

## **Recommended Changes to High School Graduation Requirements – January 2025**

*New credit requirements begin with the incoming freshman class with the exception of the state MCAS requirement change which became effective December 2024.*

- **Arts and Technology:** We propose a 2.5-credit (one-semester) graduation requirement for visual and performing arts. Additionally, we are rewording the requirement for civic action/digital literacy to combine digital/media literacy and technology. This will remain a 2.5-credit (one-semester) requirement.
- **MCAS Competency:** We propose retaining the introductory language: “Successful completion of all areas of competency examinations required by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.” However, we will remove the explicit listing of it as a graduation requirement: “State Competency Exams (successful completion of the ELA, Math, and Science exams).”

## **Current Graduation Requirements**

### **File: IKF - GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

In order to graduate from Manchester Essex Regional High School a student must have earned at least 110 credits, along with successful completion of all areas of competency examinations required by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, 40 hours of Community Service, completion of Senior Choice of Related Experience (SCORE) and attendance at MERHS for at least one semester.

#### Specific Requirements by Subject Area

- English 4 years / 20 Credits
- World Language 2 years (two years in same language) / 10 Credits
- Mathematics 4 years / 20 Credits
- Science 3 years /15 Credits
- Social Studies 3 years (must include US History I & II) / 15 Credits
- Civic Action Project 0.5 year / 2.5 Credits
- Physical Education 4 years / 10 Credits
- Community Service 40 hours (10 hours per year)
- State Competency Exams (successful completion all required state exams)
- The remainder of the required 110 credits may be taken in elective areas.

Credit for Foreign Study: Students who are away for a term or year to participate in a student exchange program or otherwise study abroad may receive credits toward high school graduation when (1) study plans are approved by the school administration in advance; and (2) the institution where the study occurred submits a record of the student's work. In these instances, the Principal and student's guidance counselor will evaluate the work and assign credit for it according to standards prevailing in Manchester Essex Regional High School.

SOURCE: MASC

MERSD

Revised 1.9.24

