

# Michigan's Top Ten Strategic Education Plan

## Goal 5 – Increase the Percentage of All Students Who Graduate from High School: Through Personal Curriculum

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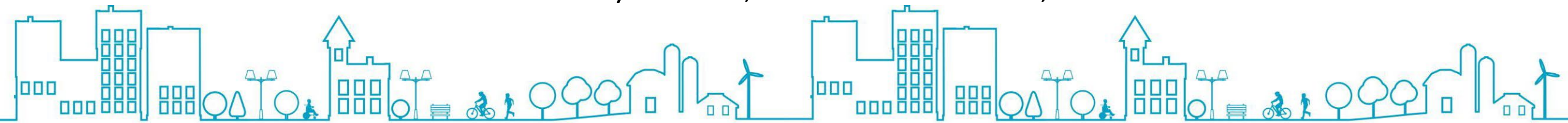
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# Goals

1. Expand early childhood learning opportunities
2. Improve early literacy achievement
3. Improve the health, safety, and wellness of all learners
4. Expand secondary learning opportunities for all students
- 5. Increase the percentage of all students who graduate from high school**
6. Increase the percentage of adults with a post-secondary credential
7. Increase the numbers of certified teachers in areas of shortage
8. Provide adequate and equitable school funding

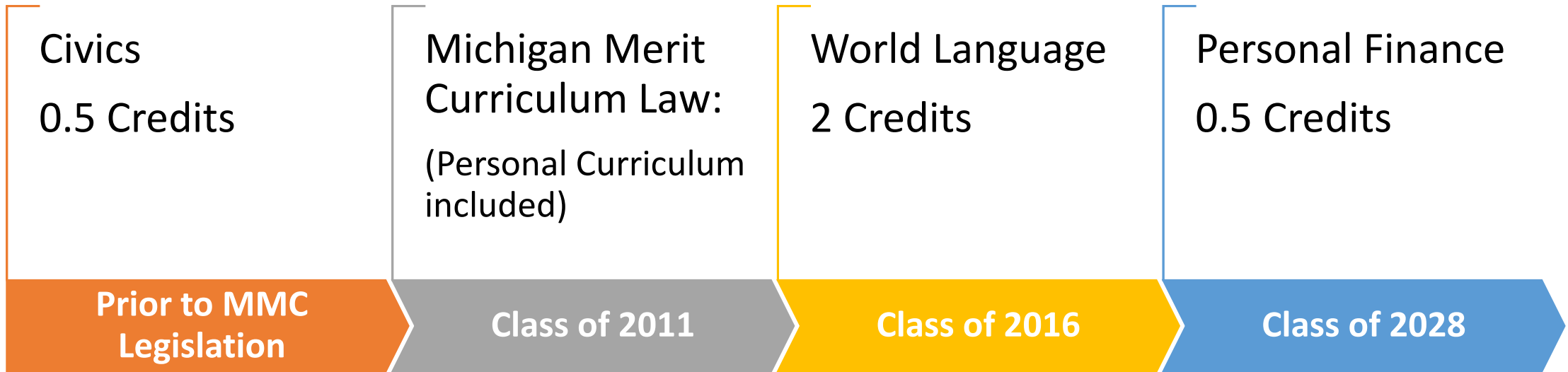


# Agenda

- Michigan Merit Curriculum (MMC) Brief History
- MMC Requirements
- Options for Meeting MMC Requirements
- Personal Curriculum (PC)
  - How it may be used to support completion of MMC requirements
  - Consideration for Students with an Individualized Education Program (IEP)
  - What it is / What it is not
- Impact on Student Graduation Rates



