Policy 613

Education Programs

Graduation Requirements

I. Purpose

This policy sets forth requirements for graduation from the school district.

II. General Statement of Policy

The school district's policy is that all students will fulfill applicable state required assessments as well as satisfactorily complete all course requirements, as determined by the district and as established by the school board, in order to receive a diploma. All students who meet the above requirements will be considered a graduate of Edina High School for purposes of ceremony, diploma, and transcript.

III. Definitions

For purposes of this policy, the definitions included in this section apply.

A. "Course credit" is equivalent to a student's successful completion of a semester of study or a student's mastery of the applicable subject matter, as determined by the school district and as identified annually in district course registration catalogs.

B. "Individualized Education Program" or "IEP" means a written statement developed for a student eligible by law for special education and services.

C. "Academic standard" means: (1) a statewide adopted expectation for student learning in the content areas of language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, personal finance, physical education, health, or the arts, or (2) a locally adopted expectation for student learning in world language or career and technical education.

IV. Test Administrator

The director of teaching and learning is the school district test administrator and in charge of all test procedures.

V. Graduation Requirements

Students must fulfill state graduation requirements and successfully complete high school level courses, as determined by the school district, to graduate from Edina Public Schools. District requirements are articulated in Appendix I.

VI. Requirements to Participate in Graduation Ceremony

A. The high school graduation ceremony is the commencement event provided to students, families, and community by the school district. A high school student who has attained the required course credits will be allowed to participate in the ceremony. The high school principal or designee will present a list of students to receive a diploma from Edina Public Schools to the school board for its approval prior to the ceremony.

B. The district reserves the right to not allow a student to participate in or attend the graduation ceremony for inappropriate behavior. Inappropriate behavior includes but is not limited to destroying or damaging property, disrupting the school day or activities, or engaging in disrespectful behavior toward fellow students or district employees.

C. The district will not charge fees for rental or purchase of caps, gowns, or diplomas.

VII. Early Graduation

As provided for by state law, students may be considered for early graduation, upon meeting the following conditions:

A. All course or standards and credit requirements must be met;

B. All test requirements or higher guidelines have been satisfied;

C. The principal or designee has conducted an interview with the student and parent or guardian, familiarized the parties with opportunities available in post-secondary education, and supports the early graduation request.

D. The principal's decision will be in writing and is subject to approval by the superintendent and school board.

IX. High School Diploma for Veterans

A. Diploma

The school district will, upon a request under Section B. below issue a high school diploma to a veteran as defined in state law who was unable to complete their high school education for reasons related or unrelated to their military service, and who served:

1. during the Korean Conflict; or

2. during the Vietnam War.

B. Request

A veteran may request a diploma on their own behalf, or a family member may make a posthumous request on behalf of a deceased veteran or service member. The high school diploma is awarded based on the veteran's knowledge and experience gained while in service, or the veteran's other relevant lived experience. The district may require the veteran or veteran's requestor to provide evidence that the veteran was a Minnesota public school student or is a current Minnesota resident.

C. No Report Required

The district is not required to report on diplomas issued under Minnesota Statutes, section 127A.135.

D. Assistance

The Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs and county veteran service officers may provide assistance to districts fulfilling diploma requests, including but not limited to verification of discharge paperwork.

Legal References:
20 U.S.C. § 6301, *et seq.* (Every Student Succeeds Act)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.018 (Definitions)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.02 (Educational Expectations and Graduation Requirements for Minnesota's Students)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.021 (Required Academic Standards)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.023 (Benchmarks)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.024 (Credits)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.07 (Early Graduation)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.11 (School District Process for Reviewing Curriculum, Instruction, and Student Achievement Goals; Striving for Comprehensive Achievement and Civic Readiness)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.125 (Planning for Students' Successful Transition to Postsecondary Education and Employment; Personal Learning Plans)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.13 (Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate Programs)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.251 (Ethnic Studies Requirements)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.30 (General Requirements; Statewide Assessments)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.303 (Assessment Graduation Requirements)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.307 (College and Career Readiness)
Minn. Stat. § 124D.09 (Postsecondary Enrollment Options Act)
Minn. Stat. § 124D.091 (Concurrent Enrollment Program Aid)
Minn. Stat. § 124F.08 (Education and Employment Transitions Partnerships)
Minn. Stat. § 127A.135 (High School Diploma for Veterans)

Minn. Rules Chapter 3501 (Graduation Standards)

Cross References:
Policy 601 (Educational Competencies, Academic Standards, and Instructional Curriculum)
Policy 614 (Assessment Plan)
Policy 616 (School District System Accountability)
Policy 624 (Online Learning Options)

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INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 273
Edina, Minnesota

Appendix I to Policy 613

EDINA PUBLIC SCHOOLS GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

I. Graduation Requirements

A. All students are subject to the following assessment requirements, unless the parents/guardians opt out in writing:

1. Must participate in the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments ("MCAs") in reading, math, and science; and

2. Must have had an opportunity to complete the ACT in Grade 11.

B. All students must complete the Minnesota Academic Standards as developed by the Minnesota Department of Education:

1. Minnesota Academic Standards, Language Arts K-12;

2. Minnesota Academic Standards, Mathematics K-12;

3. Minnesota Academic Standards, Science K-12;

4. Minnesota Academic Standards, Social Studies K-12;

5. Minnesota Academic Standards, Arts K-12;

6. Minnesota Academic Standards, Personal Finance 9-12;

7. School District Standards, Health K-12; and

8. School District Standards, Physical Education K-12.

C. Additionally, all students must demonstrate their understanding of the following local academic standards:

1. School District Standards, Career and Technical Education 6-8; and

2. School District Standards, World Languages 6-8.

D. All students must successfully complete one of the following:

1. Earn forty-three (43) semester credits, and starting with the class of 2028, forty-four (44) semester credits, as recorded on the high school transcript;

