



Wyoming Public Schools Middle College

Wyoming Public Schools Middle College (WMC) is collaborative project between Wyoming Public Schools (WPS) and Grand Rapids Community College (GRCC) as a school-within-a-school five-year, “hybrid” entity combining the best elements of high school and college. The intent is for the entity to evolve no later than year three from a school-within-a-school to become a separate college regional center for the City of Wyoming offering the Middle College, dual enrollment opportunities, and adult college learning course work. For year one, the WMC students attend school at a high school site within the Wyoming Public Schools (WPS) and engage in an exciting college-preparatory curriculum taught by highly-qualified and fully fully-certified Wyoming secondary teachers. WMC offers students from Wyoming High School the opportunity to fulfill their requirements for a high school diploma by completing a rigorous college preparatory coursework experience while gaining valuable college readiness skills, their high school diplomas, and earning up to sixty-two (62) transferable college credits towards their undergraduate degree and/or an Associate Degree from Grand Rapids Community College (GRCC). This opportunity provides each student a free jumpstart on their college education and the ability to performing successfully with college level proficiency, ready to further extend their learning.

WMC is recognized by the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) and the United States Department of Education (USDOE) as a four-plus-one program upon completion of the proper waivers and paperwork. Students begin the program at the start of either their tenth or eleventh grade, and if needed are provided an additional year (5th year) beyond their expected year of graduation to complete the program. WMC is a public early college high school. There is no cost to students or their families for attending. Tuition and required texts and fees will be paid by the school district.

WMC is a unique program for sophomores, juniors, seniors, and 5th year students who are mature, self-motivated, and ready to learn in a college setting. WMC students are offered an academically challenging environment to do their best academic work. The students have full access to GRCC’s onsite and/or online range of student support mechanisms and activities, and WMC’s students are deeply involved in all aspects of high school life, assuming leadership roles in areas including student government, the honor society, and the fine and performing arts programs. The program will focus on students acquiring a liberal arts degree.

College and Work Success is our Goal

The WMC is a two-phase program. In the first phase grades 7-9, students are provided with a rigorous college preparatory curriculum taught by Michigan certified secondary education teachers. Students acquire and demonstrate “hard” academic skills in English, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies, as well as “soft” social and emotional skills. “Hard and soft skills” are fundamental to student success in the post-secondary environment, and are embedded into the curriculum and school culture through a direct instruction, practice, and instructor feedback in five specific “learner domains”: Attendance, Preparation, Follow-Through, Communication, and Responsibility. Students will not be eligible for the WMC college preparatory program if they do not demonstrate true “college readiness” in both academic hard and soft skills. Upon completion of the WMC college preparatory component in 9th grade, students transition to become both HS and part-time Grand Rapids Community College students where they begin work on their GRCC general education and WMC completion requirements in the sophomore year.

A core component of the Wyoming Public Schools Middle College experience is integrated dual enrollment in college coursework at a Wyoming Public School location. During the 2013-2014 academic year, WMC students are enrolled in one college course each semester. The transferability rate for college coursework should be close to 100% whether it be to a Michigan college or university, depending on student grades. The intent is for students to successfully complete college courses--again, at a substantially higher pass rate than traditional college students. GRCC will provide wrap-around services as deemed necessary and in consultation between GRCC, WPS, and the student, including counseling, tutoring, media services, and more as afforded any GRCC student. These services would expand from year one through year four based on student needs, enrollment numbers, and more. The goal of the WMC is not limited to a liberal arts or two years of college credit, but to develop the skill set/foundation in each student to sustain their efforts toward further educational accomplishments.

Consideration Requirements for Student Admission to WMC

- 2.5 Overall GPA for High School Awarded Credit Courses (through end of 9th grade)
- Grade Level or higher Scholastic Reading Inventory (SRI) and Scholastic Math Inventory (SMI) scores
- Appropriate score on the ACCUPLACER. It is a computerized placement test given to all GRCC students, which helps determine what classes best fit the academic needs and skills in Reading, Mathematics, and Writing. WPS students must receive a 71 or higher in Reading, a 5 or higher in Writing, and a 77 or higher in Mathematics to be eligible for the Middle College program.

