



TITAN DIPLOMA
RETRIEVAL ACADEMY
91 Commonwealth Avenue
West Mifflin, PA 15122

PROGRAM HANDBOOK

Mission Statement

The Titan Diploma Retrieval Academy (TDRA) is a true transitional education opportunity for “at risk” students. The mission is to support students who are above the chronological age of students at their current grade level. TDRA will prepare students to graduate and not give up on personal life goals.

We look forward to working closely to ensure successful academic progress, possible transition back to the general educational program, and ultimately, graduation. TDRA provides a quality recovery credit education with condensed district curriculum. By providing this opportunity, students will be able to overcome any gaps or obstacles blocking regular graduation progress.

The Titan Diploma Retrieval Academy staff is committed to the belief that all students have the opportunity to meet their educational and developmental goals in a positive, safe school climate that is conducive to learning. Enrollment in TDRA is not a punitive measure; rather, it is a true transition program designed to promote students as they overcome academic obstacles towards a diploma.

This handbook provides a ready reference of information for students and guardians. It is essential to read, understand and discuss this information. Every TDRA student is expected to demonstrate positive self-esteem, responsible behavior, commitment to family and community, attainable expectations, and the perseverance to achieve these expectations through honest endeavors to reach their maximum potential.

Entering TDRA

Acceptance: Students must be referred to TDRA by their guidance counselor. Students must be at least 17 years of age and placed in at least one grade level below their chronological age placement. Students must be at an extreme disproportionate ratio of time in school verse credits earned.

Special Education: When a student with an IEP is referred to TDRA, the appropriateness of the placement will be determined by the IEP Team in compliance with IDEA and PDE regulations and procedures. The IEP Team will meet to discuss the student’s current placement, IEP goals, SDI’s, supports/services, and positive behavior support plan. If the IEP team decides TDRA is considered the Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) and an appropriate intervention for the student, the district/guardian completes a Notice of Recommended Educational Placement (NOREP) prior to placement.

TDRA Academic Requirements:

1. The student will develop academic goals while enrolled in the TDRA. TDRA will work with student and their family to create an academic progress plan to meet the individual’s academic goals and graduation timeline.

2. The student must participate in full-time cyber learning.
3. The student will receive a formal periodic review (progress review) twice a month. The guardian and student, as well as TDRA staff, and other outside agencies may attend the review. Additional meetings can be made based upon need. Individual counseling services can be made available through the school district and co-operating education and mental health agencies.

Academic Support: Students must be willing to put forth extra effort to regain their academic standing. To successfully complete the TDRA program, a student will need to complete the duties of a full-time student in addition to extra online recovery courses. For academic support, students must make an appointment with a teacher based on teacher availability.

Activities/Athletics: Students enrolled in TDRA are not permitted to participate in extracurricular activities or athletics.

Attendance Requirements: As outlined in the District's Attendance Policy, a student may accumulate 5 *excused* absences/9 weeks, or 20/year to remain eligible for the program. In the event of 3+ consecutive, unexcused absences, school administration will request a meeting to discuss the student's future in the program. Full-time cyber TDRA students must log into Schoology to document attendance online prior to 9:30 AM each day.

Exiting TDRA: TDRA staff and administration will make a recommendation when student is ready to exit the program. The recommendation will be based on academic improvement, consistent attendance, positive behavior modification, and overall cooperation in the program. The administration will review the student's work and progress in the program, and approve/disapprove re-entry to the general education setting. Transition back into the general setting will occur only at the beginning of a new quarter or semester.

Transition Requirements

Phase 1: Academic Progress

- Students will demonstrate that academic courses were passed and completed in a timely manner.

Phase 2: Family Engagement

- Families will meet with program staff and administration to assess the goals and objectives of the program.

Transition to WMAHS: students must recover all lost credits for each grade level before entering the WMAHS at the age appropriate grade level or are fully back on track.

Transition to Graduation: students must recover all lost credits to 24, while meeting all academic and other graduation requirements/obligations as specified by WMAHS policy.

Any further questions not covered by this handbook should refer to the WMAHS student handbook. Building administration has the discretion to waive/alter any conditions outlined in this handbook.

**Titan Diploma Retrieval Academy
Enrollment Contract
2024-2025**

Print Name: _____

I and my team have reviewed the WMASD Titan Academy Student Handbook for the 2024/2025 school year and made academic goals for the school year.

Student Signature:

_____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature:

_____ Date: _____

High School Administration:

_____ Date: _____

Guidance Counselor Signature:

_____ Date: _____

Administrative Team:

Mr. Chad Licht

Mr. Robert Yeschenko

Mr. Mark Bonacci

Guidance Team:

John Inglis – (Freshmen)

Tom Ruffing – (Sophomores-Seniors: Last Names A-L)

Jennifer Shields – (Sophomores -Seniors: Last Names M – Z)