

2023-2024 School Year

Student Handbook



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*Family and Student rights can be found on our website at:
www.relevantacademy.org

School Address:

220 Lamson Street
Grand Ledge, MI 48837

Ph: 517-925-5450

Attendance line: 517-925-5460

Fax: 517-925-5459

Superintendent: Lauren Blakely

Dean of Students: Loretta Williams

Academic Navigator: Leah Warner

ERESA Address:

1790 E. Packard Hwy.
Charlotte, MI 48813

Ph: 517-543-5500

Fax: 517-543-4870

ERESA Superintendent: Sean

Relevant Academy's Core Values

Relationships

Strive for interactions that build trust and promote open communication that nurtures mutual growth and development.

Relevance

Maintain an environment where students are the primary focus with all actions appropriate for and related to their individual success.

Respect

Honor the unique value of each individual by being open to diversity of thought and foster the capacity for everyone to contribute to a full exchange of ideas.

Perseverance

Be relentless in pursuit of students' goals and dreams. Help them to believe in their ability to reach them if they continue moving forward.

Integrity

Promote honesty, truthfulness, reliability, and trustworthiness through thoughts and actions.

Celebration

Rejoice in individual success and praise the success of others. Commit to commemorating accomplishments.

Relevant Academy's Instructional Model

Hybrid Learning Environment

Relevant Academy will participate in a mix of online learning and in person learning. Students will be expected to complete a set number of classes per year to develop 21st century learning skills, while working at their own pace to complete the designated Michigan Curriculum. Students will also participate in mentor communities to help foster social emotional learning and academic success.

Rigorous Content

Through online learning, via Edgenuity, and in person competency based classes, Relevant Academy students will have access to rigorous online courses to support achievement of the Michigan Merit Curriculum.

Life Skills for the 21st Century

Support time is spent learning and practicing relationship skills. Learning to give and accept the assistance of others is key to networking, mentoring, collaboration, and ultimate student success.

Valuable Tools for Computer Learning

As needed/approved, academy students may receive a loaned device to complete coursework. These devices are the property of Relevant Academy and may be requested to be returned at any time.

Community Partnerships

Using the community schools model approach and strategic community partnerships, Relevant Academy will work with other agencies to connect students with valuable community resources.

Teacher/ Mentor Contact Information

The Math Department	
Julia Przybyla-Kuchek julia@relevantacademy.org (517)899-6309	Algebra 1 Geometry Algebra II Senior Math
The English Department	
Robin Elliott relliott@relevantacademy.org (734)719-1092	English 9 English 10 English 11 English 12 R180
The Social Studies Department	
Diana Thompson dthompson@relevantacademy.org (517)667-9205	US History World History Government Economics
The Science Department	
John Ley: jley@relevantacademy.org (517)667-8568	Physical Science/ Earth Science Biology Chemistry Physics Science Lab
The Elective Department	
Michaëlle Converse mconverse@relevantacademy.org	Visual Arts
Julia Przybyla-Kuchek julia@relevantacademy.org (517)899-6309	9/10 Grade Seminar Language
Michael Graham moraham@relevantacademy.org	Health and Physical Education
Alternative Programming	
Jason Marietti jmarietti@relevantacademy.org (517)899-8475	GED Comet Academy RAV Temporary Leave Program

