

TO: Larry Mendonca, Superintendent

Regular Meeting

SUBJECT: Second Reading: Revision to BP 6146.1:  
High School Graduation Requirements

December 16, 2024

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### BACKGROUND

For many years, Math I and Spanish I have been taught at Oakdale Junior High School and counted for high school credit and as a high school graduation requirement. In order to ensure that all parties are absolutely clear about the impact of the 8th grade Math I and Spanish I courses (taken in 8th grade) on the high school transcript, BP 6146.1 must be revised with additional information. Current board policy does not explain the options for families and students regarding including Math I and Spanish I taken in 8th grade on their transcript.

### ANALYSIS

Revising Board Policy 6146.1 will allow students and their families to make an informed decision about either including or not including the 8th grade Math I and/or Spanish I course on students' high school transcripts. Additions are made in blue and underlined. There are no omissions in this revision.

### FISCAL IMPACT


There is no fiscal impact to the District.

### RECOMMENDATION


It is recommended that the OJUSD Board of Trustees review this revision to Board Policy 6146.1: High School Graduation Requirements, as presented, and consider this revision for adoption after a second reading at the next regularly scheduled board meeting.

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Recommended by:

  
Gillian Wegener, Ed.D.  
Assistant Superintendent, C & I

Approved for Recommendation  
to the Governing Board by:

  
Larry Mendonca  
Superintendent

**Policy 6146.1: High School Graduation Requirements**

Status: DRAFT

Original Adopted Date: 06/14/2010 | Last Reviewed Date: 02/02/2015

The Board of Education desires to prepare all students to obtain a diploma of high school graduation to enable them to take advantage of opportunities for postsecondary education and/or employment.

**Course Requirements**

To obtain a diploma of graduation from high school, students shall complete at least the following courses in grades 9-12, with each course being one year unless otherwise specified:

1. Four courses in English (Education Code 51225.3)
2. Three courses in mathematics (Education Code 51225.3)

At least one mathematics course, or a combination of the two mathematics courses required for completion in grades 9-12, shall meet or exceed state academic content standards for Algebra I. (Education Code 51224.5)

Completion, prior to grade 9, of algebra coursework that meets or exceeds state academic content standards shall satisfy the algebra coursework requirement but shall not exempt a student from the requirement to complete two mathematics courses in grades 9-12. (Education Code 51224.5)

Students who have completed coursework for geometry in grade 8 or Integrated Mathematics I - Common Core with a C or better and have passed the common final with a C or better have met the high school requirement of one of the three courses of mathematics in grades 9-12 for high school graduation. [The course, which counts for high school graduation requirements, but not GPA, will appear on the high school transcript until the student and parent/guardian make a written request to the Oakdale High Counseling Office requesting that it not be included. The grade will remain on the junior high transcript. Students and their parents/guardians will have until the end of the 9th grade year \(June 30 of each year\) to make a decision to include or not include the 8th grade Math I course on their high school transcripts. The written request can be made any time between the end of the 8th grade year and the end of the 9th grade year \(June 30 of each year\), and any decision made will be considered final. If no decision is made by June 30 following the conclusion of the student's 9th grade year, the course Math I taken in 8th grade will appear on the high school transcripts, and this decision is also considered final.](#)

Students in grades 9-12 who have not completed Algebra 1 in grades 7 or 8 must do so as a part of the three courses required for high school graduation.

3. Two courses in science, including biological and physical sciences (Education Code 51225.3)
4. Three courses in social studies, including United States history and geography; world history, culture, and geography; a one-semester course in American government and civics; and a one-semester course in economics (Education Code 51225.3)
5. One course in visual or performing arts, foreign language, including American Sign Language, or career technical education (Education Code 51225.3)

Students who have completed coursework for Spanish in grade 8 with a C or better and have passed the common final with a C or better have met the high school requirement of one year of Foreign Language in grades 9-12 for high school graduation. [The course, which counts for high school graduation requirements, but not GPA, will appear on the high school transcript until the student and parent/guardian make a written request to the Oakdale High Counseling Office requesting that it not be included. The grade will remain on the junior high transcript. Students and their parents/guardians will have until the end of the 9th grade year \(June 30 of each year\) to make a decision to include or not include the 8th grade Spanish I course on their high school transcripts. The written request can be made any time between the end of the 8th grade year and the end of the 9th grade year \(June 30 of each year\), and any decision made will be considered final. If no decision is made by June 30 following the conclusion of the student's 9th grade year, the course Spanish I taken in 8th grade will appear on the high school transcripts, and this decision is also considered final.](#)

To be counted towards meeting graduation requirements, a course in career technical education shall be aligned to the career technical model curriculum standards and framework adopted by the State Board of

Education.

6. Two courses in physical education, unless the student has been otherwise exempted pursuant to other sections of the Education Code (Education Code 51225.3)

All students must take physical education for one full year at the ninth grade level.

7. Six courses of electives
8. A maximum of one year of coursework may be granted for school service-related courses/classes. Example: Teacher's aide, office aide, clerical aide, elementary school aide, laboratory assistant, attendance aide, etc. An additional 10 units may be granted for school service-related classes that requires a high degree of preparation/skill. Example: peer tutor, financial manager or library aide.

Because the prescribed course of study may not accommodate the needs of some students, the Board shall provide alternative means for the completion of prescribed courses in accordance with law.

The Superintendent or designee shall exempt or waive specific course requirements for foster youth or children of military families in accordance with Education Code 51225.3 and 49701.

### **High School Exit Examination**

As a condition of high school graduation, each student completing grade 12 shall have successfully passed the state exit examination in language arts and mathematics unless he/she receives a waiver or exemption. (Education Code 60851, 60859)

Supplemental instruction shall be offered to any student in grade 7-12 who does not demonstrate "sufficient progress," as defined in Board policy, toward passing the exit exam. (Education Code 37252, 60851)

Students who have not passed one or both parts of the exit exam by the end of grade 12 shall have the opportunity to receive intensive instruction and services for up to two consecutive academic years after completion of grade 12 or until they have passed both parts of the exam, whichever comes first. (Education Code 37254)

In addition to intensive remedial instruction, the district shall offer students who have passed all state and local graduation requirements except for passage of one or both parts of the exit exam the following options beyond their regular senior year until they pass the exam:

1. If space is available, enrollment for an additional year at a comprehensive high school if the student has been continuously enrolled
2. Enrollment in an alternative education program
3. Reclassification as a junior
4. Maintaining continuous enrollment in an independent study program or charter school
5. Enrollment in an adult secondary school

The Superintendent or designee shall regularly report to the Board regarding the number of students who have fulfilled all local and state graduation requirements except for the passage of the exit exam and the resources that have been offered to such students.

### **Certificates of Completion**

Students who have passed all the district's course requirements by the end of their senior year but are unable to pass the high school exit exam shall receive a certificate of completion.

The Superintendent or designee shall regularly report to the Board regarding the number of students receiving a certificate of completion and the resources that have been offered to such students.

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