

## DISTANCE EDUCATION

The Fall Mountain Regional School District recognizes and encourages students to take full advantage of distance education opportunities as a means of enhancing and supporting their education. Distance education means correspondence, video-based, Internet/online-based or other similar media that provides educational courses as a means to fulfill curriculum requirements. Such opportunities will be implemented under the provisions set forth in *Policy IHBH, Extended Learning Opportunities* and *Policy IHBI, Alternative Learning Plans*.

If the course is to be taken for credit, then *Policy IMBC, Alternative Credit Options*, will apply. Students must have distance education courses approved by the school principal prior to participating in order to receive credit.

The written approval of the building principal is required before a Fall Mountain District student enrolls in an online or virtual course that is intended to become part of their educational program. Students applying for permission to take an online course must complete prerequisites and provide teacher/counselor recommendations to confirm the student possesses the maturity level needed to function effectively in a distance education learning environment.

Approved distance education courses must satisfy both New Hampshire state and local standards; be delivered by staff licensed in the state where the course originates; and contain provisions for feedback and monitoring of student progress. The district requires that a syllabus, including prerequisites, specific learning goals/activities, student evaluation criteria, and teacher responsibilities be submitted for review before the course is approved.

Students taking approved online courses must be enrolled in the Fall Mountain Regional School District and must take the courses during the regular school day at the school site, unless the administration has granted approval for remote access based on special circumstances. Online courses may be taken in the summer under the same conditions as during the school year.

The principal will assign a teacher or Guidance Counselor to monitor student progress, grade assignments, and test.

Approved distance education courses must comply with all federal and state statutes pertaining to student privacy and to public broadcasting of audio and video. Confidentiality of student record information will be maintained throughout the process. This includes

information shared between Fall Mountain School District representatives and the virtual school or online teacher and information shared between the school district or online teacher with students and parents.

The Fall Mountain Regional School District will provide safeguards for students participating in online instruction activities at the school, *and Policy EGA, Internet Access for Students*, will apply.

Students earning credit for distance education courses shall participate in all assessments required by the statewide education improvement and assessment program. Credit courses will require students to meet similar academic standards as required by the District.

Credit for the course is not recognized until an official record of the final grade has been submitted to the principal or designee with feedback from the online teacher.

Students who violate any part of the policy or engage in any other activity that school authorities consider inappropriate are subject to disciplinary action consistent with Board policies and the student handbook.

**Legal References:**

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed 306.04(a)(13), Extended Learning Opportunities  
NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed 306.26(f), Extended Learning Opportunities – Middle School  
NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed 306.27(b)(4), Extended Learning Opportunities – High School