



**R H O D E
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C O L L E G E**

MOUNT PLEASANT HIGH SCHOOL

DUAL ENROLLMENT HANDBOOK



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I. MOUNT PLEASANT HIGH SCHOOL AND THE REDESIGN PROCESS

In 2022, Mount Pleasant High School underwent a rigorous school redesign process. By conducting a robust needs assessment and root cause analysis to determine the school's strengths and areas for improvement, the school elected to pursue an early college and career model. The Providence Public School District (PPSD) and Mount Pleasant High School are invested in expanding early college access to Mount Pleasant students and to expand work-based and hands-on learning experiences through industry driven Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs. Together, early college and CTE programs will position all Mount Pleasant students to be prepared for post-secondary education and careers and will ensure that all students graduate with both college credits and industry credentials.

II. DUAL ENROLLMENT PROGRAM

- I. **Program Overview:** Mount Pleasant will launch its cohort of dual enrollment students in Fall 2024. Eligible students will be able to take two college-level courses for college credit on the Rhode Island College (RIC) campus (one per semester). Students will receive direct instruction from a college professor and work with a Mount Pleasant College Success Teacher to support them in mastering college-level academic material. Students will participate in Socratic seminar style courses that will be both rigorous and engaging.
- II. **Program Logistics:** The first cohort will include up to 23 students who will leave Mount Pleasant High School early four times a week to travel to the RIC classroom. RIC and PPCSD will provide a bus for transportation to bring students to and from the campuses. PPCSD will also provide students with a summer orientation including an overview of academic and behavioral expectations, how to navigate the college campus, study skills, and opportunities for students to connect with their RIC professor.
- III. **College Courses:** In Fall 2024, students will take Psychology 110 taught by Professor Melissa Marcotte and Professor Bethany Lewis. In Spring 2025, students will take Latin American in the World taught by Professor David Espinosa. The courses are four credits each.

III. DUAL ENROLLMENT SCHEDULES

In-session schedule

- Cohort 1: Fall 2024 - September 3, 2024 - December 19, 2024
- Cohort 2: Spring 2025 - January 2025 - June 2025 - TBD

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1:18 - 1:22 p.m.	Transition to shuttle	Transition to shuttle	Transition to shuttle	Transition to shuttle	Transition to class
1:22 - 1:27 p.m.	Travel and class transition	Travel and class transition	Travel and class transition	Travel and class transition	Academic Skills Lab
1:30 - 2:30 p.m.	Psychology 110	Psychology 110	Psychology 110	Psychology 110	Academic Skills Lab
2:20 - 2:30 p.m.	Return to Mount Pleasant	Return to Mount Pleasant	Return to Mount Pleasant	Return to Mount Pleasant	End of school day

IV. DUAL ENROLLMENT TEAM MEMBERS

The Dual Enrollment Team (DET) is made of Mount Pleasant teachers, administrators, and district staff. The team meets bi-weekly at Mount Pleasant High School. Members are tasked with developing the dual enrollment cohort and expanding access to the program annually so more students are able to take college-level courses at RIC. The DET will also continuously monitor the progress of students enrolled in the program to troubleshoot any academic and logistical issues. This includes reviewing student data, working with student families, and collaborating with RIC faculty and staff. The DET mission is to ensure all dual enrollment students meet the expectations of college-level work and are successful. The team members include:

- Wobberon Torchon - Principal
- Gina Silvia - Director of School Counseling
- Christopher Sanacore - Director of Special Projects
- Jessica DeLaCruz - Early College Access Coordinator
- David Kelly - College Success Teacher
- Louis Joseph - School Counselor
- Melissa Lipa - School Counselor
- Leanne Dube - Teacher
- Colleen Larson - Teacher



V. ACADEMIC AND BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS

Students enrolled in the Dual Enrollment Program (DEP) are expected to follow PPSD's K-12 Student Code of Conduct. All provisions of the policy will be in full force for students when they are off-campus and in the RIC classroom. The College Success Teacher supporting students in the program is responsible for student conduct and academic performance. The College Success Teacher will be expected to set behavioral expectations for students and follow traditional rules and procedures for any conduct that disrupts learning or endangers others.