Attendance and School Calendar

2023-2024 School Calendar																				Regular Summer Session School Day	
Jul-23					Aug-23					Sep-23					Oct-23					2023-2024 Regular School Day	
M	T	W	TH	F	M	T	W	TH	F	M	T	W	TH	F	M	T	W	TH	F	Students work from home	
3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	6	No School for Students
10	11	12	13	14	7	8	9	10	11	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	All Cohort Day
17	18	19	20	21	14	15	16	17	18	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	Semester 1: August 21- January 26
24	25	26	27	28	21	22	23	24	25	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	Semester 2: January 29- June 21
31					28	29	30	31		25	26	27	28	29	30	31					
16					23					18					19					Q1- august 21- october 26	
Nov-23					Dec-23					Jan-24					Feb-24					Q2: November 1- January 26	
M	T	W	TH	F	M	T	W	TH	F	M	T	W	TH	F	M	T	W	TH	F	Q3: January 29- April 12	
		1	2	3					1	1	2	3	4	5					1	2	Q4: April 15-June 21
6	7	8	9	10	4	5	6	7	8	8	9	10	11	12	5	6	7	8	9	10	Special Events:
13	14	15	16	17	11	12	13	14	15	15	16	17	18	19	12	13	14	15	16	17	August 16: Open House
20	21	22	23	24	18	19	20	21	22	22	23	24	25	26	19	20	21	22	23	24	August 23: All school cookout
27	28	29	30		25	26	27	28	29	29	30	31			26	27	28	29			October: All school fall fest
17					16					16					18					November 16: Fall Dance***	
Mar-24					Apr-24					May-24					Jun-24					October 25-26: Parent teacher conferences	
M	T	W	TH	F	M	T	W	TH	F	M	T	W	TH	F	M	T	W	TH	F	February 14: All school day	
				1	1	2	3	4	5			1	2	3	3	4	5	6	7	8	February 27-28: Parent teacher conferences
4	5	6	7	8	8	9	10	11	12	6	7	8	9	10	10	11	12	13	14	15	June 19: All school cookout
11	12	13	14	15	15	16	17	18	19	13	14	15	16	17	17	18	19	20	21	22	
18	19	20	21	22	22	23	24	25	26	20	21	22	23	24	24	25	26	27	28	29	
25	26	27	28	29	29	30				27	28	29	30	31							
15					20					21					15						

Attendance Policy

Students are expected by the Board of Education to complete the minimum weekly number of activities set as stated on their Academic Plan as well as attend twice weekly in person. Students' success will depend on commitment to classes and time management.

If a student fails to achieve their weekly activity goal, students may face a delayed graduation date or referral to Eaton County Truancy.

The Relevant Academy is a program offered on a year-round basis and, therefore, is subject to its own rules and regulations in regard to scheduled vacation time. Students will be notified in advance about the academy calendar and specific days when the Relevant Academy classroom will not be available for on-campus hours.

If a student is not able to attend school due to illness, family emergency, or other abnormal circumstance, a parent or guardian must call the school attendance line to excuse the student. This also needs to be done if a student is leaving school early or arriving late. This number is: 517-925-5460. Any student not in class with out being excused will be considered unexcused and their absence will count towards possible truancy.

Students should be prepared for class everyday with snacks, drinks, etc. depending on their intended stay on campus. Lunch and snack breaks must be taken in the designated break area.



Our Environment and Behavior

Our Environment

Expectations of our Environment

Weapons-Free Schools

The State of Michigan, in its Revised School Code #1311(2) provides that pupils who possess “dangerous weapons” at school shall be expelled for a minimum of 180 days. Also, a student who is expelled under this section of the law is expelled from all public schools in the state.

Smoke-Free/Electronic Cigarette Free/Tobacco-Free/ Vaping Free Schools

In order to encourage a healthier environment for students, employees, and visitors, it shall be the policy of Relevant Academy’s Board of Education that all areas on the Relevant Academy campus are smoke free, this includes but is not limited to e-cigarettes, vaping and other devices.

Drug-Free Schools Program

Relevant Academy emphasizes the maintenance of an orderly, secure, and drug-free school environment that is conducive to learning with an emphasis on the authority of team members to identify and discipline graduate candidates or employees who are in possession of, using, distributing, or selling drugs or alcohol. Accordingly, Relevant Academy has developed a firm policy aimed at eliminating the sale; use or possession of alcohol, illegal drugs, prescription drugs; look-alike illegal drugs, paraphernalia, and alcohol on school premises; enforcing disciplinary procedures, and teaching students and staff that drug use is both wrong and harmful.

