



Brownell Middle School
260 Chalfonte Avenue
Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236
Telephone: 313/432-3900
Fax: 313/432-3902

Dr. Michael B. Dib, Principal

Dear Parents:

As your eighth grader moves in to the last semester of their middle school education, I wish to inform you of an addendum to the Michigan Merit Curriculum called the Personal Curriculum. In 2007, the Michigan legislature passed laws related to new high school graduation requirements. These new requirements were called the Michigan Merit Curriculum. This curriculum contains more rigorous standards for graduation with a high school diploma and began with the class of 2011.

We hope that the new Michigan Merit Curriculum requirements will improve the quality of education for ALL Michigan public high school students. We are also aware that some students have special talents and interests that warrant additions to the curriculum. Other students may have disabilities that require some accommodations to make the Michigan Merit Curriculum meaningful and fair.

If you believe your son or daughter needs a Personal Curriculum, a request for consideration of a Personal Curriculum can be made during the second semester of your child's sophomore year. The Michigan Merit Curriculum requirements and allowable Personal Curriculum modifications are listed below.

The new Michigan Merit Curriculum law requires the following when considering a Personal Curriculum:

- The Personal Curriculum must be requested by the parent or guardian.
- The Personal Curriculum may not be needed if the Michigan Merit Curriculum for a student can be addressed with other reasonable arrangements.
- When needed, Personal Curriculum is written by a group of knowledgeable people that includes the parent and school staff.
- The Personal Curriculum must adhere to the Michigan Merit Curriculum content standards as much as is possible for the student. In other words, the essential content expectations for graduation must still be met.
- The Personal Curriculum may exceed the requirements of the Michigan Merit Curriculum.
- The Personal Curriculum may contain some special provisions for students with documented disabilities.
- The Personal Curriculum must be approved by the Superintendent of the school district.
- The Personal Curriculum may be adjusted during the course of the student's high school education using the same process, as appropriate.

More detailed descriptions of the Michigan Merit Curriculum and a Personal Curriculum are available via the website at <http://gpschools.schoolwires.net/gpbrownell/site/default.asp> by clicking on the "Parents" tab and then Personal Curriculum.

Regardless of the path taken through the Michigan Merit Curriculum to graduation, we believe your child will be well prepared to meet the challenges of their high school experience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Michael B. Dib'.

Michael B. Dib
Principal