The DEP at MPHS is unique and is a carefully designed initiative with the goal of offering students rigorous coursework that prepares them for social and academic life on a college campus. To that end Mount Pleasant and RIC also expect students to conform to the following standards:

- Students will participate in every class.
- Student will come prepared with completed coursework, questions, and materials.
- Students will work collaboratively with the RIC professor, College Success Teacher and their peers.
- Students will indicate in a timely manner to the College Success Teacher when they need help and support.
- Students will abide by all PPSD policies and relevant RIC policies in how they act and express themselves throughout the program.



VI. ACADEMIC AND SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL SUPPORTS:

The DET is committed to ensuring that all students enrolled in the DEP program are academically prepared and successful. To that end, the DET has worked hard to develop a series of personnel and programmatic features that will equip students with additional academic and skills support so that the college course is an enriching and transformative experience for students.

- **College Success Teacher** - The College Success Teacher plays a fundamental role in supporting students to be successful in the dual enrollment program. This teacher travels with students to RIC to take the college course and supports students in the classroom while they receive instruction from the RIC professor. The teacher will also work collaboratively with the professor to review student data and progress and make programmatic adjustments where necessary. The College Success Teacher will also work with the DET to provide updates and workshop any issues or concerns. Finally, students will have time with the teacher at the school for one day per week where they can receive help from the teacher on any academic content they are struggling with. The teacher may reteach portions of the course lesson and ensure students are caught up on work.
- **Family Support** - The DET and the College Success Teacher will provide continuous communication to parents and families on the progress of their students. Parents will be able to participate in multiple information sessions and updates from the school team. The school will follow PPSD policies to ensure that parents have access to written materials translated in their preferred language and interpreters are readily available at events and meetings. Parents and families should reach out directly to the College Success Teacher with any comments, questions or concerns.
- **Academic Tutoring** - RIC will be able to provide additional academic support through college student tutors. RIC and PPSD will work together to create opportunities for tutors to help dual enrollment students keep up with their studies and receive additional support.

- **Accommodations** - Qualified students with disabilities at Rhode Island College are entitled to receive reasonable and appropriate accommodations, auxiliary aids, and services that provide equal educational opportunities and facilitate meaningful access, in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act (as amended) and related federal and state laws. MPHS students requesting disability-related accommodations at the College must register with the Disability Services Center (DSC) to determine eligibility. Students will be expected to follow DSC procedures to access accommodations, including all registration and documentation requirements. Please reach out to the DSC for questions (dsc@ric.edu).
- **Rhode Island College Campus Access** - While dually enrolled, DEP students will hold an active RIC Campus Card (student ID) and have access to RIC academic and campus services, including borrowing and access privileges from the James P. Adams Library.

¹ Relevant and current documentation from a qualified professional is required to establish a non-obvious disability and disability-related need for accommodations. Previous or current IEP/504 plans are not automatically applicable at the College. Some modifications and services provided under IEP/504 plans may not be appropriate at the College if they reduce academic standards or modify, waive, or invalidate an essential requirement of a course or program.

VII. STUDENT ELIGIBILITY:

For the launch year, PPSD and school staff have identified the following criteria to determine which students are eligible to take the college-level courses at RIC:

Phase 1:

Requirement	Detail
Attendance	The student needs to be in attendance at school for 90% or more of the school year.
GPA	The student's GPA prior to the semester they apply to participate in the DEP must be 3.2 or above.
PSAT/SAT	Either the student's PSAT or SAT score for ELA must be approaching or meeting the standardized benchmarks. Whichever score is higher between the PSAT or SAT will be accepted.

If a student meets three of these requirements, there will be three additional steps the student must complete in order to fully qualify for the program. These steps are designed to ensure the student understands the rigorous requirements of college-level work and is committed to utilizing the school's resources to guarantee their success. The steps include:

Phase 2:

Requirement	Detail
Letter of recommendation	Students must receive a written and signed letter of recommendation from a teacher or school counselor and submit this as a part of their application.
Student interview	Students must interview with a panel consisting of a minimum of one District and one school staff
Parent/Student Agreement	Students and one parent must sign a written agreement and submit to the school leadership team. Agreement will confirm the student and parent understand and will conform to the academic and behavioral expectations of the program.