- Currently on track to obtain a high school diploma (appropriate course track and success)
- Approval of the principal and appropriate school staff
- Student Letter (Why I would like to be admitted to the Middle College) and Transcript

Evaluating Students

Organizationally, WMC students are full time students. They are not just high school students who dual enroll in a few college courses. Instead, they are “jointly enrolled and admitted” to WPS and GRCC as part of the WMC. WMC students who demonstrate an average rate of progress will spend eight (8) semesters in the program, with the last two (2) in the 13th year as full time Grand Rapids Community College students while still taking a single course in their high school. All WMC students will take the same assessments currently being taken at the high school, but in addition will be required to take the ACCUPLACER.

Culturally, WMC students will eventually be fully immersed in the college environment as in their senior and 13th years. They would then attend class with additional GRCC students, with no modifications or adjustments made in either their curriculum or instruction by GRCC faculty. The structure and pedagogy of WMC is designed to support the college curriculum as the core academic experience of its students. Being enrolled in the Middle College does not preclude a student from taking AP classes as part of his or her high school curriculum.

WMC strongly recommends that post-secondary institutions primarily use the applicant’s GRCC transcript to evaluate the student’s academic performance and level of “college readiness” and to predict his/her likelihood of continued college success.

Course Alignments

Students at the Wyoming Public Schools Middle College must meet the following MINIMUM requirements to receive a high school diploma (as required in the Michigan Merit Curriculum):

- 4 Math, including Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, and a senior-level math course taken at the college
- 4 ELA, including one taken at the college
- 3 Science, including Biology and either Chemistry or Physics
- 3 Social Studies, including .5 Civics, .5 Economics, U.S. History, and World History
- .5 Physical Education
- .5 Health Education
- 1 Applied Arts
- 1 Online Learning Experience (minimum 16 hours)

- 2 World Language (beginning with the class of 2016)

In addition, the students will work toward completion of 62 credits to meet the requirements for an associate's degree. This Associate of Arts will include a MACRAO certificate, which are general credits in subject areas that will satisfy the general education requirements for many Michigan colleges and universities. **MACRAO is not a guarantee of credit transfer! The GRCC Counselor/Advisor will work with each student about this situation, depending on where they would choose to continue their education. Most institutions have their equivalencies online at www.grcc.edu/transferguides.**

Students at the Wyoming Public Schools Middle College must meet the following MINIMUM requirements to receive an Associate of Arts degree with MACRAO from Grand Rapids Community College (GRCC).

- English 101 and 102
- Humanities Credits, including COM 131, MUS 110, and PL 201
- Social Science Credits, including EC 251, HS 101, and PS 110
- Natural Science and Mathematics Credits, including one MA course and one Science Lab
- One Wellness (WE) Credit (TH (Dance) can be substituted)
- 31 Additional Credits in Humanities, Social Science, and the Natural Science/Mathematics Groups

Because college coursework may be taken to meet high school graduation requirements and the associate's degree, some courses will count toward both high school graduation and the Associate degree. These are noted with an asterisk*. Some colleges and universities will not count college coursework used to fulfill a high school requirement and every attempt will be made to maximize student credit obtainment. A group of staff representing the college departments and high school will work together to determine the selection and sequence of courses and to maximize the readiness and success of participants. Courses will be cross-walked between the WPS and GRCC content to determine not only prerequisites, overlaps, and sequencing, but to determine those courses/classes that will qualify for dual enrollment credit, meaning, which GRCC courses will qualify for both college and high school credit.

