

**Board of Trustees  
Douglas County School District**

**STUDENTS**

**GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

It shall be the policy of the Board to acknowledge each student's successful completion of the instructional program as well as personal proficiency by the award of a diploma at fitting graduation ceremonies.

The Board shall award a high school diploma to every student enrolled in this District who meets the requirements of graduation established by this Board and approved by the State Board of Education. The superintendent may, under special circumstances or those out of control of the student, waive the additional requirements imposed by DCSD and award a diploma to a student who otherwise meets the graduation requirements set forth by the State of Nevada.

**A. DCSD Diploma/Requirement Options**

(Class of 2021 and beyond):

| Required Courses                                      | College & Career Ready Diploma | Advanced Diploma | Millennium Scholarship Requirements | Standard Diploma 2021 | Standard Diploma 2022+ |
|---|--------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| English   | 4                              | 4                | 4                                   | 4                     | 4                      |
| Math  | 4                              | 4                | 4                                   | 4*                    | 3                      |
| Science   | 3                              | 3                | 3                                   | 3*                    | 2                      |
| World History   | 1                              | 1                | 1                                   | 1                     | ***                    |
| US History  | 1                              | 1                | 1                                   | 1                     | 1                      |
| American Government                                   | .5                             | .5               | .5                                  | .5                    | .5                     |
| Economics   | .5                             | .5               | .5                                  | .5                    | .5                     |
| PE  | 2                              | 2                | 2                                   | 2                     | 2                      |
| Fine Arts/CTE/ROTC                                    | 1                              | 1                | 1                                   | 1                     | 1                      |
| Health  | .5                             | .5               | .5                                  | .5                    | .5                     |
| Computer Literacy                                     | .5                             | .5               | .5                                  | .5                    | .5                     |
| College & Career Flex **                              |                                |                  |                                     |                       | 2**                    |
| Electives   | 6                              | 6                | 4.5                                 | 5                     | 6                      |
| Total Credits   | 24                             | 24               | 22.5                                | 23                    | 23                     |
| Required Honors/AP Credits                            |                                |                  |                                     |                       |                        |
| Required GPA  | 3.25                           | 3.25             | 3.25                                |                       |                        |
| Pass and/or take all portions of required assessments | X                              | X                | X                                   | X                     | X                      |

\* **Students opting to take 3 years of math and 2 years of science must complete appropriate waiver.**

\*\* **College & Career Ready Flex Credit prepares recipients of a Standard Diploma for workforce engagement or continued studies demonstrated by coursework in: Level II or III CTE courses; fourth year of math (Algebra II or higher); third year of social studies; or, third year of science.**

\*\*\* **DCSD requires World History as a third year of social studies. Students who transfer in from another district after their 10<sup>th</sup> grade year, may substitute another social studies course to meet this requirement.**

- B. High School students must be enrolled in a full load of classes based upon the master schedule established at each high school. Senior students who meet the requirements established by AR 518(h) may be permitted to enroll in a schedule that equates to 2/3 of the required course load.

Junior students enrolled in the full Jump Start Program may be permitted to enroll in a total of six (6) courses per semester under the 7-period schedule and seniors enrolled in the full Jump Start Program may be permitted to enroll in a total of five (5) courses per semester.

- C. A student who participates in school-sponsored activities such as interscholastic athletics, drill team, marching band, dance group or cheerleading squad for at least 120 hours shall be exempt from a maximum of one unit in physical education.
- D. Douglas County School District students enrolled in grades 9-12 are permitted to pursue opportunities outside the instructional programs of the District to achieve physical education goals through community resources following strict approval and attendance guidelines. Specifically, a maximum of 1 high school P.E. credit (grades 9-12) may be waived by completing an approved Supervised Curriculum Physical Education (SCPE) course unless otherwise exempt by law. Students are required to complete one year of P.E. at the school site. Parents or students must complete an application and contract for SCPE providing documentation of the program goals, objectives, and identification of the state standards associated with the SCPE activity.

Failure to meet any deadlines, provide required documentation, or provide proof of attendance may result in the waiver not being granted (see AR 518(g)).

- E. As mandated by the State of Nevada, graduating students are required to pass all portions of required state assessments.
- F. Administrative staff shall ensure that each student's transcript is audited for course completion, course alignment and credit count annually. Graduation/Academic plans are to be created and implemented for each student in grades 9-12 annually. Failure to satisfactorily meet graduation requirements (District-required competency levels, state-required credits and proficiency levels, and required classes each semester during senior year) will result in students not receiving a diploma. Students will have access to educational programs in order to satisfactorily meet graduation requirements until they graduate.
- G. Any student who has not yet reached the District or state requirements for graduation will be provided the opportunity to learn through a variety of options, such as, but not limited to:

- enrollment in an appropriate course.
- before or after school programs.
- seminars.
- Saturday school, summer school, or night school.
- online credit recovery.

#### H. Transferring Students

Students transferring into the District will be individually assessed and required to demonstrate competency in the basic skill areas as appropriate to their prior educational experience and the time available until their expected graduation.

Students transferring into the District during their senior year from a district that requires fewer units for graduation may be permitted to substitute a one-unit course for a District-required course and/or be exempted from completing one of the District units required for graduation. (Total units 22 ½ versus 23). This transfer policy will sunset after the class of 2021.

