

May 20, 2024

Dr. Thomas Mahoney
206 S. 10th Street
Oregon, IL 61061

Dear Dr. Mahoney,

We welcome the opportunity to continue our partnership with Oregon Community Unit School District #220. Attached is the Dual Credit Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

Please sign and return this documents via email to me: c.schaefer@rockvalleycollege.edu by Monday, July 1, 2024. Upon signature by the RVC Board of Trustees, we will return a signed and executed copy to you. The agreements are written to be in effect for the length of one year, through June 30, 2025.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Best,



Dr. Cynthia Schaefer
Dean, Early College



Dual and Articulated Credit
Memorandum of Understanding between
Rock Valley College and Oregon Community Unit District 220

This Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU" or "Agreement") is entered into this ____ day of June, 2024 between Oregon Community Unit School District 220 ("School District"), located at 206 S. 10th Street, Oregon, IL 61061 and Rock Valley College ("RVC" or "the College"), located at 3301 N. Mulford Road, Rockford, Illinois 61114 (collectively, the "Parties").

WHEREAS, School District and Rock Valley College have come together and would like to offer high school students enrolled in School District an opportunity to receive dual high school and college level credit through the Dual and Articulated Credit program; and

WHEREAS, the Parties desire to enter into this Agreement to facilitate the transition of students from secondary coursework into Rock Valley College; and

WHEREAS, the Parties herein desire to enter into an Agreement setting forth the services and guidelines to be provided and followed by each Party.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby agreed by and between the Parties as follows:

1. School District and Rock Valley College will make available to eligible students participating in the Dual and Articulated Credit Program certain agreed upon "dual credit courses" and "articulated credit courses," as listed in Appendix A which is attached hereto and incorporated herein.
2. All dual credit courses shall be taught by qualified and approved School District instructors ("School District Dual Credit Instructors") during the academic year.
3. All dual credit and articulated credit courses shall be taught at the School District's campuses, unless otherwise noted in Appendix A.
4. It is further agreed upon by the Parties that the School District will:
 - a. Designate a School District point-of-contact for all dual credit and articulated credit course offerings.
 - b. Follow the procedures outlined in Appendix B which is attached hereto and incorporated herein, regarding Curriculum Development, Feedback, and Approval;
 - c. Verify that School District Dual Credit Instructors meet Rock Valley College's minimum qualifications to teach including:
 - i. Each School District Dual Credit Instructor must submit a *Rock Valley College Dual Credit at the High School Instructor Application*.
 - ii. The School District must complete an *Instructor Verification* form for each School District Dual Credit Instructor to verify that official transcripts and formal identification of the Instructor are on record at the District office for ICCB and HLC auditing purposes.

