

All students graduating from Parma School District No. 137 will meet all state and district graduation requirements. High schools in this district will offer a wide variety of courses to satisfy state and local graduation requirements, including instructional offerings in physical education and Career Technical Education (CTE). Additionally, each student's parent-approved career pathway plan will be reviewed and updated annually with the student (see Policy No. 608, Middle/Junior High School Required Instruction).

STATE STANDARDS FOR GRADUATION

The Idaho State Board of Education (SBOE) has established that all students graduating from an Idaho public high school must meet the following minimum requirements:

1. **Local Content Standards.** A student must meet locally established subject area achievement standards as demonstrated through various measures of accountability including examinations or other measures. The local standards must meet or exceed the standards set by the state.
2. **Course Credit and Core Instruction.** A student must successfully complete a minimum of forty-six (46) credits, which must include twenty-nine (29) credits in core subjects as set forth below and in IDAPA 08.02.03.105. One (1) credit equals sixty (60) hours of instruction unless the district has been granted a waiver by the Idaho State Department of Education (SDE). Waiver requests must be submitted in writing to the SDE, be signed by the superintendent and board chair, and provide information and documentation that substantiates the district's reason for not requiring sixty (60) hours of total instruction per credit.
 - a. **Secondary Language Arts and Communication**—nine (9) credits required.
 - 1) Eight (8) credits of language arts consisting of language study, composition, and literature aligned to the Idaho Content Standards for the appropriate grade level.
 - 2) One (1) credit of instruction in communications consisting of oral communication and technological applications that includes a course in speech, a course in debate, or a sequence of instructional activities that meet the Idaho Speech Content Standards requirements.
 - b. **Mathematics**—six (6) credits required. Secondary mathematics includes Integrated Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Business Mathematics, Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry, Fundamentals of Calculus, Probability and Statistics, Discrete Mathematics, and courses in mathematical problem solving and quantitative reasoning, including mathematics taken through career technical education programs. Dual credit engineering and computer science courses aligned to the state standards for grades 9-12, including AP computer science and dual credit computer science courses may also be counted as a mathematics credit. Students who choose to take

- computer science and dual credit engineering courses may not concurrently count such courses as both a mathematics and science credit for the same course. Students must complete secondary mathematics in the following areas:
- 1) Two (2) credits of Algebra I, Algebra I level equivalent Integrated Mathematics or courses that meet the Idaho High School Algebra Content Standards.
 - 2) Two (2) credits of Geometry, Geometry level equivalent Integrated Mathematics, or courses that meet the Idaho High School Geometry Content Standards.
 - 3) Two (2) credits of mathematics of the student's choice.
- c. Science—six (6) credits required, two (2) of which must be laboratory based. Secondary sciences include instruction in applied sciences, earth and space sciences, physical sciences, life sciences, and computer science.
- 1) Secondary sciences include instruction in the following areas: biology, computer science, physical science or chemistry, and earth, space, environment, or approved applied science..
 - 2) Dual credit engineering and computer science courses aligned to the state standards for grades 9-12, including AP computer science, dual credit computer science, may be used as a mathematics credit. Such courses may not concurrently count as both a math and science credit for the same course.
- d. Social Studies—five (5) credits required.
- 1) Two (2) credits in government.
 - 2) Two (2) credits in U.S. history.
 - 3) One (1) credit in economics.
 - 4) Courses such as geography, sociology, psychology, and world history may be offered as electives, but will not be counted as a social studies requirement.
- e. Humanities—two (2) credits required.
- 1) Humanities courses include instruction in visual arts, music, theatre, dance, or world language aligned to the Idaho Content Standards for those subjects.
 - 2) Courses such as literature, history, philosophy, architecture, or comparative world religions may satisfy the humanities standards if the course is approved by the Idaho Interdisciplinary Humanities Content Standards.

f. Health/Wellness—one (1) credit required.

- 1) The course must be aligned to the Idaho Health Content Standards.
- 2) Each student must receive a minimum of one (1) class period on psychomotor cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training as outlined in American Heart Association (AHA) guidelines for CPR including the proper utilization of an automatic external defibrillator (AED) as part of the Health/Wellness course.

g. Physical Education—no credit requirement.

