

CLIO HOMESCHOOL PARTNERSHIP
2017/2018 PARENT/STUDENT
HANDBOOK



VISION AND PHILOSOPHY OF LEARNING

The vision of the Clio Area School District is to become Leaders in Educational Excellence. We believe that every child deserves excellence every day. We believe that diversity is a strength, and that all children have different learning needs. Out of this vision and our core beliefs, a search for innovative school programs illuminated a learning/school model that met the needs of a traditionally underserved population in our area, homeschoolers.

This journey has led to the Clio Partnership. The philosophy behind the partnership is founded on the principles of equity and access to high quality educational programming. The Clio Partnership combines the best business community partners, homeschool students, their parents, and the Clio Area School District to form the Clio Partnership. Together, we form an educational entity that leverages the flexibility of the homeschooling model, state-of-the-art technology and State resources to create a slow and attached learning environment for our homeschool children.

PROGRAM OF STUDY

Classes are subject to availability, and enrollment may impact a course's availability. Each child's learning plan is developed by the Homeschool Parent, Student and Partnership Liaison. Parents retain their homeschool status by engaging in non-core classes. These classes are also considered nonessential by the Michigan Department of Education. Homeschool parents teach core academics in the home. Each course will have at least one online component. Classes leverage seat-time waivers from the State's 5-0-D virtual waiver, so that learning can happen at anytime and in any place. The components that are face-to-face may take place in a variety of locations depending on the community partner. Some may occur onsite at our Clio Learning Center. Others may take place at a local business.

The Clio Partnership offers elective classes for ALL children in the Clio Area School District and children who come to Clio via Schools of Choice. Partnership courses may regularly occur during times when traditional K-12 classes are meeting. This has the potential to take children away from planned instruction. Parents will have to sign a hold harmless waiver to protect the District from the potential loss of learning due to traditional learning time constraints.

For the 2017/2018 school year, students may take a *maximum* of five (5) courses including the Expeditions and Quests each semester or .75 FTE as defined by the State of Michigan Department of Education's Pupil Accounting Manual. Courses meet at different times and places to meet the needs and availability of each community partner and space required for each individualized course. If a student in the traditional K-12 environment wishes to take a homeschool course, the parent must take the student out of Physical Education or Music during

the school day when it is scheduled. NO OVERRIDES ARE PERMITTED as it is unlawful to gift district resources to anyone including children.

TRANSPORTATION AND ATTENDANCE

Due to the various locations of the partnership courses and the learning model, parents are required to provide student transportation to and from classes. Parents are also required to be on site during the face-to-face sessions. Most homeschool parents wish to be in the classrooms with their children. We encourage this as long as it doesn't interfere with the operation of the courses.

Attendance is taken regularly by the community partners and our teachers of record electronically. In order to receive State funding for the Partnership courses, weekly two-way educational communication must be logged to ensure our virtual classes are utilizing our seat-time waiver appropriately. This means mentors and/or teachers will be required to communicate with students about educational issues within the context of the classes they are taking.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

In accordance with Special Education law, ancillary services will be available to provide Free and Appropriate Public Education to ALL students within the Clio Area School District. Given that the Clio Partnership program does not offer core classes, specialized math and reading instruction by a highly qualified special education teacher is only available in our traditional K-12 programs. To that end, students with disabilities' needs will be met in accordance with Federal and State laws as well as Clio Area School Board Policy.

CALENDAR

Fall Courses will begin meeting face-to-face September 11, 2017 through January 18, 2018. Online components of courses will be available September 5, 2017 through January 26, 2018. Winter courses will meet beginning January 29 through May 30, 2018. Online components of courses will be available through June 13, 2018.

TECHNOLOGY

In accordance with Board Policies 7520, 7530.01, and 7540, the use of technology is permitted for learning purposes. Every attempt to filter illegal and improper technologies has and will be made to safeguard our children. It is the responsibility of every citizen to report unwanted or inappropriate websites and misuse of school technology.

PARTICIPATION IN EXTRA AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Students may participate in age-appropriate extra and co-curricular activities within the Clio Area School District. This includes dances, family fun nights and sports through 8th grade.

In accordance with MHSAA guidelines, Clio Partnership students will NOT be allowed to participate in high school sports for the 2017/2018 school year. This has been explored and the District is supportive of participation in all community activities including high school sports. We look forward to homeschool participation in the 2018/2019 school year.