- d. Follow the procedures outlined in Appendix D for articulated credit courses which is attached hereto and incorporated herein;
- e. Collaborate with Rock Valley College Early College Department on a shared Google Sheet to track students' completed Enrollment Forms and submit course rosters for each dual credit and articulated credit course. Dual credit course rosters will be used for Rock Valley College course registration and articulated credit course rosters will be used to track students' articulated credit eligibility;
- f. Send Rock Valley College initial dual credit course rosters via the shared Google Sheet, in June for fall semester and year-long courses, and November for the spring semester courses, and verify final rosters within 2 weeks after the high school start date;
- g. Send verified articulated credit course rosters via the shared Google Sheet within 30 days after the high school start date;
- h. Ensure that School District Dual Credit Instructors follow Rock Valley College's master course syllabus with identified learning outcomes for each course, and utilize appropriate textbooks for each course as agreed upon by School District and Rock Valley College;
- i. Ensure that School District Dual and Articulated Credit Instructors submit high school course syllabi that are in alignment with the Rock Valley College Master Course Syllabus, and include all information specific to course curriculum (learning outcomes, course objectives, methods of assessment, course outline), and samples of class assignments, projects, and exams to Early College Department for review on an annual basis, and utilize the approved syllabus, appropriate textbooks, resources, and RVC approved final project or exam (if necessary) for each course as agreed upon by School District and Rock Valley College;
- j. Be responsible for School District Dual Credit Instructors submitting a final instructor course syllabus for each course section to the Rock Valley College Early College Department by the end of the second week of high school classes each semester;
- k. Require all School District Dual Credit Instructors to attend Dual Credit Instructor workshops and other related meetings hosted by Rock Valley College to discuss dual credit processes and procedures *at least* once each academic year, for purposes of ensuring that student learning outcomes are met and that the Instructor is able to deliver quality, rigorous college credit coursework;
- l. Allow Rock Valley College's chief academic officer or his or her designee, in consultation with the School District's superintendent or his or her designee, the opportunity to conduct course evaluations in a manner consistent with RVC's review and evaluation policies and procedures for on-campus adjunct faculty, to include peer review visits to the School District on an annual basis. This evaluation shall be limited to the course and the ability of the Instructor to deliver quality, rigorous college credit coursework. This evaluation shall not impact the Instructor's performance evaluation under Article 24A of the School Code;
- m. Require all School District Dual Credit Instructors to complete the following steps in Rock Valley College Self Service, in accordance with the calendar dates determined by Rock Valley College and as outlined in Appendix C, which is attached hereto and incorporated herein: Rock Valley

College Enrollment Verification ("EVR"), midterm grades, and final grades, which become part of each student's official college record;

- n. Distribute on the first day of class, the instructor course syllabus to each student registered in a Dual Credit course section;
- o. Ensure that all students enrolled in courses for college credit meet Rock Valley College course prerequisites and placement requirements or are concurrently enrolled in transitional courses, remedial courses, or receiving a mutually agreed upon academic intervention; and
- p. Provide necessary academic support and guidance to students enrolled in the program.

5. It is further agreed upon by the Parties that Rock Valley College will:

- a. Provide courses from Illinois Community College Board ("ICCB") approved programs;
- b. Provide the School District with copies of all official college credit master course syllabi which contain course descriptions, prerequisites, learning outcomes, course requirements, and methods of evaluation for courses referenced in Appendix A;
- c. Follow the Curriculum Development, Feedback and Approval procedure outlined in Appendix B;
- d. Provide the School District with a list of the currently approved textbooks for dual credit courses being taught at the School District;
- e. Review the resume and transcripts of any School District Dual Credit Instructor recommended by the School District to teach a dual credit course to ensure compliance with minimum Illinois Community College Board and Higher Learning Commission qualifications to teach dual credit requirements;
- f. Provide guidance on appropriate placement of students using multiple measures;
- g. Evaluate and document the performance of students who complete dual credit courses, and share such data with the School District. The evaluation shall not impact the instructor's performance evaluation under the School Code.
- h. Award appropriate college credit and record student grades on a permanent college transcript which will be maintained by Rock Valley College;
- i. Award appropriate college credit and record a 'T' grade on students' permanent college transcripts for students who earn a final grade of 'A' or 'B' in an articulated credit course listed in Appendix A and following the procedures outlined in Appendix D;
- j. Review this MOU annually for accuracy and pricing; and
- k. Host bi-annual meetings in the fall and spring semesters between the School District and College to discuss dual credit matters and renewal of agreements.