- 1) Students who participate in one (1) season in any sport recognized by the Idaho High School Activities Association (IHSAA) or club sport recognized by the district or eighteen (18) weeks of a sport recognized by the district may choose to substitute participation up to one (1) credit of physical education. Students must show mastery of the content standards for physical education in a format provided by the district.
3. **Mastery**. Notwithstanding the credit definition set forth in section 2 above, a student may achieve credits by demonstrating mastery of a subject's content standards as defined and approved by the board. The board will appoint a committee to develop a process whereby students may be awarded credit upon demonstrating mastery of a subject's content standards.
 4. **Senior Project**. The senior project is a culminating project to show a student's ability to analyze, synthesize, and evaluate information and communicate that knowledge and understanding. A student must complete a senior project that includes a written report and oral presentation by the end of the student's 12th grade year. Senior projects may be multi-year projects, group or individual projects, or approved, pre-internship or school to work internship programs, at the discretion of the district. The project must include elements of research, development of a thesis using experiential learning or integrated project based learning experiences and presentation of the project outcome. The district may impose additional requirements at its discretion. Completion of a postsecondary certificate or degree at the time of high school graduation or an approved pre-internship or internship program may be used to meet this requirement.
 5. **Civics and Government Proficiency**. All secondary students must show they have met the state civics and government standards for such instruction through the successful completion of the civics test. The district may establish an alternate path for determining if a student has met the state civics and government content standards. Alternate paths are open to all students in grades 7-12. Any student who has been determined proficient in the state civics and government content standards either through the completion of the civics test or an alternate path will have it noted on the student's high school transcript. A student may take the civics test, in whole or in part, any time after enrolling in the 7th

grade and may repeat the test as often as necessary to pass the test. “Civics test” means the one hundred (100) questions used by officers of the United States citizenship and immigration services as a basis for selecting the questions posed to applicants for naturalization, in order that the applicants can demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of the fundamentals of United States history and the principles and form of United States government, as required by 8 U.S.C. §1423.

6. **Financial Literacy:** All students must complete at least one (1) course in personal financial literacy and money management. Instruction in this area will include the following core competency areas: (a) recognize the influence of money on human behavior; (b) learn about various types of bank accounts; (c) evaluate various investment options and calculate net worth ; (d) learn about various types of credit and how credit rating is determined; (e) understand the essentials of financing a college education; (f) evaluate various types of insurance associated with independent living; (g) recognize the purpose of the tax system and how it relates to each citizen and the citizen’s income; (h) build a budget for independent living; and (i) recognize and utilize modern consumer skills, tools, and practices.
7. **Middle School Courses.** See Policy No. 609.50, Awarding High School Credit for Courses Taken Before Ninth Grade.

SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS

Students who are eligible for special education services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act may, with the assistance of the student’s Individualized Education Plan (IEP) team, meet graduation requirements in accordance with this policy, the student’s IEP, and specifications within the current Idaho Special Education Manual.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENTS

A foreign exchange student may be eligible for graduation by completing a comparable program to the requirements set forth above, as approved by the district.

DISTRICT REQUIREMENTS

GRADUATION REQUIREMENT

All students graduating from this school district will meet the state of Idaho and the Parma School District’s graduation requirements.

DENIAL OF PROMOTION OR CREDIT – DISTRICT POLICY #522

Students not meeting the ninety percent (90%) attendance requirements will not receive credit or be promoted even though they may have passing grades. The parent/guardian who has valid reasons to believe that all or part of the absences are the result of extraordinary circumstances may file a written request for review by the building attendance committee. Such requests must

be made within five (5) days of receiving notice of the denial. The building attendance committee will review the records and the circumstances and determine whether or not the student will receive credit or be promoted. The attendance committee will consist of the building principal, school counselor, and three (3) teachers designated by the principal.

The decision of the attendance committee may be appealed to the superintendent. This appeal must be submitted to the superintendent within ten (10) days after the attendance committee submits its decision. The superintendent will render a decision on the appeal within ten (10) days after receiving the appeal.

The decision of the superintendent may be appealed to the board for a final decision. The appeal must be filed with the superintendent’s office within ten (10) days after the superintendent notifies the parent/guardian of his or her decision. The board will address the appeal in executive session. The parent/guardian will have an opportunity to appear before the board for an informal hearing. The parent/guardian will be given an opportunity to present written or oral information as to why the student should not be denied credit or promotion. The parent/guardian does not have the right to be represented by an attorney, present evidence, or cross-examine witnesses. Upon reviewing the decision of the attendance committee and superintendent, and the basis for the appeal by the parent/guardian, the board will uphold or overturn the superintendent’s decision, issuing a written decision within ten (10) days. The board’s decision will be final.