# MMC: Brief History



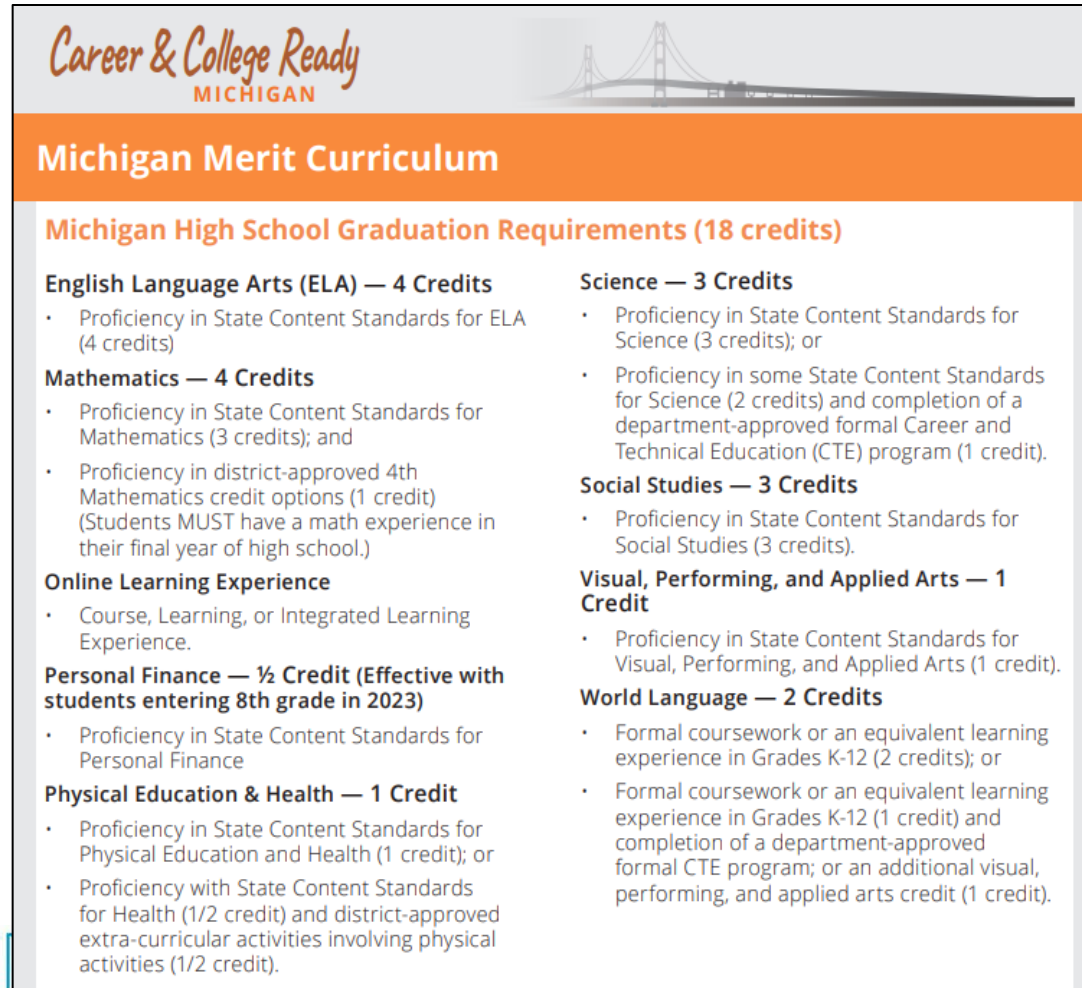
MMC became the mandate for students who started 8<sup>th</sup> grade in 2006

PF credit requirement began with the students who started 8<sup>th</sup> grade in 2023



# MMC Requirements

- By law, MMC credits are based on **proficiency, not seat time or course completion.**
- Students earn credit if they successfully demonstrate mastery of the subject area content standards for that credit, as determined by the district [www.Michigan.gov/highschool](http://www.Michigan.gov/highschool).
- It should be noted that only 18 credits are required under the MMC. Districts can decide whether to subtract a ½ credit of math, world language, or arts to support the inclusion of the ½ Personal Finance Credit, or add a ½ to the district total credits requirement.