6. School District will provide, at its cost, School District Dual Credit Instructors who are qualified to deliver dual credit instruction in compliance with applicable standards established by the Illinois State Board of Education ("ISBE"), ICCB, and the Higher Learning Commission ("HLC"), and will also provide, at its cost, appropriate academic support to participating students to ensure delivery of quality instruction.
7. School District will provide associated instructional costs such as instructional materials and supplies, as needed.
8. Rock Valley College will charge a per-student enrollment fee of \$50.00 for each dual credit course for the 2024-2025 academic year and will waive associated student fees. The per-student enrollment fee shall not apply to students who enroll in dual credit courses for high school credit only pursuant to Section 14 of this Agreement.
9. By Rock Valley College waiving associated student fees, the participating student will not be eligible for utilization of Rock Valley College student organizations and select student support services.
10. If the School District cannot provide instructional coverage and Rock Valley College is capable, at the School District's cost, a separate agreement will need to be drafted to outline the expenses associated with Rock Valley College's instructional delivery of the dual credit course at the School District campuses.
11. Recommended modifications to this Agreement will be mutually agreed upon by the Parties and shall be in writing. Such modifications will not jeopardize credit for the students currently enrolled in courses covered under this Agreement.
12. For classes desired to be offered as part of a pathway but that do not have a qualified dual credit teacher or enough qualifying students enrolled, the College will determine if those courses can be offered as articulated credit and how district students will earn that credit, as referenced in Appendixes A and D.
13. The Parties will work collaboratively and utilize the following processes to ensure that individual students with disabilities have access to Dual Credit at High School courses, provided that they are able to meet the criteria for entry into such courses:
 - a. The School District will ensure that all of its students have access to dual credit course offering information prior to course selection.
 - b. Once dual credit course rosters are finalized, the School District will indicate on the shared Google Sheet which dual credit students have an IEP or 504 plan and document the provided accommodations within the established School District practices for record keeping of these services.
 - c. A student with a disability shall have access to the supplementary aids and accommodations included in their individualized education program under Article 14 of the Illinois School Code or Section 504 Plan under the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 while the student is accessing a dual credit course on the School District's campus, in accordance with established School District practices for providing these services.
 - d. The School District and RVC shall regularly communicate regarding the progress, performance and individual needs of students with disabilities who are enrolled in Dual Credit at High School courses.

Nothing contained herein shall be construed as to release the School District from its obligations as the "Resident District" and/or "Local Education Agency," as those terms may be defined in State or federal laws, rules and/or regulations relating to students with disabilities. The School District represents and warrants that, at all times and during all situations governed by this Agreement, it shall remain the Resident District and Local Education Agency for any and all students with disabilities participating in Dual Credit at High School hereunder.

14. The School District will allow high school students who do not otherwise meet the College's academic eligibility requirements for receipt of college credit to enroll in dual credit courses taught at the high school, for high school credit only.
 - a. To the extent practicable, students enrolled in a dual credit course for high school credit only will be placed in a separate section than those students who are enrolled in the course for both high school and college credit.
 - b. The School District will establish procedures, prior to the first day of class, to notify all individual high school students enrolled in a mixed enrollment dual credit course that includes students who have and have not met the criteria for dual credit coursework of whether or not they are eligible to earn college credit or the course.
 - c. The School District shall ensure that its instructors maintain the rigor of dual credit courses taught at the high school and including students not deemed ready for college-level coursework according to the College's standards.

15. In carrying out its respective obligations under this Agreement, each Party and its employees shall maintain the confidentiality of all personally identifiable information concerning the students enrolled in dual and/or articulated credit courses, and shall adhere to all applicable federal, State and local laws, rules and regulations now in effect or later adopted relating to the confidentiality of student records and information, including but not limited to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act ("FERPA"), 20 U.S.C. §1232g, and Illinois School Student Records Act ("ISSRA"), 105 ILCS 10/1 et seq. With regard to the education records/school student records and information to which a Party and/or its employees shall be granted access under this Agreement, that Party and its employees shall be deemed "school officials" with legitimate educational interests in such records and information. The Party and its employees shall have the right to access and use such records and information solely for the purpose of performing the Party's obligations under this Agreement. The Party and its employees shall not re-disclose personally identifiable student information that is received under this Agreement to any third party, except as directed or permitted by the other Party, or as required by law. Each Party shall have in place reasonable policies and procedures, which the other Party may monitor or audit upon request and with reasonable notice, to prevent such re-disclosure.

