

## **Pandemic Credit Recovery Plan 2020-2021**

### **Overview**

A second societal ill spreads across the country. Its long-term ramifications and the urgent need for a viable, fair, and effective solution are only now drawing the attention of education professionals, elected officials, parents, and students. The Covid-19 pandemic turned conventional education on its head. Centuries-old pedagogical structures pivoted almost overnight from in-person instruction to virtual and hybrid models that have largely proven sub-optimal conduits of instruction. There are several reasons for the resulting achievement shortfall, many of which are systemic and require the attention of school leaders who have the full support of their state and national legislators. Among the most prominent challenges identified are, in no ranked order:

- Lack of sufficiently powerful internet connections
- Lack of reliable hardware
- Inexperience or unfamiliarity with new software platforms (principally affecting teachers and parents)
- Distractions (cell phone use during classes, home life, etc.)
- Social/Emotional challenges exacerbated by Covid-19 isolation
- Student truancy
- Missed assignments

In the very moment a decision was needed that would preserve life, the isolation prescribed gave rise to far-reaching, peripheral dangers. This document addresses one of these dangers: Credit Recovery in the midst of higher-than-normal course failure rates.

### **IMPORTANT NOTE**

#### **Who is eligible for Credit Recovery?**

Any student who earned a failing grade in a year-long course in the first semester is eligible for Credit Recovery.

#### **What is Credit Recovery?**

Credit Recovery is the means by which students who did NOT pass year-long, first semester courses – and therefore did NOT receive first semester credit for those courses – can recoup credit through their work in the second semester. For most students, this will be achieved by earning a second semester grade that, when averaged with the first, yields a passing grade for the year. For others, for whom averaging the two semesters to achieve 60% or better is not possible, it will be achieved through demonstration of competence in the subject (via earning a passing grade of 60% or better in the second semester).

## **The Arc of Credit Recovery Options**

### **Short-term (within the next 3-5 days)**

1. Publish an approved CRAJHS Credit Recovery Plan to faculty and families.
2. Accept that one option available to parents is transfer. A student who earned failing grades in multiple core courses may be able to recoup some credit in the public school system more easily than if he/she remained a Cristo Rey Atlanta student. Parents who are concerned with keeping their student on track with his/her current graduation year may opt out and into the public school system.
3. Within this timeframe, identify ALL students who will benefit from additional, structured, in-class time for advancement/recovery.
4. Send communication to students who have chronic Wi-Fi issues that prevent class attendance and assignment submission that they should attend classes in-person. Although Covid-19 factors prevent us from making this a requirement, choosing NOT to come in person may result in dismissal for lack of academic progress if absences and missed assignments continue.

### **Medium-term (within the next 5 weeks)**

Execute the strategies available to our community through the MTSS, including but not limited to:

1. Remediation during the school day on CWS Mondays, when possible
2. Required ARC attendance
3. Required attendance at Extended ARC (held from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.) sessions<sup>1</sup>
4. Required use of Emory tutoring/mentoring program
5. Teachers and Level Teams will conduct an assessment of student achievement based on a student's record of
  - a. Class attendance
  - b. ARC attendance
  - c. Extended ARC attendance
  - d. Homework submissions

### **Longer term (the remainder of the academic school year)**

1. Reiterate the terms of the Credit Recovery Plan to parents via
  - a) Parent Newsletter
  - b) Website
  - c) E-Mail blasts
  - d) text messaging
  - e) PowerSchool
  - f) Schoology

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<sup>1</sup> Grade Levels will create and maintain the document that includes the names of students in this portion of the program and the student's attendance and progress.

2. Continued mandatory student attendance at the ARC and Extended ARC sessions
3. Continued enrollment in the CovEd tutoring/mentoring program
4. Referral by Student Support Team (SST) to intensive tutoring
5. Referral by school counselors for any students who will benefit from outside support services
6. Weekly monitoring of student progress by SST (Tier 3 of MTSS)

### **Final Options**

If all of the above measures are insufficient, students will have three options:

1. Credit Recovery through successful completion of an approved summer school program<sup>2</sup>
2. Transfer<sup>3</sup>
3. Repeat the grade

### **Summary**

CRAJHS is able to provide the following resources to parents and students:

1. Daily monitoring and intervention by classroom teachers
2. Weekly monitoring and intervention by Grade Level Teams
3. Counseling through School Guidance Counselor
4. Referrals to 3<sup>rd</sup>-party agencies, when needed
5. Access to CovEd Tutoring (free, online)

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<sup>2</sup> CRAJHS does not currently operate a summer school; though Credit Recovery might be available for some courses, availability will be dependent on the number of instructors available during the summer months. Those seeking summer school Credit Recovery will be encouraged to investigate other options.

<sup>3</sup> Transfer to another school is only available to grades 9-11 and seniors willing to repeat their senior year. A senior who does not successfully remediate course credit through summer school will not be eligible for a CRAJHS diploma and will need to complete requirements for a certificate of General Education Development (GED).