Use of Drugs, Tobacco, and Alcohol on Campus/During school hours

The possession and use of illicit substances on campus or during school hours is strictly prohibited and will result in the following consequences:

Being under the Influence During School Hours	Use or possession of drugs on campus
First Offense: immediately sent home, parent notified	First Offense: Immediately sent home and parent notified. Team meeting established and student is given the option of a ten day suspension or to participate in the ERESA choice program
Second offense: Team meeting established. Student given the option of a ten day suspension or to participate in the ERESA choices program	Second Offense: Law enforcement is called and the student receives an MIP ticket along with a ten day suspension
Third Offense: Law enforcement is called and the student receives an MIP ticket with a ten day suspension	Third Offense: Law enforcement is called Possible expulsion/ transfer to a different Relevant Program
Fourth Offense: Law enforcement is called Possible expulsion/ transfer to a different Relevant Program	Fourth Offense: Expulsion

Responsibility to our Environment

Positive Work Environment

Students should come to school with a positive mind set. This means making sure we extend empathy to ourselves and others that our words are always kind, and we work hard to regulate our behavior in times of stress.

Garbage Free

As a community we take pride in our environment. This means not only throwing our own trash away, but picking up trash we encounter throughout the day. This also means keeping the bathrooms mess free.

Vandalism Free

Students should work hard to maintain the sanctity of the school. Students should not engage in any destructive behavior, including writing on, breaking, or destroying school property. If a student sees another student participate in that activity, they should reach out to the administration team or mentors to let them know.

Our Behaviors

Celebrating the Successes

Celebrations

At Relevant Academy, it is important that students are recognized for meeting their goals, choosing to make the right choice, persevering, and acting with responsibility and kindness. On a monthly basis students will be celebrated at school assemblies.

Avoiding Negative Behaviors

Making the Right Choices

It is important that students are equipped in making the right choices. Sometimes though, mistakes are made. It is necessary though to understand what the negative behaviors and severities are to rear students away from those choices. Students who consistently find themselves making poor choices may be placed on a probationary period.

Classroom Expectations

Behavior in the Classroom

Students will be upheld to the following in class expectations

1. Students will follow all in school and in class norms set forth by the organization and its teachers.
2. Students will limit cell phone use. Failure to follow in class cell phone norms will lead to loss of cell phone privileges.
3. Students will follow their designated schedule, working on their specified class that is scheduled.
4. All testing will occur at the school in designated content classes. Unit tests are not allowed to be taken at home.
5. Students will treat each other and staff with respect and empathy. Any major behaviors may result in immediately being sent home.

Academic Misconduct

Credit must always be given to the person or source of the ideas or material used. Plagiarism is a form of cheating in which a student submits someone else's work and presents it as his/her own.

Cheating involves submitting or claiming work that is not the student's own. Cheating includes, but is not limited to:

1. Copying someone else's work.
2. Allowing someone else to copy your work.
3. Having someone else or AI complete your work for you.
4. Using unauthorized material to help complete your work.
5. Use of personal electronic devices in an unauthorized manner to accomplish one's work.

Students found cheating will be issued accountabilities based on the harmful negative behaviors, as well as be issues a 0 on the task and could face an incomplete in the course.

Behavioral Expectations

Bullying/Cyberbullying

Bullying or other aggressive behavior toward a student, whether by other students, staff, or third parties, within the school community, including Board members, parents, guests, contractors, vendors, and volunteers, is strictly prohibited. This prohibition includes written, physical, verbal, and psychological abuse, including hazing, gestures, comments, threats, or actions to a student, which cause or threaten to cause bodily harm, reasonable fear for personal safety or personal degradation.

Demonstration of appropriate behavior, treating others with civility and respect, and refusing to tolerate bullying is expected of administrators, faculty, staff, and volunteers to provide positive examples for student behavior.

This policy applies to all "at school" activities in the District, including activities on school property, in a school vehicle, and those occurring off school property, if the student is attending any school sponsored, school-approved or school-related activity or function, such as field trips or athletic events where students are under the school's control.

