

ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINES AND REGULATIONS
FOR
EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS IN PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The Gallipolis City School District Board of Education has adopted a policy in favor of exercising options that allow educators to work cooperatively with members of the community in providing a broader base for students to earn credits necessary for graduation. The intent is to meet the learning needs of highly motivated students through increased recognition of learning opportunities in a variety of settings. Educational options programs are usually facilitated with the assistance of the coordinator for gifted education. Two options, independent study and/or mentor programs, may be used to address the needs of individual students in the area of physical education.

Students in grades nine through twelve who wish to pursue an independent study/mentor program in Physical Education under the Educational Options policy should have previously worked with guidance counselors to schedule physical education courses routinely offered at Gallia Academy High School. In cases where students need to earn physical education credit and have scheduling conflicts (for example; college preparatory students who wish to take band and choir), the school may recommend that a student pursue this option. With a counselor's recommendation, a student may earn 1/4 unit of credit toward graduation requirements for physical education by completing an independent study or mentor program under the direction of a certificated teacher. Educational options should be elected and the paperwork completed during the normal scheduling process conducted through the guidance office each spring, and should not require class changes after the first two weeks of school.

An **independent study** is an educational activity involving advanced or in depth work by an individual pupil under the direction of a certificated member of the school staff. It is generally conducted independently of an organized class by self-directed students, using professional personnel as resources.

A **mentor program** is an educational activity involving advanced or in depth work by an individual pupil under the direction of a non-certificated individual. A mentor program often incorporates independent study in a specific area which is guided by a person recognized as an expert in that area. Regulations require that a certificated teacher evaluate pupil performance in a mentor program.

The scope of the instructional plan, the number of student-hours involved and the evaluation of performance outcomes should be comparable to that of a traditional course worth similar credit. Physical education courses generally meet for 90 hours in a semester and count as 1/4 credit.

Any expenses or fees that are incurred in the process of pursuing an independent study or mentor program for physical education are the responsibility of the participating student. A copy of instructional plans that are approved and completed in accordance with these regulations along with the relevant certificates of prior approval and completion should be kept on file with the participating student's cumulative record.

[Adoption date: August 18, 1993]