

GRADUATION/DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS

Except as otherwise provided in this Board Policy, District students shall be permitted to graduate and shall receive a diploma in accordance with the requirements of Ohio law. Units of high school credit shall be granted to students who demonstrate subject area competency through work-based learning experiences, internships, or cooperative education in accordance with the framework developed by the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce (“DEW”). Students, including students enrolled in seventh and eighth grade, may earn units of high school credit based on a demonstration of subject area competency, instead of or in combination with completing hours of classroom instruction in accordance with the plan adopted by the DEW. Students are encouraged to consult with their school counselor about the path to graduation which is right for them.

Minimum Curriculum

In total, twenty-one (21) units of academic credit shall be required to graduate.

Advanced Work

The District’s high school(s) shall permit students below ninth grade to take advanced work, shall award high school credit for successful completion of the advanced work, and shall count such advanced work toward the District’s graduation requirements in accordance with Ohio law.

Physical Education Waiver

The Board shall excuse from the high school physical education requirement each student who, during high school, has participated in interscholastic athletics, marching band, show choir, or cheerleading for at least two (2) full seasons or in the junior reserve officer training corps for at least two (2) full school years. Such students shall not be required to complete any physical education course as a condition to graduate. However, such students shall be required to complete one-half (0.5) unit, consisting of at least sixty (60) hours of instruction, in another course of study. In the case of a student who has participated in the junior reserve officer training corps for at least two (2) full school years, credit received for that participation may be used to satisfy the requirement to complete one-half (0.5) unit in another course of study.

Examinations Not Administered by the District

If the District does not administer the nationally standardized assessments in English, mathematics, and reading, any end-of-course examination(s), or the nationally recognized job skills assessment selected by the DEW, which the student chooses to take to satisfy statutory graduation requirements, the student must arrange for the applicable scores to be sent directly to the District by the company or organization that administers the examination.

District-Determined Diploma Seals

The below guidelines shall apply to the following state seals prescribed by the DEW under R.C. 3313.6114(C)(8) to (10).

1. Community Service Seal: Students must perform twenty (20) documented and verified hours of community service completed at a charitable nonprofit organization. To receive credit, a student must submit responses to the “reflection question” worksheet for each community service experience, and the supervisor of the nonprofit organization/charity must sign-off on service hours completed using the District-designated form. The supervisor cannot be a parent. Community service hours cannot be performed for a family member. A student cannot receive any compensation for performing the community service. Up to eight (8) hours per day may be counted for mission trips or camp counselors. Time spent eating, sleeping, traveling, or at meetings or conferences, will not be counted. Completed service hour and “reflection question” forms are due to the school counselor by April 30th of the student’s senior year.

2. Fine and Performing Arts Seal: Students must complete any of the following:
 - a. Two (2) school years of music performing arts courses, earning not less than a B grade in such courses.
 - b. Four (4) performance arts productions as a member of the cast or crew; or
 - c. Two (2) visual arts courses and participation in two (2) visual arts productions.

The student’s completion of the foregoing must be documented on the District-designated form, including the signature of the relevant teacher or activity advisor. The completed form is due to the school counselor by April 30th of the student’s senior year.

3. Student Engagement Seal: Students must participate in two (2) Board authorized extracurricular activities, including, but not limited to: District athletics, clubs, or student government. Recognized participation requires completion of the full sports season, or full commitment to the events of the activity. Participation must be documented on the District-designated form, including the signature of the relevant coach or activity advisor. The completed form is due to the school counselor by April 30th of the student’s senior year.

The District shall use the following method to give, to the extent feasible, a student who transfers into the District a proportional amount of credit for any progress the student was making toward

earning that state seal at the school district or different public or chartered nonpublic school from which the student transfers: Proportional credit shall be based on the documented hours, credits, or activities completed at the school from which the student transfers.

LEGAL REFS: O.R.C. §§3301.60; 3313.61; 3313.603; 3313.615; 3313.618; 3301.0712;
3313.6114

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