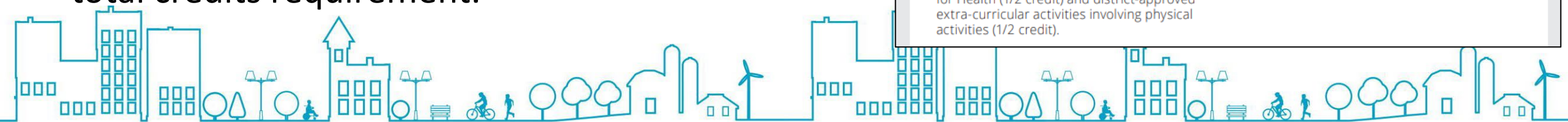


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## Michigan Merit Curriculum

### Michigan High School Graduation Requirements (18 credits)

<p><b>English Language Arts (ELA) — 4 Credits</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proficiency in State Content Standards for ELA (4 credits)</li> </ul> <p><b>Mathematics — 4 Credits</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proficiency in State Content Standards for Mathematics (3 credits); and</li> <li>• Proficiency in district-approved 4th Mathematics credit options (1 credit) (Students MUST have a math experience in their final year of high school.)</li> </ul> <p><b>Online Learning Experience</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Course, Learning, or Integrated Learning Experience.</li> </ul> <p><b>Personal Finance — ½ Credit (Effective with students entering 8th grade in 2023)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proficiency in State Content Standards for Personal Finance</li> </ul> <p><b>Physical Education &amp; Health — 1 Credit</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proficiency in State Content Standards for Physical Education and Health (1 credit); or</li> <li>• Proficiency with State Content Standards for Health (1/2 credit) and district-approved extra-curricular activities involving physical activities (1/2 credit).</li> </ul>	<p><b>Science — 3 Credits</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proficiency in State Content Standards for Science (3 credits); or</li> <li>• Proficiency in some State Content Standards for Science (2 credits) and completion of a department-approved formal Career and Technical Education (CTE) program (1 credit).</li> </ul> <p><b>Social Studies — 3 Credits</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proficiency in State Content Standards for Social Studies (3 credits).</li> </ul> <p><b>Visual, Performing, and Applied Arts — 1 Credit</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proficiency in State Content Standards for Visual, Performing, and Applied Arts (1 credit).</li> </ul> <p><b>World Language — 2 Credits</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formal coursework or an equivalent learning experience in Grades K-12 (2 credits); or</li> <li>• Formal coursework or an equivalent learning experience in Grades K-12 (1 credit) and completion of a department-approved formal CTE program; or an additional visual, performing, and applied arts credit (1 credit).</li> </ul>
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# MMC Requirements

Example: MMC required 3 science credits

- The requirement for science according to the MMC is proficiency in the Michigan Science Standards
  - Students must learn the 71 science standards before earning the 3 credits
  - Courses titled Biology or Physics *could* lead to credit but are not required
  - Districts determine the structure of courses or experiences that will provide the opportunity for students to access the standards
  - Districts also determine the assessment(s) to measure proficiency



# MMC Requirements

The 71 Science Standards are organized into 4 Core Ideas

- PHYSICAL SCIENCE
- LIFE SCIENCE
- EARTH AND SPACE SCIENCES
- ENGINEERING, TECHNOLOGY, AND APPLICATIONS OF SCIENCE



# Options for Earning Credit

- Traditional courses
  - A district can award credit when the student demonstrates proficiency in required content standards through any traditional course
  - A district should not award credit if proficiency is not demonstrated, regardless of course name
- Non-traditional or integrated courses
  - Integrated courses could grant multiple MMC credits
  - Courses outside of the high school that embed required standards, like dual enrollment, award credit when the student demonstrates proficiency in those standards

**When standards proficiency is demonstrated, credit *must* be granted.**





# Options for Earning Credit

- **Career and Technical Education (CTE)**
  - Any CTE course/program that embeds required standards may award credit when proficiency is demonstrated
    - Math credit earned during a welding program
    - Science credit earned during an engineering program
- **Extra-curricular experiences**
  - Students may learn standards outside of school and be granted credit upon demonstration of proficiency
    - Art credit earned through dance experience
    - PE credit awarded through karate experience
- **Testing out**
  - Any student may test out of any MMC requirement using a district assessment of required standards
  - A grade of C+ is required for credit on test-out

**When standards proficiency is demonstrated, credit *must* be granted.**



# MMC Flexibility

- The 18-credit requirement and the adopted content standards are appropriate for MOST students
- The MMC includes flexibility options to change the requirements
  - Science and World Language Waivers added in 2014
  - Personal Curriculum in original 2006 legislation



# MMC Credit Waivers (Non-PC)

## Science

- A student can waive one science credit if they complete a state-approved CTE program
- This waiver would change the science requirement to 2 credits.