VIII. FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

- **What is a Dual Enrollment Program (DEP)?**

DEP allows high school students to earn college credits while earning their high school diploma.

- **When will my child start taking Dual Enrollment Courses?**

Dual Enrollment courses will start Fall Semester (September 2024).

- **Are Dual Enrollment credits transferable to other colleges?**

Yes, the credits are transferable to other colleges subject to that institution's policy. You should work with your school counselors to confirm if the schools you are applying to will accept the credits.

- **If I fail a course, will this affect my financial aid?**

Failing a course may result in changes to your financial aid, and it will remain on your student's transcripts. It is important for parents and students to understand the potential academic and financial impacts for failing to pass the college-level course.

- **How will my student travel to Rhode Island College (RIC)?**

The district will provide bus transportation. Students must take the bus to attend the program.

- **Do we have to pay for transportation?**

Any transportation costs related to the dual enrollment program will be covered by the school.

- **Do you have to be a U.S. Citizen to take a college course?**

All students, regardless of their status with documents, are eligible to enroll in college courses.

- **Can I participate in extracurricular activities while enrolled in Dual Enrollment?**

Yes, we encourage students to participate in extracurricular activities.

- **Does Dual Enrollment impact my college application process?**

Students who enroll in dual enrollment courses demonstrate to colleges that they are academically prepared for college-level work.

- **Are parents responsible for tuition and textbook fees?**

The school covers the tuition and textbook fees.

- **What terms is Dual Enrollment available?**

Dual enrollment is available during the fall and spring semesters.

- **What are the benefits for a student participating in Dual Enrollment?**

The advantage is students will earn free college credit while still in high school. This opportunity will allow experience first-hand what the academic expectations are for college students. Students and families will also save money as the course will qualify for college credit.

- **What support services are available if I have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or 504 Plan?**

Rhode Island College provides accommodations and support services to qualified students with disabilities. Students with an IEP will continue to receive the academic support and resources as outlined in their plans.

- **What if my student is a multilingual learner (MLL)?**

MLL students can participate in the DEP so long as they satisfy the application process in Section VII. Mount Pleasant High School's school counselors will create schedules that satisfy English Language Development (ELD) course requirements while ensuring MLL students can participate in the DEP.

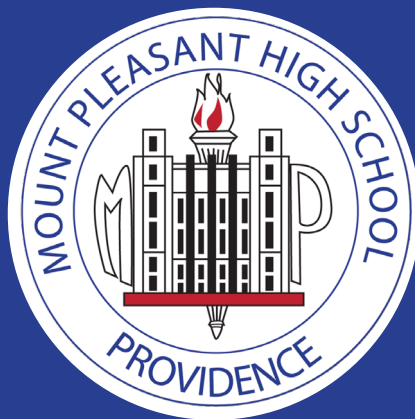
IX. KEY TERMS AND DEFINITION:

Term	Acronym	Definition
Providence Public School District	PPSD	The District that manages Mount Pleasant High School
Mount Pleasant High School	MPHS	One of Providence's five redesign schools with a focus on early college and career access.
Rhode Island College	RIC	The college is next to Mount Pleasant High School where students can take college-level courses.
Disability Services Center	DSC	The Disability Services Center is the central location at Rhode Island College for disability-related services for students.
Dual Enrollment Program	DEP	The program where students are able to receive college credit for taking a college-level course at Rhode Island College.
Dual Enrollment Team	DET	The team that manages the RIC dual enrollment program at Mount Pleasant High School.
Individualized Education Plan	IEP	A plan or program developed to ensure that a child who has a disability identified under the law and is attending an elementary or secondary educational institution receives specialized instruction and related services.
Multilingual Learner	MLL	Students that require assistance to overcome language barriers that impede their equal participation in the District's instructional programs.

X. CONTACT INFORMATION

For program questions, please email Jessica DeLaCruz (Early College Access Coordinator) at Jessica.DeLaCruz@ppsd.org.

For questions about a student's academic progress, please email David Kelly (College Success Teacher) at David.Kelly@ppsd.org.



Providence Schools

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