MICHIGAN STATE ASSESSMENTS

Students are NOT required to take state assessments as all Homeschool Partnership students and parents maintain their homeschool status as they are provided core academic instruction at home. This means that students do not have to take M-STEP, PSAT 8/9, PSAT, or SAT. If parents would like to have their children take the assessments, please contact the Curriculum office at (810) 591-7483.

EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN PARTICIPATION

All of the Clio Partnership courses are virtual. In order to receive State funding, all students must create a plan. Traditionally, this has been a process that only 7th through 12th graders needed to engage in. The Michigan Department of Education has given us the following guidance, "The K-6 EDP Guidelines should include the pupil's preferred learning style, interests, areas of academic development, and a timeline of measures for the development of these items." A Clio Partnership EDP form will be co-created with our homeschool parents to meet the letter of the law and ensure the sustainability of our program.

STUDENT BEHAVIOR AND DISCIPLINE

Given the nature of our extremely high parent involvement, parents will be required to ensure their children behave in a safe and orderly manner. Parents know their children best and should remove them from situations that are unproductive to our learning environment. For the safety of all children, weapons of any kind are not allowed on school property and shall be grounds for removal from the program. Restorative Justice Practices will be considered for every student behavior incident. To that end, certain conduct is required by State law and local policy for expulsion.

DRESS CODE

The general philosophy of our learning community is clean and covered. It is asked and expected that all students come to courses ready to learn and not pose a distraction to one another's learning. Certain courses will require exceptions to this rule. For example, Scuba Diving may require different attire from the Strings course. Please, exercise good judgement.

ANTI-BULLYING AND ANTI-HARASSMENT

It is the policy of the Board of Education to maintain an education and work environment that is free from all forms of unlawful harassment, including sexual harassment. This commitment applies to all School District operations, programs, and activities. All students, administrators, teachers, staff, and all other school personnel share responsibility for avoiding, discouraging, and reporting any form of unlawful harassment. This policy applies to unlawful conduct occurring on school property, or at another location if such conduct occurs during an activity sponsored by the Board. If you see something say something. Please report all bullying or harassment to the Clio Area School District's Anti-Harassment Compliance Officer/s: Stephen Keskes, Assistant Superintendent or Jessica McCallum, Special Education Director. Both may be reached at (810) 591-0500.

2017/2018 PILOT COURSE OFFERINGS

All Semester Courses will be aligned to State or National Standards. All Semester courses, with the exception of the Expeditions and Quests course will meet 15, times face-to-face and continuously in the virtual platform throughout the semester. The Expeditions and Quests course will meet 7 times per semester and also have a continuous virtual component. All courses will have a pre and post assessment for students, parents and teachers to monitor students' growth and learning. A minimum of four (4) students need to be enrolled in a class in order for it to run.

MUSIC

Music and Rhythm - Young students will learn songs and use rhythm instruments and perform in a concert at the end of the year. K-4. (.50 credit)

Band - Students will learn to play a band instrument and perform in a concert at the end of the year. 5th grade and up. (.50 credit)

Rhythm and Music: For grades 4th and below. Taught by our new teacher Aaron Reinhard, Rhythm class is a creative, fun introduction to rhythm & music. The class explores the basics of rhythm on a variety of percussion instruments from around the world. Students will learn to express and develop their natural rhythmic capabilities. A focus will be placed on learning rhythms by ear first and also understanding how to read rhythms in standard musical notation. (.50 credit)

Strings- Students will learn to play the violin and perform in a concert at the end of the year. 5th grade and up. (.50 credit)

Music Lessons- (K-12) Piano and guitar will be taught on an individual basis. (.50 credit)

ART

American Artists: Any age student will learn about an American Artist and then do an art project in the manner of that artist. (.50 credit)

Fun with Numbers and Art - Combine your creativity and math skills to create unique pieces of art and paper sculptures, as well as learn about artists who used numeral techniques in their work. (.50 credit)

Art (5-9) - Student will learn about various artists and their techniques by viewing examples of various artworks. Students will be encouraged to use this information to complete their own artwork. (.50 credit)

Art (10+) Student will learn about various artists and their techniques by viewing examples of various artworks. Students will be encouraged to use this information to complete their own artwork. (.50 credit)