Bullying or cyberbullying that occurs off campus but impacts the day to day safety on campus is still covered in the school policy and students can face accountabilities per the accountability ladder.

Violations will result in loss of access as well as other disciplinary or legal action as deemed appropriate.

Students who choose to use social media also are subject to the above stated. Students who post themselves participating in illegal behavior on campus are subject to appropriate accountabilities. Students are to not video or photograph another without permission. Students posting negatively about others will also face appropriate accountabilities.

Irresponsible Negative Behaviors	Harmful Negative Behaviors	Severe Negative Behaviors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Attendance Violations ● Classroom Misconduct ● Driving/Parking Violations ● Inappropriate PDA ● Missed Instructional Hours ● Unprofessional Language ● Treatment of others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Prejudicial Intimidation ● Harassment/ Intimidation ● Bullying / Cyberbullying ● Stealing ● Blackmail ● Disobedience/Defiance ● Misuse of technology ● Vandalism ● Trespassing/Loitering ● Academic Misconduct 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Arson ● Fighting and Assault ● Possessing/ Use of Weapons ● Sexual Harassment ● Use/possessions of drugs ● Smoking/Chewing Tobacco ● Vaping

Accountabilities

Accountabilities

Making the Right Choices

If a student chooses to engage in a negative behavior at school, on school grounds, or during a school function, teachers will reference the accountability ladder. At Relevant the goal is reflection first to support students in avoiding future negative behaviors. If a student continues to participate in negative behaviors or severe negative behaviors, further accountabilities will be issued.

Irresponsible Negative Behaviors	Harmful Negative Behaviors	Severe Negative Behaviors
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Verbal Warning2. Private Conference with mentor and parent contact3. Support Team meeting to create behavior plan4. School Privileges revoked or Community Action accountabilities	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Parent Contact and graduate candidate/mentor conference.2. Support team meeting3. School privileges revoked or community action accountabilities4. Suspension (1-10 days depending on offense or number of times behavior has occurred)5. Probation and possible expulsion	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Parent Contact/Sent home for the day. If serious police may be involved.2. Conference with admin. to happen upon return3. Suspension (1-10 days depending on offense or number of times behavior has occurred). Support team must to create a probationary plan for student4. Expulsion

Probation Status

Students can be placed on probation status for multiple reasons: transferring in as a student who was expelled, multiple instance of irresponsible or harmful behavior, one instance of sever behavior, frequently leaving and coming back.

If a student is placed on probation, a team meeting with the family and school staff will be held. During this meeting the terms of probation will be discussed, these terms can be different for every student. Every student's probation status though will last ten weeks. At the end of the ten weeks, a support meeting will occur again where the student will lead the meeting in discussing what went well and what areas still need to be worked on.



School Policies and Practices

School Policies

IN SCHOOL POLICIES

Attendance

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Money and Valuables

Please do not bring items of value to the academy unnecessarily. If you must bring something of value, you are totally responsible for its safekeeping. Relevant Academy assumes no responsibility for the loss of personal items.

Eatran

Relevant Academy provides Eatran tokens to students. In order to receive tokens, students must attend a FULL day of school. If a student decides to leave school before 2:10, the student pays for the ride. Students are responsible for scheduling their own rides with Eatran and Relevant Academy does not pay for missed rides.

Medication

Students requiring medication during the academy day must inform the Relevant Academy director or mentors. The medication must be brought to the director or mentors by the parent/guardian. Aspirin and any other non-prescription medication will be administered only when a signed permission slip from the parent is on file in the office.

