Rice Memorial High School and St. Michael's College Partnership for Advanced Learning (PAL) Program

Mission
Rice Memorial High School, a Catholic college preparatory high school in South Burlington, Vermont, announces a partnership with St. Michael's College, a Catholic institution of higher education in Colchester, Vermont. As both schools share a common Catholic mission and standards of academic excellence, a partnership between the schools seems natural. This partnership will provide a new and higher level of academic experience for Rice students. St. Michael's College offers a wide range of courses that will inspire Rice students to realize their God-given potential, the mission of Rice Memorial High School.
Under the PAL Program, Rice students may apply to take undergraduate courses at St. Michael's College subject to the conditions outlined below. At the successful completion of a course at St. Michael's College, a Rice student will receive dual credit for high school and college.
The benefits to a Rice student include:
- The ability for the student to widen his/her horizons of learning;
- The full range of the St. Michael's College undergraduate curriculum;
- The experience of taking a course on a college campus setting as preparation for higher education;
- The ability to gain college credit while in high school and to transfer those credits to other institutions of higher learning if the student does not attend St. Michael's College.

Policies
Requirements for Rice students to participate in the PAL Program include the following:
- Students shall have successfully completed all of the Rice course offerings in the academic discipline in which they wish to take a course at St. Michael's College;
- Students may enroll in one SMC course per semester during their senior year, on a space available basis only, to be determined by St. Michael's College. Students in other years may be included in the PAL Program by special exception. A maximum of four Rice students may be enrolled in the PAL Program in any semester;
- Students shall be eligible for the summer session at SMC prior to their senior year only. For the summer session, the students' families will be responsible for the entire tuition bill and all costs, at the rate per credit cited below;
- Students shall apply to participate in the PAL Program through the Rice Guidance Office. Applications must be approved by the Associate Principal for Academic Affairs, according to criteria developed by the Guidance Department;
- Students shall bear one half of the total cost and Rice the other half, for the Fall and Spring semesters. The cost per credit will be the per credit charge of Community College of Vermont ($246 for 2015-2016). Most courses are four credits, totalling $984 for 2015-2016 ($492 from Rice; $492 from the family). Rice will award students financial aid for the PAL Program at the same percentage they receive financial aid for Rice tuition. Students will be solely responsible for transportation, laboratory fees, books, supplies, and any other costs;
- Rice Memorial High School will be billed directly for all Fall and Spring courses, and the families for Summer courses;
- Students will have obtained an overall high school GPA of 93 to be eligible to participate;
- Students must have a record that is free of serious disciplinary infractions. The Rice administration will certify this determination to St. Michael's College;
- Students enrolling in the PAL Program must be accepted by St. Michael's College;
- While enrolled in the PAL Program, students will observe all regulations of St. Michael's College including, but not limited to, academic integrity policies, calendar deadlines and procedures for withdrawing from classes;
- Students' transcripts at Rice will reflect dual enrollment with St. Michael's College, and record the grade earned in the college course. Rice will determine the amount of high school credit that a student accrues in a PAL Program course.