Drawing- The basics of drawing course is recommended for the older student. (.50 credit)

Photography/Yearbook - Students will learn the basics of digital photography while learning how to put together a yearbook. (.50 credit)

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Gym - Student will play a variety of sports and work on specific skills. (.25 credit)

Martial Arts - The Karate For Kids Program offers traditional martial arts training to children ages 5 and up and emphasizes self-defense, physical fitness, conflict resolution, teamwork, focus and respect. This program was designed specifically for children and teaches *prevention first* as well as techniques a child can effectively use against an attacker. This program does not promote aggressiveness, but teaches children to respect themselves, others and the skills they learn. This introductory course in Traditional Tang Soo Do has been commended by many communities, law enforcement personnel, teachers and parents for the positive impact on children. It's an exciting, fun and educational program. At the end of the program the students will have an opportunity to test for their yellow belt for a fee of \$10. 9 (.25 Credit)

Gymnastics - Students will participate in the Clio Gymnastic program. Student will learn tumbling, balance beam, bars and vault. This will be in two 8 week sessions. (.5 Credit)

Archery - Student will learn physical education and receive instruction on how to improve archery skills and practice skill for an hour each session. (.25 Credit)

Golf- Students learn physical education through the game of golf. Students will participate in course (.25 credit)

Dance Students will be taught beginning ballet. A performance will be given at the end of the year. (.5 credit) and (.5) Yearlong

Horsemanship - This class will consist of **10 weeks** of classroom instruction, students will learn the history of horses, grooming, equine dentistry, and other things about horses. Some of these classes may be held at Bluewater Dressage in Bridgeport. The last **5 weeks** will be horseback riding lessons at Rustler Janes. This class is for ages 10 and up. (.50 credit)

Skiing-Students Learn Physical Education through Skiing. (.25 credit)

Horseback Riding - Students will receive 1 hour riding and ½ hour ground training. Ground training will teach students care, leading, ground training, body parts, gate, saddling, first aid. Class will be a 7 or 8 week session. (.25 credit)

Roller Skating: Classes will take place at Skateland and students will learn the basics of roller skating. (.50 credit)

Scuba Diving This eight weeks session will be held at the Dive Shop in Flint. Students will learn the basics of scuba diving and will be certified at the end of the class. Student will need to purchase their own equipment that averages \$220. Also Certification will be \$175 at the end of the eight week class. (.25 credit)

Swimming - Students will take swim lessons at various locations. Instructors will test child's swim skills and instruction will be at the student's level. This will be 2 8/7 week sessions. (.25 credit)

Ballroom Dancing - Students will learn ballroom and swing dancing along with dance etiquette. (15 Weeks) (.5 credit)

STEM COURSES

Experiments and Discoveries: Students will discover the world around them using the labs for authentic research. (.50 credit)

Outdoor Adventures: Students will participate in a series of activities to learn more about nature. This course will take place at the Ligon Nature Center as well as virtually. (.50 credit)

Down on the Farm: Students will learn all about farming from community partners engaged in the world of agriculture. Students will understand both animal and plant sciences through their farming experiences. (.50 credit)

TECHNOLOGY

Network Administration - Student will have a comprehensive knowledge of network systems including security, wireless configurations. Students will learn the components of computer software and hardware platforms, network scripting and Active Directory implementation and

support. Students will have to speak to the instructor to show proficiency to be allowed into class. (ages 12-18) (.50 credit)

Computer Programming - Students will use GAMESTAR gaming development software to create their very own application or game. The class includes building-block hands-in technology concepts that help students explore programming and learn components of programming logic, all while using current programming languages. (ages 8-12) (.50 credit)

Introduction to Computers and Technology - Students will have an understanding of what hardware and software are and what they are used for, describe the parts of a computer, take a computer apart and put it back together. Word, Excel and PowerPoint will be taught. Typing skills and Internet usage will also be taught. (.50 credit)

Jr. Robotics (K-2) Students will learn to build and program using three different robots throughout the year. (.50 credit)

Jr. Tinkering This class will have a series of hands-on projects for kids to create, covering a variety of scientific concepts from building a solar system night light to learning how science can make “magic” (examples of previous crates). (.50 credit)

Microsoft Work and Excel - Students will be introduced to the basic features of Microsoft Office, Window basics and file management. Excel will be introduced and practical usage explored. This is recommended for students with a good command of the keyboard. (.50 credit)

Robotics 1 - Students will learn to build and program robots using a Lego EV3 Robotics Kit. This will include use and programming of various sensors. (.50 credit)

Tinkering 1 -This class will have a series of hands-on projects for the student to create-from making slime to building a catapult. Using Tinker Crates students will explore physics, chemistry and engineering. (.50 credit)

Google Suite K-5: This course teaches elementary students the collaborative tools within the Google Suite. Students learn Docs, Sheets, Slides and More.