## World Language

- A student can waive one world language credit if the student
  - Completes a state-approved CTE program, OR
  - Completes an extra art credit
- This waiver would change the world language requirement to 1 credit.



# Personal Curriculum



# Personal Curriculum (PC)

- The PC is a process to modify specific credit requirements and content standards; essentially, *it is an MMC waiver*
- All students can use a PC based on defined rules and circumstances
- The purpose of a PC is to align a student's high school courses and experiences with their educational development plan (EDP)/post-high school career plan



# Personal Curriculum

## What It Is

- An optional district tool to make minor changes to the MMC
- Individualized and aligned to EDP (and IEP if applicable)
- A proactive team-based process
- An amendable living document
- A way to make high school make sense for many students



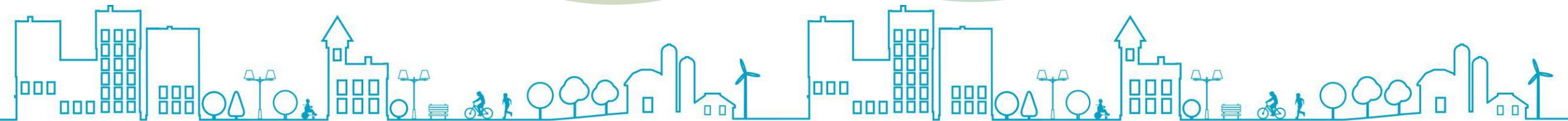
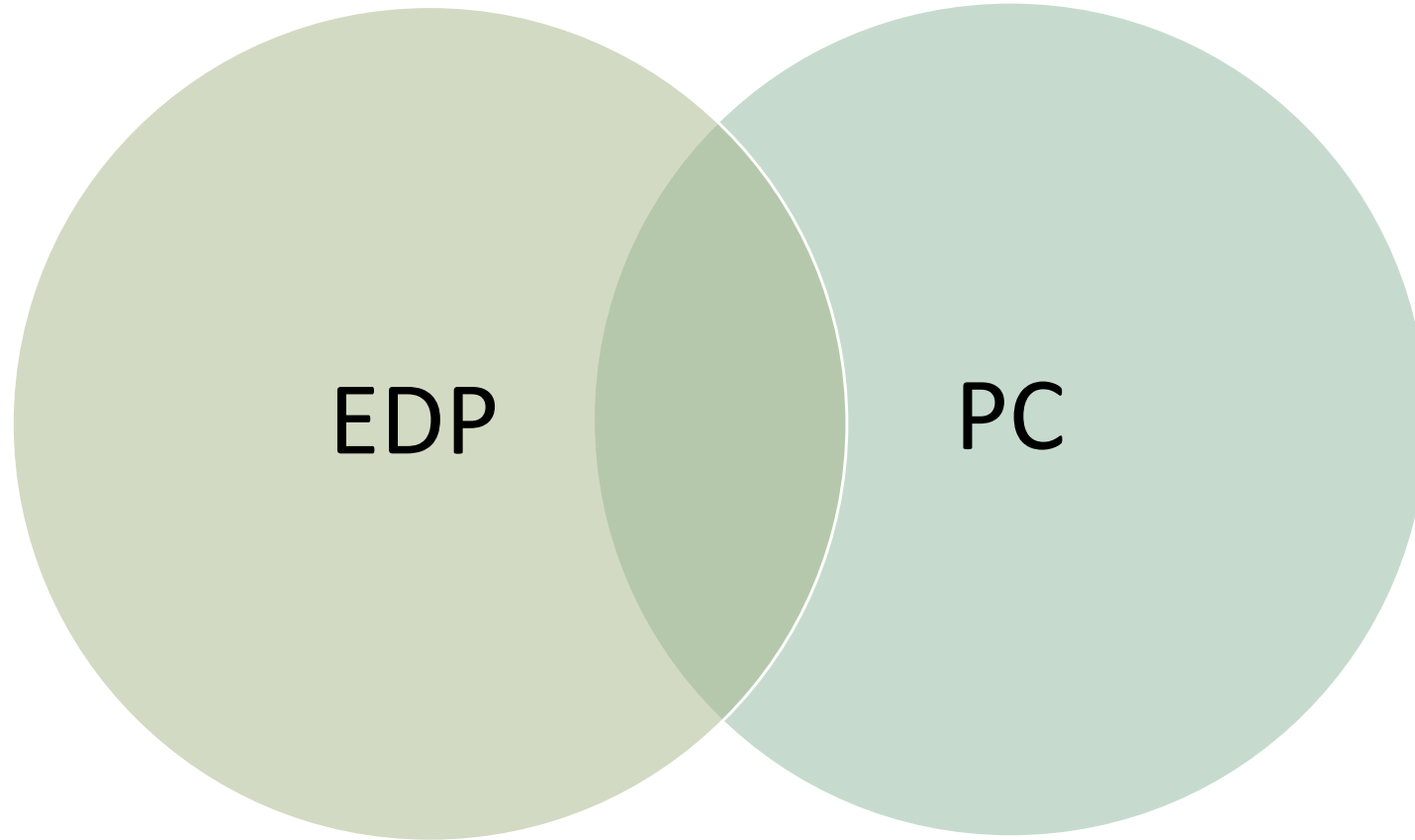
# Personal Curriculum

