GRADUATION – HIGH SCHOOL

REQUIREMENTS

The proper selection of courses by learners is an important matter. It is important to the learners that each course should be carefully selected as an integral part of the learner's four-year educational plan. Carefully thought-out course selections are equally important to the school district as commitments for staffing for the ensuing year are based on the learner selections.

Required Courses	**Credits**
English	4.0
Health	0.5
Mathematics- at least 1 credit in Basic Math, Pre-Algebra, or Algebra I	3.0
Physical Education	1.5
Science- Physical Science (or 1 year of Physics + 1 year of Chemistry), Biology, and 1 additional science course	3.0
Social Studies	3.5
• Social Studies Elective	0.5
• World History or AP European History	1.0
• US History	1.0
• US Government	0.5
• Economics with financial literacy	0.5
Required Units	**15.5**
Elective Units	**7.5**
Three credits must be a combination of World Language, Fine Arts, or Career & Technical Education courses.	
Additional Requirements: Civics exam, Computer Science and Cybersecurity standards requirements, ASVAB exam	
Units of credit required for graduation	**23.0**

ELIGIBILITY

To qualify for graduation, a senior must have been enrolled in a high school during grades 9, 10, 11 and 12 for four separate school year terms. An exception to this policy may be made for learners if they have the approval of their parents and the principal. In addition, learners must have completed all requirements for the high school diploma in order to participate in commencement exercises.

Learners shall be enrolled each year in courses that will give them at least 6 credits unless an administrator has granted permission to take a reduced load. Additional courses may be taken from the list of electives each year to meet the minimum requirements.

Learners must make an effort to make up any course failures through summer school, approved correspondence or online school before the next semester starts. Courses failed and not made up by the beginning of the next semester must be scheduled. Special permission must be obtained to take further courses in the same field until failures have been removed.

CEREMONY PARTICIPATION

West Fargo Public Schools holds high expectations for participating in the ceremony of graduation. It is a privilege to walk in the graduation ceremony.

To participate in the graduation ceremony, graduating seniors must:

- Complete a presentation showcasing their Profile of a Graduate dispositions.
- Complete the Choice Ready dashboard.
- Complete senior survey.
- Complete all outstanding obligations, prior to graduation rehearsal, inclusive of but not limited to:
    - Serve any and all detention hours.
    - Pay any and all parking tickets.
    - Pay any and all school fees.
    - Return any and all athletic uniforms and equipment.
    - Return all instructional resources:
        - iPad and iPad accessories
        - Textbooks
        - Library books
        - Other teacher obligations (gym lock, calculators, etc.)
- Attend the mandatory graduation rehearsal as scheduled.

Participation is also contingent upon learner attendance and behavioral issues as determined by the school administrative team.

COMMENCEMENT RECOGNITION

Graduating seniors who have attained any or all the following will be given special recognition during commencement exercises:

- Active membership in the National Honor Society and National Technical Honor Society, Military enlistment, achievement of 2 or more non-academic letters.
- A grade point average (weighted) of 3.50 or better for all courses grades 9-12 taken up to and during the first semester of the senior year (Graduating with Honor). Learners who receive S/U grading are not eligible for graduating with honor.

COMMENCEMENT DRESS CODE

All graduating seniors are expected to abide by the following guidelines if they choose to participate in the ceremony:

- The graduation robe is in school colors with a V neckline. Jewelry, flowers, or other decoration may NOT be added to the robe.
- Caps may NOT be decorated.
- Per ND Century Code 15.1-19-28, graduating seniors may wear an eagle plume or feather in recognition of their tribal heritage.

EARLY GRADUATION

All learners wishing to graduate early must obtain approval by the principal during spring registration in the year prior to the graduation of the learner's class. For more information, please see the district policy on early graduation: https://www.west-fargo.k12.nd.us/about-us/administrative-policy/gdaa-ap-early-graduation