Google Suite 6-8:This course teaches elementary students the collaborative tools within the Google Suite. Students learn Docs, Sheets, Slides and More.

WRITING AND COMMUNICATION

Drama - Acting/Improvisation Workshop – Students will participate in games and activities that will teach them about acting, help them build creativity, communication, social skills, confidence, self-esteem, respect, and responsibility. (.50 credit)

Writing Workshop (5-6) - Students will Improve writing using the tried and true IEW (Institute for the Excellence of Writing) . This program will improve writing skill whether the student is a budding author or a reluctant writer. (.50 credit)

Writing Workshop (7-9) - Improve writing using the tried and true IEW (Institute for the Excellence of Writing) . This program will improve writing skill whether the student is a budding author or a reluctant writer. (.50 credit)

Public Speaking and Oral Communication-

Whether in business or in everyday life, communication and public presentation skills are essential. In this class, students will learn how to overcome their fears of public presentations in order to make sure their message is communicated to the audience in an effective manner. This learning experience will be in a non-intimidating atmosphere with respect afforded to both the students and presenters. (.50 credit)

Polite Manners and Etiquette - This course teaches students appropriate manners and social etiquette in a myriad of social situations. (.50 credit)

GLOBAL STUDIES

Learning States and Capitals: Learn about different states each week while memorizing all 50 States and Capitals. Recommended ages 3rd - 8th grade. (.50 credit)

MISCELLANEOUS COURSES/OFFERINGS

American Sign Language - Students in grades K-8 will learn the finger alphabet and American Sign Language. (.50 credit)

Conversational ASL* - Students 5th grade and up will learn ASL words and phrases to use in conversation. (.50 credit)

Young ASL* - Students K-4 will learn the finger alphabet and American Sign Language through games and conversation. (.50 credit)

Curious Explorer: ages 5-9 Exploring our environment through the five Es (Engage, Explore, Explain, Elaborate, Evaluate), students will learn to complete projects. Some examples are safety, roads, bugs. They will take two projects home a month. (.50 credit)

Dual Enrollment – Students will be allowed to take up to 9 College Credits per semester (.75 FTE). Students are allowed to take a maximum of 10 college courses throughout their high school career as outlined by the Michigan Department of Education’s guidance on dual enrollment.

Experimental Explorer: Ages 9-12 : Exploring our world through the five Es (Engage, Explore, Explain, Elaborate, Evaluate), students will learn to observe, plan, and complete projects. Some examples are first aid, bridges, food. They will take two projects home a month. (.50 credit)

Simple Spanish (K-4)—Students will learn basic Spanish words such as colors, numbers, and handy everyday nouns. Common phrases and questions will also be introduced (e.g.—“What is your name?” “My name is...” “Good morning/afternoon/night”). A mix of stories, songs/rhymes, and hands-on activities will assist the student in acquiring the basics of the Language. (.50 credit)

Virtual Lab – Students will be allowed to take virtual courses through the Genesee Intermediate School District and the Clio Area Schools via the 221 agreement.

Expeditions and Quests - This course engages students in experiential learning. Students engage in community activities in the form of field trips and respond to their experiences using technology. (.50 credits)

The Clio Partnership

Parental Waiver Regarding Elective Partnership Courses

(Required At Time Of Enrollment)

I, _____ as parent or legal guardian for _____, hereby give my permission for this named student to enroll in elective courses offered through The Clio Partnership. I do so with the full understanding this has the potential to take the student away from planned instruction. Accordingly, I agree to hold Clio Area Schools and/or its agents harmless from any potential loss of learning due to traditional learning time constraints. I further acknowledge that transportation to/from all Partnership courses and activities is the responsibility of the student or parent and not the school district.

Parent/guardian signature: _____ Date: _____

Administrator Signature: _____ Date: _____