## What It Is Not

- A way to remove courses/credits that are too hard or that the student does not want to do
- A replacement for interventions or differentiated instruction
- A blanket policy - one size fits all
- A last-minute decision to help graduate



# How do EDP and PC Work Together?





## PC Types

- **Enrichment:** Waives credit in a non-core content area by taking extra credit in core areas or completing a CTE program

Example: Student waives the health/PE credit and takes an extra math credit

- Could align with the rigor that a student might need for acceptance into a 4-year university

- **General Modified:** Waives 0.5 math credits for any general education student without an IEP

Example: Student waives 0.5 math credit and does not take the second half of Algebra 2

- Could align with the career plans of a student who plans to attend a community college

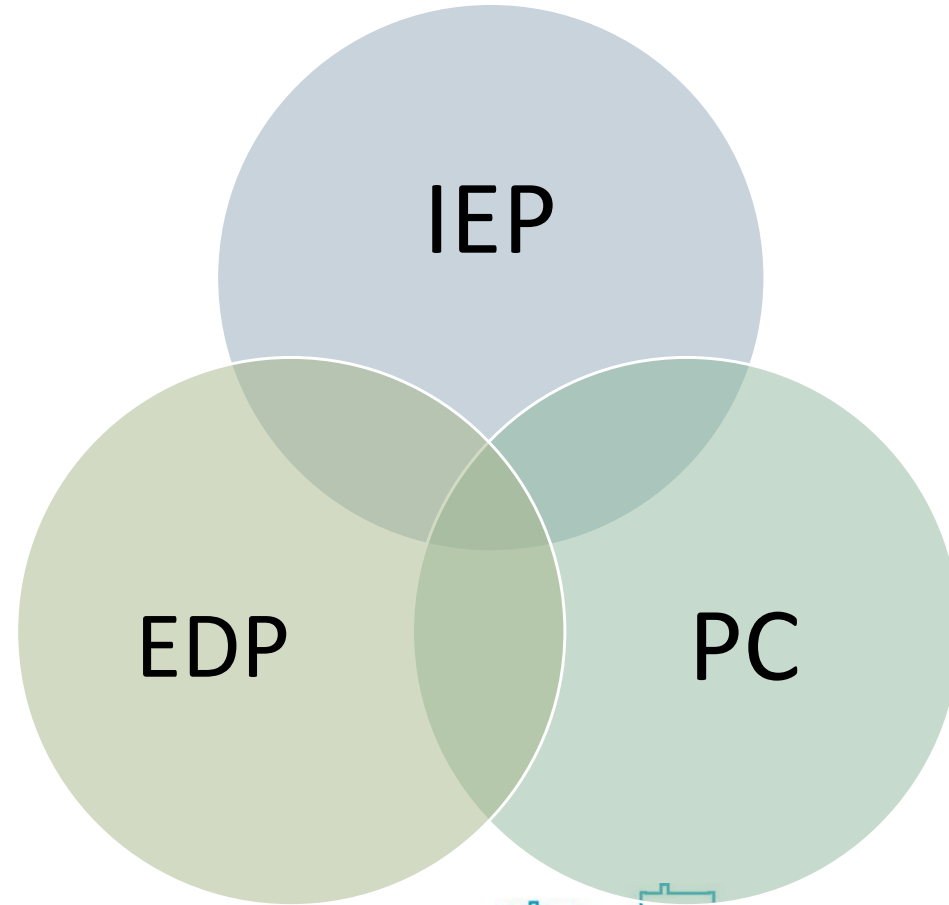


## PC Types (cont.)

- **IEP Modification:** Allows the waiving of standards in any content area not aligned with the student's career pathway and the achievement of postsecondary goals
  - Modifications align with the rigor that a student might need for success in their desired career pathway
- **Transfer Student Modification:** Allows the waiving of standards in any content area (except Civics) not aligned with the student's career pathway and the achievement of postsecondary goals