1. The student's physician must provide written orders detailing diagnosis, dosage of medicine, times when medicine should be administered, and a telephone number where the physician can be contacted.
2. The parent or guardian must provide a written request and permission for the academy to administer the medicine and a telephone number where the parent or guardian can be contacted in case of an emergency.
3. The student or parent must bring the medication to the academy director or mentor in a container appropriately labeled by the pharmacy or physician.
4. All medication shall be clearly identified on the outside of the vial or package and the medication will be stored in a locked cabinet.
5. Academy personnel shall administer the medication in the presence of another adult in compliance with the instructions of the physician and log all prescribed medication administered.
6. Communication with the director regarding a student's medication will be the responsibility of the parent. The academy personnel will communicate with parents or physician about any problems or effects of administering medication during academy hours.
7. In an emergency, the director or a team leader will notify the parent/guardian as quickly as possible.
8. No medication, including aspirin, ointments, cold tablets, etc. will be administered to graduate candidates without written permission of a parent or guardian and the physician.
9. Academy personnel shall not administer any medication where the director of the medication requires knowledge or training, such as injection of medication, unless the person has the required knowledge or training.
10. If the seal is broken on any medication vial or package, the parent or guardian shall affirmatively state that the vial or package contains the medication that is identified on the outside of the vial/package.
11. Academy personnel shall exercise the utmost care in administering medication to students
12. The academy may refuse to store and/or administer any medication. Under such circumstances, the responsibility reverts to the parents.

Administration of Medication to Students

Relevant Academy fully complies with policy 5330; the term "medication" shall include both prescription and nonprescription medications taken by mouth, inhaler, injection (including epi-pen), or application (including drops and creams). The administration of medication to students by academy personnel or the self-possession and/or self-administration of medication by the student shall only be authorized and permitted following the completion of the Permission Form for Medication, which is available in the main office. The student's parent/guardian assumes responsibility to immediately inform the office manager in writing, of any change in the child's health affecting the dispensation of medication or of any change in the medication, including the discontinuation or modification of the medication.

Technology Policies

Electronic Communication Devices

Use of cellphones, ipads, video recorders, or any other electronic device shall not be used to harass or hinder the academic expectations of our students.

Possession of a cell phone is a privilege that may be forfeited by any student who fails to abide by the terms of this policy. Violations will result in loss of privilege and are subject to further disciplinary action as described herein. A misused cell phone will be considered contraband and subject to search.

The student who possesses a cell phone shall assume responsibility for its care. At no time shall the Relevant Academy be responsible for theft, loss, or damage to cell phones brought onto academy property (including during confiscation).

Headphones are permitted for use by students as educational tools to acquire course content, or to listen to music when doing so does not disrupt or interfere with coursework.

Student must use school issued computers while on campus- bringing and using their own computer is not permitted.

Internet Safety Policy and Acceptable Use

Relevant Academy has the capability of offering Internet access to its students. Access to the Internet enables students to access academic coursework, exchange electronic mail messages with other users, and explore thousands of libraries, databases, and bulletin boards throughout the world. Use of the Internet and other online information services is a privilege extended to students to enhance learning opportunities.

Although the Internet offers valuable resources and opportunities for learning, some material accessible online may be illegal, defamatory, inaccurate, or potentially offensive to some people. Internet content deemed as obscene or harmful to minors, including child pornography is filtered. Although filters are in place, some inappropriate sites may be accessible. Upon discovery of an inappropriate site, graduate candidates shall report inappropriate sites to the classroom instructor who will assure the site is blocked. Use of the Internet and other online services in the Relevant Academy is restricted to activities that support the academy's educational goals and objectives.

Relevant Academy has made computer networks, including the internet, available to all graduate candidates to support the academy's mission and goals. The academy believes that computer technology and its use can enhance and improve learning in the classroom. All online activity initiated by graduate candidates is monitored indirectly by mentors and is electronically logged by the technology department. Further expectations are outlined as follows:

1. Students are responsible for good behavior on academy computer networks, just as they are in the classroom and on academy property.
2. The director and his/her designee and team leaders of the Relevant Academy may deny, revoke, or suspend student access accounts for inappropriate use of the Internet and/or other online information services.
3. The Relevant Academy reserves the right to review any material stored in files and may edit or remove any material that the director or team leaders, in its sole discretion, believes may be unlawful, obscene, abusive, or otherwise objectionable.
4. Transmission of any material in violation of U.S. or state regulations, including copyrighted, threatening, or obscene materials, is prohibited.
5. Use for commercial activities by for-profit organizations, product promotion, political lobbying, or illegal activities is prohibited.
6. The following uses of the internet and other online information services (including text messaging) are not permitted:
 - a. Sending, receiving, printing, or displaying any media that is obscene or harmful to minors, or which contains child pornography or offensive messages or pictures.
 - b. Using obscene language.
 - c. Harassing, bullying, insulting, or threatening others.
 - d. Damaging computers, computer systems, or computer networks.
 - e. Violating copyright laws.
 - f. Using another person's account and/or password.
 - g. Giving your account and/or password to another person.
 - h. Cheating or trespassing in another person's folders, work, or files.
 - i. Intentionally wasting limited resources.
 - j. Employing the network for commercial purposes.
 - k. Using proxy servers or other means to circumvent academy filters.
7. Divulging personal information (including address, telephone number, credit card numbers, passwords, or other confidential information) about self or others to strangers.
8. Using, attempting to use, storing, and/or downloading programs which, by their nature, are generally used for illegal or unethical purposes (i.e., software used for cracking or hacking, software used for obtaining passwords, software used to create and/or modify viruses, worms, Trojan horses, software designed to monopolize servers or network services, etc.).

Violations will result in loss of access as well as other disciplinary or legal action as deemed appropriate.

Parents can assist students in the homework process by providing a clutter-free, quiet area for their child to work. Students and parents alike should realize learning is a very independent activity. Students must take responsibility for their own learning to be successful and should be encouraged to do their work with quality in mind. Since the Relevant Academy is technology based, it is imperative for students and parents to rectify any problems or malfunctions that might arise with home technology equipment. Unresolved problems should be immediately reported to the academy director for assistance. Technical support will require that equipment be brought to the academy.

Records and Rights Policies

Records, Rights, and Protection Policies

Age of Majority

Eighteen-year-old students are legally recognized as adults. However, except as noted below, policies and procedures set forth in the student code of conduct will apply to all graduate candidates, regardless of their attainment of the age of majority.

1. Students who are 18 years and older may have the same privileges as their parent/guardians as it relates to access to their student records.
2. Students who are 18 years and older may represent themselves during disciplinary conferences.

All school attendance standards continue to apply to students regardless of their age.

**Eligible students who wish to assert these rights should register their intent on the appropriate form in the main office. Until such time as the eligible student registers this intent, school officials will not apply the above exceptions to school policies and procedures.*


Parents/Guardians Meetings with Relevant Academy Team

Parents/guardians who wish to meet with team members to address concerns pertaining to classroom activities shall observe the following procedures:

1. Contact the teacher to arrange a conference at a mutually agreeable time.
2. If the parents/guardians conference with a team member does not resolve the matter, a second conference with an administrative team shall be arranged to attempt a resolution.

Child Abuse and Protection

Michigan law requires that school administrators, counselors, or mentors report all incidents of suspected child abuse or neglect to the proper legal authorities. Any school employee, pursuant to the performance of his/her duties, having reasonable cause to believe that a child coming before him/her has physical injuries, which may have been intentionally inflicted by a person responsible for the child's care, shall personally notify the DHHS and the administrator in charge of the child.



Coursework and Credit Information

Credit Information

Diploma Track Graduation Requirements

CREDITS COMPLETE D	COURSE NAME	CREDITS REQUIRED	CREDITS COMPLETED	COURSE NAME	CREDITS REQUIRED
	Health	.50		Physical Education	.50
	Biology	1.0		Chemistry	1.0
	Science	1.0		World History and Geography	1.0
	United States History and Geography	1.0		English and Language Arts	4.0
	Algebra 1	1.0		Algebra 2	1.0
	Geometry	1.0		Mathematics	1.0
	Government	.50		Economics	.50
	Visual and Performing Arts	1.0-2.0		Relevant Hour	.50
	Language other than English	1.0-2.0		CPR Certified	Certificate
				Total Credits	18.5

GED High School Completion Track

Certain students are eligible to complete high school via the GED track. Students interested in moving to the GED track must meet the following requirements:

1. Completing a skills test at the ninth grade level
2. Have a state issued ID already in possession
3. Be at least 16 years old
4. Willing to attend one a week and then independently working the rest of the week
5. Not planning on attending a 4 year university or college right out of high school

Students who pass all four GED tests will be issued a high school credential and considered a graduate.