To the extent feasible, the College and School District shall annually assess disaggregated data pertaining to dual credit course enrollments, completions, and subsequent postsecondary enrollment and performance. If applicable, this assessment shall include an analysis of dual credit courses with credit sections for dual credit and for high school credit only pursuant to Section 14 of this Agreement that reviews student characteristics by credit section in relation to gender, race and ethnicity, and low-income status. School District shall be responsible for providing dis-aggregated data concerning students enrolled in dual credit courses for high school credit only.

16. This Agreement will be in effect August 1, 2024 and end on June 30, 2025.

High School Superintendent Date

Rock Valley College President Date

Board of Education Date

Rock Valley College Board of Trustees Date

Appendix A
Dual Credit Courses

The following Rock Valley College courses will be offered at Oregon School District as dual credit effective during this Agreement:

Dual Credit Courses
LIT 141 – Film and Literature
LIT 144 – Exploring Literature: Fiction

Appendix B

Curriculum Development, Feedback, and Approval

Dual credit courses taught at the high school are sanctioned by the Dual Credit Quality Act (110 ILCS 27/). In order for a dual credit course to run at a high school, the following must occur:

1. Dual Credit Instructor Application Process
2. Dual Credit Course Application Process
3. Annual Dual Credit Course Peer Review (including syllabus submission)
4. Dual Credit Student Survey Collection

Appendix C Dual Credit Roster & Grading Procedures for Dual Credit Instructors

1. School District Dual Credit Instructors set up their Rock Valley College network account and password to complete the following processes in RVC Self Service. Individual notices will be sent to each instructor at the start of each course with EVR, midterm, and final deadline dates. Reminder emails will also be sent prior to each deadline date. Missed deadline dates for EVR, midterm grades, and final grades will result in manual processes for the instructor and RVC.
2. Instructors complete the Enrollment Verification (“EVR”) process by the tenth day of classes to ensure the high school roster **matches** the Rock Valley College course roster of registered students seeking college credit for their participation in the course. This includes an instructor duty to initiate the following:
 - a) Drop any student who has never attended the course or who does not want dual credit.
 - b) Contact the RVC Early College Office if a student who has been attending is not on the RVC roster so that they can be added.
3. Instructors submit Midterm Grades by the assigned **midterm date**.
 - a) Mark “S” for each student who is currently passing the course with a ‘C’ or better.
 - b) Mark “D” for each student who is currently earning a ‘D’ in the course.
 - c) Mark “F” for each student who is currently earning a ‘F’ in the course.
4. Instructors send Early College notice of a student’s intent to withdraw from a course by the assigned **Withdrawal** deadline. Student receives a ‘W’ grade on their Official RVC Transcript.
5. Instructors submit Final Grades in Self Service by the assigned **final grading deadline**, and the final grade is reported on students’ Official RVC Transcripts.

Appendix D Articulated Credit Policy & Procedures

1. School District communicates intent to offer articulated credit course no later than 6 months before start of intended school year, and adds course information to the shared District and RVC Google Sheet.
2. High school instructor submits syllabus, textbook, and samples of assignments, tests and projects to Early College for review. Updated information must be submitted annually.
3. Rock Valley College will determine approval of the course and it will be added to Appendix A of the MOU.
4. District verifies high school rosters within 30 days from the start of the high school class via the shared Google Sheet between School District and College.
5. Students in articulated courses complete a Rock Valley College Online Enrollment Form within the first week of class.
6. High School provides official, verified high school final grading roster to Early College upon completion of the high school course.
7. Students who earn an 'A' or 'B' in the high school course will be eligible for articulated credit upon the successful completion ('C' or better) in the subsequent course(s), as indicated in Appendix A.
8. Subsequent course(s) must be enrolled in and successfully completed no later than one year after the student's high school graduation.
9. Students register for subsequent course(s) as part of dual credit offerings at the School District or in classes offered at Rock Valley College campuses.
10. The student will receive articulated credit from RVC upon successful completion of subsequent course(s) within timeframe given above.