  - Student must have completed the equivalent of 2 years of high school credit to be considered a transfer student



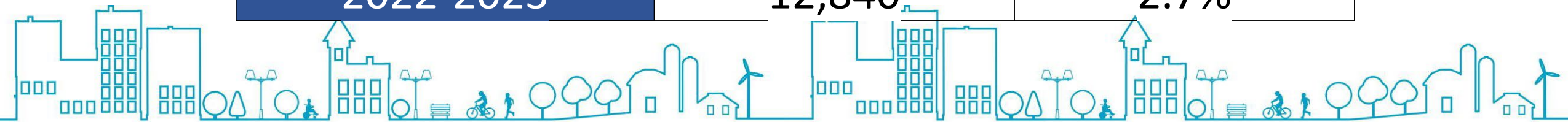
# How do EDP, PC, and IEP Work Together?



# Personal Curriculum Data

## Students with a PC Statewide

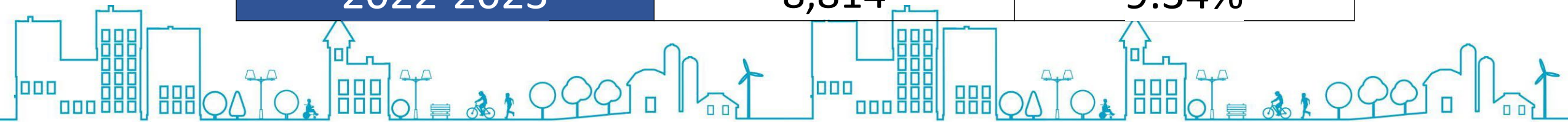
Year	Number	Percent
2017-2018	9,656	1.9%
2018-2019	10,627	2.2%
2019-2020	10,311	2.1%
2020-2021	10,303	2.1%
2021-2022	11,869	2.5%
2022-2023	12,840	2.7%



# Personal Curriculum Data

## Graduates with a PC Statewide

Year	Number	Percent
2017-2018	6,087	6.00%
2018-2019	6,826	6.79%
2019-2020	7,462	7.72%
2020-2021	7,045	7.35%
2021-2022	8,187	8.40%
2022-2023	8,814	9.34%



# MMC/PC Technical Assistance and Support

	2022	2023
ISD Events	35	60
District Events	55	81
Outside Agency/State Conferences	21	25



# PC Benefits

## Engagement

- Students will have a course of study that aligns with their passions and goals
- Students may not need to take courses that are not relevant to their pathway
- Students can see their future in their coursework

## Attendance

- Students will come to school when they can connect their school day to their adult life
- Students will come to school when they are scheduled in the right courses, at their academic levels
- Students will come to school when they can see a clear path to graduation



# Questions?

