

Instruction

MOUNT PLEASANT COTTAGE SCHOOL UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT**SUBJECT: INDEPENDENT STUDY**

Students enrolled in the District may earn a maximum of three (3) units of elective credit toward a Regents diploma through independent study. The student's participation in independent study shall be approved by a school-based panel consisting of, at a minimum, the Principal, a teacher in the subject area for which independent credit is sought, and a guidance director or administrator.

The panel shall approve the student's participation based on the following criteria:

- 1) The student has demonstrated readiness and has a high likelihood of success. This may be indicated by a given grade point average in the given subject or in general for each subject in which the student seeks to undertake independent study;
- 2) The student has accumulated the expected number of units of credit for his/her grade level; and
- 3) The student has passed the appropriate number of Regents examinations or other assessments required for graduation for the student's grade level.

The Principal, after consultation with relevant faculty, shall award credit to the student for successful completion of the independent study and demonstrated mastery of the learning outcomes of the subject.

Independent study shall be:

- 1) Academically rigorous and aligned to the New York State commencement-level learning standards;
- 2) Overseen by a teacher knowledgeable and experienced in the subject area of the independent study;
- 3) Based on a syllabus on file for each independent study; and
- 4) Of comparable scope and quality to classroom work that would have been expected by the District.

Credit for independent study may be awarded for elective courses only and shall not be awarded for courses required for the Regents diploma as specified in Commissioner's Regulations.