

GROWTH IN DUAL-CREDIT COURSE OFFERINGS

After implementing the first year of dual-credit courses, high student achievement and enrollment has helped the program to grow for the 2012-2013 academic year.

High School District 211 has partnered with William Rainey Harper College to offer college credit for the following courses: Child Development; Fashion Independent Study; Fashion Retail and Merchandising; Art in Contemporary Society; Chemistry of Foods; Spanish 4; French 4; and College Algebra. Dual-credit allows District 211 students to earn entry-level college credit for a course they also earn credit for in high school.

“The opportunity for students to earn college credit while earning high school credit is relatively new and has a number of benefits,” said Terri Busch, assistant superintendent for Instruction at District 211. “Earning college credit while still in high school saves money for parents and students in terms of tuition dollars, and as students prepare to leave high school they must be college and career ready.”

Nearly all students completed necessary requirements in their dual-credit courses to earn college credit last school year. The Certified Nursing Assistant course had 26 of 29 students pass the state certification exam, which is a huge accomplishment for the program’s first year. The course grew from one class at Conant High School to three at CHS and three at Palatine High School.

Additionally, all students enrolled in the University of Illinois’ Differential Equations calculus course passed, which is a difficult math course that some of the District’s brightest math students enrolled in.

The idea to add and modify courses to allow opportunities for career training and college credit is a shift that is happening in education throughout the country. District 211 recognized the need for students to access education and training after they graduate high school. By allowing early college credit, students are essentially taking a first-year college course that can transfer to a college after they graduate. This potentially can save money for a student’s first year of college or technical training, while preparing them for the coursework they will encounter once they begin their studies.

District 211 is looking forward to another successful year for dual credit courses in hopes of helping students excel after they leave high school.

“We strive to pick classes that will particularly mean something down the road for our students,” Busch said, “whether that means the course transfers, eliminates a prerequisite in college coursework, or helps students save money on college tuition in the future.”

For more information about dual-credit, please read the first article in the series [here](#).

EARLY COLLEGE CREDIT IN SCHOOLS

As emphasis on the importance of post-secondary education continues to increase, more high [cheap mlb jerseys](#) school institutions are feeling the pressure to see graduates succeed. That's why District 211 is expanding its dual credit courses for students to prepare for higher education and the workforce.

The dual-credit courses are in partnership with William Rainey Harper College, and allow District 211 students to enroll in both academic and technical courses for high school and college credit. The courses were approved [Levie](#) at a March 15 Board Meeting.

"There has been a shift in the way dual credit existed from vocational career paths that were so specialized that students had to take them at Harper—fire science, public safety, cosmetology," said Terri Busch, District [Dead](#) 211 assistant superintendent for Instruction. "Over the last year and a half, we've added content area courses that students can take in our schools to help make the passage into college easier."

The following courses are offered in the high schools and are taught by D211 faculty:

-Heath and Career Exploration

-Certified Nursing Assistant

-Project Lead the Way Digital Electronics

-Building Construction

-Quantitative Literacy

-Calculus III (in partnership with the University of Illinois)

Dual-credit courses offer students a seamless transition into college using ideals of curricular pathways. These ideals, also known as P20 Education system, cater a learning experience for students starting from pre-kindergarten through college based [SHS](#) on specific interests or careers. Additionally, enrolled students earn credit from both institutions while preparing for the future.

Busch said students enrolled in dual-credit courses have a [wholesale NFL jerseys](#)

higher chance of completing high school and enrolling in college. Furthermore, when students earn credit at [right](#) the collegiate level, they are lowering tuition costs per credit hour by minimizing the time spent earning a degree.

“If a senior student takes a dual-credit course, then graduates and has to work or something prevents them from starting college, those credits will always be there when they are ready,” Busch said. “They won’t need to start at the developmental level [in college]. They can take the next step, or course.”

Currently, 250 students are enrolled in dual-credit courses at Harper and 500 in The District.

The process for expanding the program involved getting teachers from both institutions together to plan and align the courses and curriculum. Classes taught in the high school need to meet Harper’s requirements as far as instructor experience and course material. Additionally, Calculus III is currently in place with the University of Illinois, [wholesale MLB jerseys](#) and next fall Entrepreneurship will be in partnership with Northern Illinois University.

Busch said the classes are very similar between the two institutions, which helps serves the District’s main goal—building a transitional foundation for students entering college.

“What we want [Hon](#) is for our high school [wholesale jerseys](#) students to get into a class [cheap NBA jerseys](#) for college credit or beyond,” Busch said. “We do not want them in developmental classes, ever.”

For more information, view the complete report outlining early college credit courses [here](#).

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