



How Western New York Maritime Charter School is Leveraging Dual Enrollment

A FOCUS ON ADDRESSING TEACHER SHORTAGES

Western New York Maritime Charter School (WNYMCS) curriculum emphasizes Academic Excellence, Character Development, Physical Development, and Leadership Development. In an effort to fulfill this commitment, WNYMCS entered a partnership with Acadeum to ensure students can study whatever they want without being limited by the teachers in their town. "I used Acadeum to access online courses for my students when I was the Dean at a nearby college. After joining Maritime, I realized the same college-level courses could be used for my high school students as dual enrollment," Marie Larcara, Ed.D, Dual Enrollment Coordinator.

"As a small charter school, we strive to innovate with college opportunities. While we have great local community colleges, their version of dual enrollment requires that we send the student to their campus, or they accredit our teachers if qualified. So, this past semester, my students took over 20 college courses from 7 different institutions.

In the first year of the partnership, WNYMCS even enrolled a staff member in a course via Acadeum. "In addition to the students, we also had our school nurse take online courses to advance her career." Dr. Larcara noted.

"As a charter school, our educators, like our students, can face barriers to accessing certificates or completing their degrees. Through Acadeum, we can improve the college and career options for everyone in our school."

WNYMCS USES ACADEUM TO:

- + Help educators earn certificates and advanced degrees to continue teaching
- + Give students more options to explore college courses in their area of interest, increasing their chances of attending college

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