Sample Student Schedule 9th Grade through 13th year

9th Grade	Course #	Course Title	Credit (HS or College)
	EA1 or EG	Algebra or Geometry	1 HS
	CWH	World History	1 HS
	DB or DHB	Biology	1 HS
	BE9 or BE9P	English 9	1 HS
	FF or FS	World Language	1 HS
	TBD	Applied Arts	1 HS
10th Grade	Course #	Course Title	Credit
	EG or EA2	Geometry or Adv. Algebra	1 HS
	CUS	US History	1 HS
	DC or DHS	Chemistry	1 HS
	BE10 or BE10P	Eng 10	1 HS
	FF or FS	World Language	1 HS
	CLS 100/CJ 110	Intro to College/Introduction to Criminal Justice	2 cred/3 cred
11th Grade	Course #	Course Title	Credit
	BE11 or BE11P	English 11	1 HS
	EA2, EAS, ESPC	Advanced Algebra or Stats/Pre-Cal	1 HS
	CG/CE	Government/Economics	1 HS
		HS Elective/HS Elective	1 HS
	PS 110/TH 248	Survey of American Gov/Introduction to Theater	3 cred/3 cred
	PY 201/EC 251	General Psychology/Principles of Macroeconomics	3 cred/3 cred

12th Grade*	Course #	Course Title	Credit
	TBD	TBD	1 HS
	TBD	TBD	1 HS
	TBD	TBD	1 HS
	EN 101/EN102	English Composition I/II	3 cred/3 cred
	MA Course/COM 135	Mathematics/Interpersonal Communications	4 cred/3 cred
	GE 135/ SO 254	World Regional Geography/Social Problems	3 cred/3cred
	Course #	Course Title	Credit
13th Grade*	Elective	TBD	1 HS
	WE (second semester)	Wellness	1 cred
	MA 110 (first semester) Depending on student readiness and major, student may elect a different math course at GRCC main campus	College Algebra	4 cred
	EC 252/Course TBD	Principles of Macroeconomics/Course TBD	3 cred/3 cred
	BI 101/CHM 110 Depending on student readiness and major, student may elect a different science course at GRCC main campus	General Biology/Chemistry in the Modern World	4 cred/4 cred
	HS 101/HS 102	Western Civilization to 1500/Western Civilization since 1500	4 cred/4 cred

*During these two years, courses would be open to the general dual enrollees and/or the general public, who may be adult learners (previous HS graduates) looking to WPS as a GRCC satellite campus. <http://cms.grcc.edu/catalog> (for GRCC course descriptions)

Transcripts

When applying to any post-secondary institution, a WMC student will present three (3) transcripts that together paint a full picture of his or her educational growth:

1. High School Transcript: The WMC starts in a student's second or third year of high school. This transcript reflects performance in the resident district's educational program prior to the student entering WMC.
2. WMC Transcript: This transcript shows a student's performance in the WMC college preparatory program.
3. GRCC Transcript: This transcript exhibits a student's performance in GRCC courses.

An applicant's reported GPA is pulled from his or her official Grand Rapids Community College transcript.

Timeline

- January to March - meetings, reading, studying, and development of the Middle College program
- Late March - finalize agreement and operations with GRCC
- Announcement of timelines
- Week of April 8 (preferably April 9 and/or 10) - Parent meetings and information out to students/parents with meetings, website, and brochures. Initial document of interest and for allowing testing, completed and returned by Wednesday, April 17th. Parent/guardian or student required to attend.
- Accuplacer Testing - During School, Tuesday, April 23rd and 24th
- Michigan Department of Education paperwork completed for waiver and time allocation notifications
- Notification of Testing Results, Friday, April 26th and student invitations to apply
- Student Middle College Applications due Wednesday, May 1, 2013
- Second Cohort Announced - Celebrated...Friday, May 10, 2013
- Student Schedules revised, late May
- Late July/early August - Student Camp (college introduction)
- Late August - Student/parent orientation
- Early September - Class begins