

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Evers announces expansion of online learning opportunities for students

MADISON — State Superintendent Tony Evers today announced the expansion of digital learning opportunities for students in Wisconsin through the statewide Wisconsin Digital Learning Collaborative (WDLC).

“The Wisconsin Digital Learning Collaborative offers a wide variety of online and blended learning opportunities in which students may enroll and receive credit, all through their own local districts,” said Evers.

“Virtual education can be an effective educational strategy for students, and this web academy will ensure that all children in our state, regardless of where they live, will have access to quality online courses taught by appropriately licensed educators.”

State law, as detailed in Wis. Stats., sec. 115.28 (53), requires the Department of Public Instruction to provide equitable access to high-quality online education by offering online courses to the state’s school districts, cooperative educational service agencies, charter schools, and private schools. The WDLC expands the statewide web academy established in 2008 and is a partnership among the DPI, Cooperative Educational Service Agency 9 (CESA 9) – Wisconsin Virtual School (WVS), and the Wisconsin eSchool Network. The WDLC provides equitable access to online and blended learning options, meaning students engaged through the web academy offerings remain in and receive credit for their WDLC courses through their locally enrolled district. The WDLC can also support districts in utilizing their teachers with WDLC digital content to offer blended learning options for district students.

The WDLC provides a robust course catalog with more than 200 courses for both middle and high school level courses in content areas such as English, social studies, science, business, and mathematics. WDLC also offers elective courses, including world languages, information technology, career planning, and life skills. Numerous Advanced Placement courses and online test preparation programs for the ACT, SAT, and PSAT are available through the WDLC.

Students interested in taking courses through WDLC should contact their local school district. Districts interested in offering courses through WDLC should contact Dawn Nordine, dnordine@cesa9.k12.wi.us, CESA 9/WVS, (715) 453-2141, ext. 231, or John Jacobs, j.jacobs@wisconsineschool.org, Wisconsin eSchool Network, (715) 431-0166.

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NOTE: This news release is available electronically at http://www.dpi.wi.gov/eis/pdf/dpinr2012_87.pdf. Additional information about CESA 9’s Wisconsin Virtual School can be found at <http://www.wisconsinvirtualschool.org>. Information about the Wisconsin eSchool Network can be found at <http://www.wisconsineschool.com>.