## I. Seal of Biliteracy

A Seal of Biliteracy will be awarded if the pupil:

1. Successfully completes all courses of study in English language arts that are required for graduation with at least a 2.0 grade point average, on a 4.0 grading scale;
2. Passes the High School Proficiency Examination in Reading and Writing for the class of 2016 and passes the End-of-Course examinations in English language arts for the class of 2017 and beyond.
3. Demonstrates proficiency in one or more languages other than English:
  - (a) By passing an advanced placement examination in a world language with a score of 3 or higher; or
  - (b) By passing an examination in a world language written and administered by DCSD high school world language teachers that demonstrates proficiency in reading, writing, speaking and listening of the language.
4. If the primary language of the pupil is not English, demonstrates proficiency in English on the Nevada English Language Proficiency Assessment (ELPA).

## J. Seal of STEM

A Seal of STEM will be awarded if the pupil:

1. Earns at least a 3.25 grade point average or a 3.85 weighted grade point average on a 4.0 grading scale;
2. Demonstrates proficiency in science, technology, engineering and mathematics by earning:
  - (a) At least 4 credits in science;
  - (b) At least 4 credits in mathematics;
  - (c) At least 1 credit in computer science, engineering, manufacturing, electronics, or a career and technical education program of study in information and media technologies or skilled and technical sciences;

Any one of the following:

- (a) A score of 3 or higher on an advanced placement exam in **science**;
  - (b) A score of 4 or higher on an international baccalaureate exam in **science**;
  - (c) A score of 650 or higher on a SAT Subject Test in **science**;
  - (d) A Score of 23 or higher on the ACT in **science**;
  - (e) A grade of B or higher in a college-level **science** course completed through dual enrollment;
- Or
- (f) A score of gold or higher on the ACT National Career Readiness Certificate; and

Any one of the following:

- (a) A score of a 3 or higher on an advanced placement exam in **mathematics**;
- (b) A score of 4 or higher on an international baccalaureate exam in **mathematics**;
- (c) A score of 530 or higher on the SAT in **mathematics**;
- (d) A score of 22 or higher on the ACT in mathematics;
- (e) A grade of B or higher in a college-level **mathematics** course completed through dual enrollment; or
- (f) A score of gold or higher on the ACT National Career Readiness Certificate

## K. Seal of STEAM

A Seal of STEAM will be awarded if the pupil:

1. Earns at least a 3.25 grade point average or a 3.85 weighted grade point average on a 4.0 grading scale and
2. Demonstrates proficiency in science, technology, engineering, the arts and mathematics by earning:
  - (a) At least 3 credits in science;
  - (b) At least 4 credits in mathematics;
  - (c) At least 1 credit in computer science, engineering, manufacturing, electronics or a career and technical education program of study in information and media technologies or skilled and technical sciences;
  - (d) At least 1 credit in fine arts;

Any one of the following:

- (a) A score of 3 or higher or an advanced placement exam in **science**;
- (b) A score of 4 or higher on an international baccalaureate exam in **science**;
- (c) A score of 650 or higher on a SAT Subject Test in **science**;
- (d) A score of 23 or higher on the ACT in **science**;
- (e) A grade of B or higher in a college-level **science** course completed through dual enrollment;
- (f) A score of gold or higher on the ACT National Career Readiness Certificate;

Any one of the following:

- (a) A score of 3 or higher on an advanced placement exam in **mathematics**;
- (b) A score of 4 or higher on an international baccalaureate exam in **mathematics**;
- (c) A score of 530 or higher on the SAT in **mathematics**;
- (d) A score of 22 or higher on the ACT in **mathematics**;
- (e) A grade of B or higher in a college-level **mathematics** course completed through dual enrollment; or
- (f) A score of gold or higher on the ACT National Career Readiness Certificate.

## L. Honors Endorsement

An Honors Seal will be awarded if the pupil:

1. Earns 24 credits and
2. Earns a 3.6 to 3.99 GPA and
3. Completes 10 semesters of Honors or AP classes with a B or better

Reference:

518(a) AR-Credits Earned Outside of the District While Student is Attending a DCSD High School  
518(b)AR-Home Schooling Diploma Policy  
518(c)AR-Community Service Program (Credit)  
518(d)AR-Transfer Students, Grades 7-12  
518(e)AR-High School Credits for Middle School Courses  
518(f)AR-Graduation Ceremony Regulations  
518(g)AR-Supervised Curriculum in Physical Education  
518(h)AR-Exemption from Taking a Full Schedule for High School Seniors Related Form  
DCSD Board Policy No. 222-Assessment of Student Progress  
DCSD Board Policy No. 221 - Curriculum and Competencies (New)  
DCSD Board Policy No. 514 - Reporting Student Progress  
NAC 389.664 - Requirements for a Standard Diploma  
NAC 389.660 - Remedial Study  
NAC 389, Section 4 - Units of Credit Required for High School Grade Promotion  
NAC 387.345 - Course Load Requirements for Calculating Basic Support  
NAC 389.663 – Requirements for an Advanced Diploma NAC 389.488 – Exemption from Physical Education

Adopted: 8/12/80

Revised: 2/10/87, 10/00, 09/10/04, 12/13/05, 04/8/08, 02/8/11, 03/11/14, 02/10/15, 01/12/16, 09/13/16, 10/10/17, 4/10/18, 2/9/2021, 11/16/2022