

Administrative Procedure 7020

Course Challenge and Equivalency

1. The Board Education will comply with Ministerial directives and guidelines regarding graduation requirements, and believes that granting credit for prior learning is an appropriate method of permitting students to develop to their maximum potential as expressed in the board’s mission statement.

2. **Course Challenge**
 - 2.1 The purpose of the challenge portion of this policy and the attached regulation is to acknowledge, within parameters, learning which students have accomplished in other settings which corresponds to grade 11 and 12 courses currently being offered in the district or at North Island Distance Education School. A successful challenge results in a student receiving course credit for the appropriate course content, and a final mark which is recorded on the student’s graduation transcript.

 - 2.2 The underlying principles of challenge are that students learn in a variety of ways and at different rates, and that their diverse needs and abilities should be acknowledged by providing opportunities to obtain credit for relevant learning. Students must demonstrate that they have met the learning outcomes for the course being challenged, and the process should maintain the high standards of a quality education.

 - 2.3 All students are entitled to challenge courses: however, challenging is a rigorous process and it is anticipated that only small numbers of students will be able to give strong and compelling evidence that it is in their best interests to attempt to challenge a course and that they will succeed. Challenge is not envisioned as a method for students to improve their course marks, nor as a replacement for the valuable experience students gain from learning in a classroom setting.

3. **Course Equivalency**

The purpose of equivalency is to recognize valid credentials at the grade 11 and 12 levels acquired by students from other educational jurisdictions and from institutions outside the regular school system. All students who can provide a written credential or documentation to support their

equivalency requests are entitled to an equivalency review. Equivalency is not intended to recognize undocumented prior learning, and credit will be gained only if the prescribed learning outcomes from provincially and locally developed courses are met.