

**REVISED POLICY - VOL. 31, NO. 1**

**GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

In order to acknowledge each student's successful completion of the instructional program, appropriate to the achievement of District goals and objectives as well as personal proficiency, the Board of Education awards a diploma to eligible students at a graduation ceremony.

The Board shall award a regular high school diploma to every student enrolled in this District who meets the requirements of graduation established by this Board or who properly completes the goals and objectives specified in his/her individualized education program (IEP) including either the exemption from or the requirement to complete the tests required by the State Board of Education in order to graduate. Each student must demonstrate, unless exempted, at least a proficient level of skill on the tests required by the State Board of Education to graduate.

The requirements for graduation from high school include earning twenty (20) units of credit in grades nine through twelve as established in State law. However, no student shall be required to remain in school for any specific number of semesters or other terms if the student completes the required curriculum early.

Students who have participated in interscholastic athletics, marching band, or cheerleading for at least two (2) full seasons as defined in the student handbook, while enrolled in grades 9 through 12, and as documented by the counseling department may be excused from the high school physical education requirement. Students electing such an excuse shall complete one-half (1/2) unit of at least sixty (60) hours of instruction in another course of study which is designated by the Board as meeting the high school curriculum requirements.

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Credit may be earned by:

- A. completing coursework;
- B. testing out of or demonstrating mastery of course content; or
- C. pursuing one or more educational options in accordance with the District's Credit Flexibility Program.

Credit may be earned at an accredited postsecondary institution.

Every high school may permit students below the ninth grade to take advanced work for credit. This work shall count toward the graduation requirements if it was both:

- A. taught by a person who possesses a license/certificate issued under State law that is valid for teaching high school;
- B. designated by the Board as meeting the high school curriculum requirements.

**Ohio Core Opt-Out**

In accordance with the provisions of R.C. 3313.603, a student who enters ninth grade on or after July 1, 2010 and before July 1, 2014 may opt-out of the Ohio core curriculum requirements for graduation if all of the following conditions as specified in law and as detailed in AG 5460C are satisfied.

An honors diploma shall be awarded to any student who meets the established requirements for graduation or the requirements of his/her IEP; attains the applicable scores on the tests required by the State Board of Education to graduate; and meets any additional criteria the State Board may establish.

Commencement exercises will include only those students who have successfully completed requirements for graduation as certified by the high school principal or those students who have been deemed eligible to participate in such exercises in accordance with the terms of their IEP. No student who has completed the requirements for graduation shall be denied a diploma as a disciplinary measure. A student may be denied participation in the ceremony of graduation when personal conduct so warrants.

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The Board also shall grant a diploma of adult education to all District residents over the age of twenty-one (21) who meet the requirements established by the State Board of Education.

The Superintendent shall establish whatever administrative guidelines are necessary to comply with State rules and regulations.

R.C. 3313.60, 3313.603, 3313.61, 3313.611, 3313.614, 3313.647, 3323.08  
R.C. 3301.07, 0710, 0711  
A.C. 3301-41-01, 3301-13-01 to 07

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