a student.

When developing a personal curriculum for a student, the District will need to include as much of the original Michigan Merit Curriculum content expectations as are practicable for the student. The personal curriculum must be consistent with the student's educational development plan and it must contain student-specific measurable goals that the student must meet to graduate. The law does limit what courses can be modified or substituted. The District has some additional flexibility to make modifications for students with disabilities and certain transfer students. Before a personal curriculum becomes effective, it must be approved by the parent/legal guardian/adult student or emancipated minor student and the Superintendent or his/her designee. A personal curriculum is not transferrable to another district.

If a parent/legal guardian/adult student or emancipated minor student believes that they would benefit from a personal curriculum, they may request one be developed. To do so, the following steps need to be completed:

1. Make a request in writing for a personal curriculum for your student.
2. The District will review the request and develop a personal curriculum that best fits the needs of that student consistent with limitations and requirements contained in the law.
3. A meeting with the student/parent/guardian and school district designee will take place to review the personal curriculum.
4. Once agreed upon by all parties, the personal curriculum will be set in place.

For more information on personal curricula, including what may and may not be modified, please visit the Michigan Department of Education's Personal Curriculum page at: http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,1607,7-140-6530_30334_49879--,00.html

If you have additional questions, please contact the school counselor's office at 231-533-8015 ext. 226.

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Superintendent/Principal

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