Credit Transfer Policy

We will accept transfer credits toward Relevant Academy's MMC requirements from any high school accredited by the North Central Association or other regional accreditation associations. Students seeking transfer credit must demonstrate that credit has been earned in courses aligned with Relevant Academy's required and elective curricular options.

Student's transferring credit will need to meet the MMC requirements and electives adopted by the Relevant academy board of directors. Student's will be required to earn a minimum of .5 credit of required MMC or an elective at Relevant Academy in order to graduate and receive their high school diploma. Electives may not be duplicated in transferring credits.

Credit Information

Granting Credit and "Testing Out"

"Credit" is not a measure of the amount of time a student has studied a subject (e.g., semester, trimester, etc.). Instead, for the purpose of this policy, credit shall be awarded where a student is able to successfully demonstrate mastery of subject area content expectations. Mastery may be accomplished in a variety of ways or through a variety of learning experiences, including career and vocational education programs, co-teaching, etc. Demonstration of mastery and the earnings of credit will be determined in accordance with guidelines developed by the Relevant Academy director and the State Board of Education policy.

In some situations, a student may desire to earn credit by "testing out" of a particular subject. A student enrolled in the academy, but not enrolled in a particular course, may be granted credit in the course by demonstrating a reasonable level of mastery by attaining a B (85%) or above in the final end-of-course exam.

Students wishing to participate in this option must notify their mentor teacher and will be able to test on appointment. Testing out will always occur in-person, on campus.

The student may demonstrate mastery through the basic assessment process utilized in the course, which may consist of the final examination or other presentation. Credit earned will be on a "credit" or "no credit" basis, and will be counted toward graduation requirements. Credit/No credit will not impact a student's GPA, which should be considered if pursuing post-secondary college.

Personal Curriculum

The Board of Education of the Relevant Academy recognizes that not all students will have career goals, which require the same curriculum experiences. In addition, students may have begun their high school career in a different state or a private academy. Similarly, some graduate candidates with disabilities may have differing educational needs and abilities, yet still be able, with appropriate accommodations and supports, to complete the requirements for a high school diploma. In recognizing these differences, the board may permit students to modify the above graduation requirement to meet their particular career goals and learning needs by way of a Personal Curriculum, as permitted by state law.

The Personal Curriculum may be requested by a parent, legal guardian, or the student themselves if emancipated or the age of majority. If approved, the Personal Curriculum must incorporate: as much of the Michigan Merit Curriculum as is practicable for the student, must establish measurable goals and a method of evaluation of whether the student is achieving these goals, must be consistent with the student's Educational Development Plan (EDP) and, in the case of a student with a disability, must be consistent with the student's Individualized Educational Plan (IEP). The director shall establish guidelines for requesting, devising, and granting of a Personal Curriculum, consistent with state laws.

Testing Information

Participation in Statewide Assessment Program

State and/or federal governments require students to participate in the state assessments as a requirement for graduation. All students will also be required to participate in the M-Step Examination offered during the spring of the year in which a student is deemed to be a junior based on cohort year. This requirement must be met prior to graduating.

NCAA Notification

All student athletes should be mindful of the NCC regulations for athletic eligibility in Division I or Division II colleges and universities. Specific coursework must be completed and specific ACT/SAT scores must be earned in high school if seniors plan to participate in athletic activities on a collegiate level. Seniors must also file an NCAA clearinghouse form to have their academic credentials reviewed before collegiate eligibility can be granted. Detailed information on all NCAA regulations is available in the Relevant Academy office.