2. Have met the requirements of the student's IEP; or

3. Have met the requirements of an accredited alternative learning program within the district.

II. Edina Public Schools Graduation Requirements

A. Students must successfully complete, as determined by the school district, the following high school level course semester credits for graduation:

1. Eight (8) semester credits of English Language Arts;

2. Six (6) semester credits of mathematics, including an Algebra II credit or its equivalent;

3. Six (6) semester credits of science, including a minimum of (a) two credits in physical earth science; (b) two credits in biology; (c) two additional credits in physics or chemistry beyond physical earth science;

4. Seven (7) semester credits of social studies, encompassing at least United States history, government and citizenship, world history, geography, and economics; however, starting with the class of 2028, eight (8) semester credits of social studies, encompassing at least United States history, government and citizenship, world history, geography, and economics;

5. Two semester credits in the arts (music, dance, theater, media and visual arts and selected courses);

6. One (1) semester credit in health and two (2) semester credits in physical education; and

7. Minimum of eleven (11) semester credits of elective options; however, Starting with the class of 2028, minimum of ten (10) semester credits of elective options.

8. Starting with the class of 2028, one semester credit (1) in personal finance in grade 10, 11, or 12.

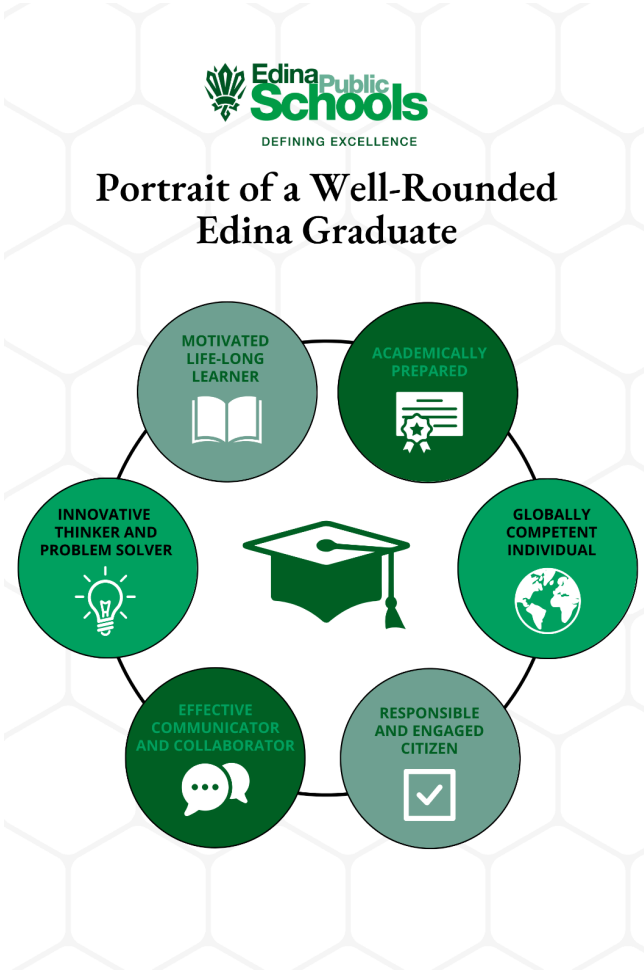
9. Starting with the class of 2028, forty-four (44) semester credits.

Appendix
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Appendix II to Policy 613

EDINA PUBLIC SCHOOLS PORTRAIT OF A WELL-ROUNDED EDINA GRADUATE

The Edina Public Schools Early Learning - 12 course work is designed to develop the following competencies in each and every student.



ACADEMICALLY PREPARED

- Demonstrates foundational academic knowledge in Reading, English Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies, Science, Technology, Engineering, and the Arts.
- Masters and applies standards aligned to challenging and rich curricula.
- Identifies, understands, and solves complex issues.

GLOBALLY COMPETENT INDIVIDUAL

- Possesses a diverse and informed world perspective, including understandings of world geography, history, economics, social issues, cultures, political structures and environmental conditions.
- Engages in multiple opportunities to broaden language knowledge and application.
- Embraces the individual and cultural dignity of all people and actively seeks multicultural interactions.

RESPONSIBLE AND ENGAGED CITIZEN

- Demonstrates a high level of integrity and ethical action.
- Applies knowledge and education for the good of the community.
- Demonstrates empathy, compassion and open-mindedness.
- Accepts responsibility for personal choices and actions, including impact on others and learns from mistakes.
- Applies the social-emotional skills of self-awareness and self-management to lead a healthy and well-balanced life.

EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATOR AND COLLABORATOR

- Communicates effectively as a listener, speaker, writer, and responder through appropriate and timely communication platforms (digital, print, video, and social media).
- Possesses strong social and interpersonal skills, including verbal, nonverbal, and conflict resolution.
- Works effectively with others in academic and social settings, both as a leader and a contributor.

INNOVATIVE THINKER AND PROBLEM SOLVER

- Thinks and produces creatively, both collaboratively and independently.
- Demonstrates intellectual curiosity.
- Critically analyzes and evaluates information sources.
- Adapts to changing demands.

MOTIVATED LIFE-LONG LEARNER

- Understands personal interests and passions, while valuing continuous learning and seeking opportunities for growth.
- Understands own needs as a learner and advocates appropriately.
- Persists when faced with challenge or adversity.
- Actively researches opportunities, sets personal learning goals, makes choices that support long-term aspirations and successful transitions.

Appendix
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