The student will be allowed to continue to attend classes pending the board’s determination in this matter.

DISTRICT REQUIREMENTS

Parma High School operates on the semester credit system. Fifty-two (52) credits are required to graduate.

SUBJECT	REQUIRED
English (Writing skills emphasis)	8
Careers & Speech	1
Mathematics (2 credits of Math I/Algebra I 2 credits of Math II/Geometry)	6
Science	6
Physical Science (9 th grade)	2 credits required
Biology (10 th grade)	2 credits required
2 credits of science for which Biology is a prerequisite	

Social Studies	8
U.S. History I (10 th grade)	2 credits required
U.S. History II (11 th grade)	2 credits required
American Government (12 th)	2 credits required
Economics (12 th grade)	2 credits required
<i>*Economics/Sociology may be substituted with 2 credits of Business Personal Finance or 2 credits of Agricultural Business Economics</i>	
Health and Physical Education	3
Health	1 credit required
*Physical Education/Athletic Training	2 credits required (<i>CHANGE to 1 credit</i>)
Humanities:	4
Drama, Foreign Language, World History, Vocal or Instrumental Music, Applied Art or any course that compares/contrasts cultures	
Computer Class	2
Business Occupations, Publications, Information Tech	
Required credits for core classes	38
Area of Concentration	8 (minimum)
Electives	6
<i>**Both of these changes would begin with the class of 2027</i>	

ADDITIONAL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

1. Participate in ISAT 2.0 Math and English Language Arts (11th grade), Biology EOC (11th grade), and SAT College Entrance Exam (11th grade). Must pass the Idaho Civics exam in the 12th grade.
2. Complete Senior Project, including paper and presentation as assigned by senior instructors.
3. Must be enrolled for 8 classes per semester.
4. May earn credits toward a Parma High School diploma through correspondence or alternative programs. Correspondence and alternative credits must be approved in advance by the principal and counselor. Correspondence credits will be limited to three (3). Alternative credits will be limited to six (6).
5. May earn credits toward a Parma High School diploma by passing (80%) a school-formulated competency examination to test out of a course. Credits earned in this matter will be limited to 4. Pass/fail of the exam will be determined by the department head and principal.

- 6. Summer school credit from an approved accredited high school program may be used for graduation. Six (6) semester credits may be accumulated and accepted as the equivalent of an academic semester meeting the eight (8) semester attendance recommendation. Arrangements for this need to be approved with the high school counselor prior to enrolling for the class(es).
- 7. Early graduation may occur when a high school student completes the number of credits required by the school district prior to completing eight (8) semesters of high school work. The students must petition the superintendent and local school board to get approval.
- 8. Students who complete graduation requirements early will be allowed to participate in the regular, scheduled graduation and receive a diploma at that time.

ADDITIONAL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

As a further condition of graduation and as a condition of issuance of a diploma or certificate or as a condition for issuance of a transcript, all indebtedness incurred by a person when he or she was a student must be paid. Furthermore, all books or other instructional material, uniforms, athletic equipment, advances on loans, or other personal property of the school district borrowed by the person when he or she was a student of the district must be returned. The payment of fees may be excused upon an adequate showing of financial need or other exigency.

CREDIT CALCULATION

Credits toward graduation requirements cannot be counted more than once for meeting the minimum requirements.



LEGAL REFERENCE:

Idaho Code Sections

33-119 – Accreditation of Secondary Schools – Standards for Elementary Schools

33-512C – Encouragement of Gifted Students

33-603 – Payment of Fees or Returning of Property

33-1601 et seq. – Courses of Instruction

IDAPA 08.02.03.104 – Other Required Instruction

IDAPA 08.02.03.105 – High School Graduation Requirements

ADOPTED: April 8, 2002

AMENDED: December 8, 2008

AMENDED: March 14, 2011

AMENDED: February 10, 2014

AMENDED: March 9, 2015

AMENDED: September 9, 2019

AMENDED: October 10, 2022

AMENDED: May 8, 2023