

Instruction

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS/STANDARDS OF PROFICIENCY

Students shall receive diplomas of graduation only after completing the Graduation Requirements established by the West Sonoma County Union High School District and the State of California. The prescribed course of study for students in grades 9 through 12 is found in the Curricular Planning Guide of each school.

Graduation Requirements

Subject Area	Credit Required
English	40
Mathematics (including Algebra I)	20
Physical Education	20
Life Science	10
Physical Science	10
Practical Art	10
Fine Art	10
World History	10
United States History	10
Freshmen Social Studies	10
American Government	5
Economics	5
Electives	70
Total Required Credits	230

1. A student may earn a maximum of ten (10) credits as a junior and ten (10) credits as a senior for serving as a Teaching Assistant or Office Aide.
2. Work Experience is limited to 20 credits a year for a total of 40 credits as outlined in the Curriculum Planning Guide at each school.
3. Students who complete courses that fulfill graduation requirements in middle school and are moved directly to the next level when they enter high school will still have to earn the number of required credits in that subject area at the high school level.
4. Physical Education Requirement
 - (a) All freshmen must enroll in a class in physical education.
 - (b) All students must earn ten (10) credits of physical education or dance in their sophomore, junior or senior years.

Board Policy 6146.1(b)

- (c) Starting with the Class of 2014, a student may waive up to two semesters of the physical education requirements by successful participation in interscholastic sports or cheerleading at the junior varsity or varsity level. Successful participation in two seasons of interscholastic sport, or successful participation in cheerleading in both the fall and winter sports season in one school year, shall result in waiving one semester of the physical education graduation requirement. Successful participation in a third season of interscholastic sport, or successful participation in cheerleading in two more seasons in a subsequent school year, shall result in waiving a second semester of physical education graduation requirement. When a semester of physical education graduation requirement is waived, five (5) credits of physical education elective shall be recorded on the student's transcript. Participation in sports or cheerleading during the freshman year cannot be used as part of the waiver process.

5. College Classes

- (a) Credits earned in a college or junior college may be counted towards graduation under the following circumstances:
 - (1) Makeup-students may take college courses to make up failed classes and/or missed classes that result in being behind schedule in earning the number of credits required for graduation.
 - (2) Enrichment-students may take college courses beyond graduation requirements in core areas not offered at the school in which they are enrolled.
 - (3) Students may take college courses that meet elective requirements towards graduation
 - (4) Students may take college courses to fulfill ten (10) credits of physical education courses beyond the freshman physical education requirement.
 - (5) Exceptions may be made by the principal or designee to allow students to take college courses to fulfill graduation requirements in the areas of fine arts and vocational education
- (b) When transferring credits, one (1) college unit equals three and one-third (3 1/3) high school credits.

Standards of Proficiency

To receive a high school diploma, students must achieve minimum proficiency in English, reading comprehension, writing and mathematics. The Board of Education shall adopt proficiency standards in these areas and any other areas it deems appropriate. All adopted proficiency standards shall correspond to the standards of the course of study required for graduation.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that parents/guardians are properly notified of the district proficiency standards for graduation and will establish procedures for parent/guardian involvement or consultation when a student has not met district standards.

California High School Exit Examination

Beginning in the 2005-2006 school year, each student-completing grade 12 shall have successfully passed the California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE) in language arts and mathematics as a condition of high school graduation.

Sufficient Progress:

Students who have not passed the required language arts and/or mathematics portions of the CAHSEE by spring of their junior year, beginning with the 2006-2007 school year, should participate in the district's supplemental CAHSEE preparation program in order to gain the skills necessary for successful passage of the exam. Additional supplemental instructional opportunities shall be developed and available to students who have not successfully passed the exams by the spring of their junior year.

Allowances for Students with Disabilities:

Exception for 2005-2006 School Year Only

For the 2005-2006 school year students with disabilities may have the requirement to successfully pass one or both District subject matter competencies waived by the site principal under the guidelines established in SB517 as follows:

- The student with disabilities is on a high school diploma track with an anticipated graduation from high school in 2006, according to the student's Individual Education Plan (IEP) or Section 504 Plan, dated on or before July 1, 2005.
- The student with disabilities has taken the high school exit exam at least twice since the 10th grade, including at least once during the student's senior year with the accommodations and/or modifications specified in the student's IEP or Section 504 Plan.
- The student with disabilities participated in remedial or supplemental instruction focused on the high school exit exam either through the student's school, private tutoring or other means.

Exception for January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2007

Students with disabilities who complete all other diploma requirements on or between January 1, 2007 and December 31, 2007 may have the requirement to successfully pass one or both District subject matter competencies waived by the site principal under the guidelines established in SB 267 and Education Code 60852.4 as follows:

- The student with disabilities is on a high school diploma track with an anticipated graduation from high school on or between January 1, 2007 and December 31, 2007, according to the student's Individual Education Plan (IEP) or 504 Plan.
- The student with disabilities has taken the high school exit exam at least twice since the 10th grade, including at least once during the student's senior year, with the accommodations and/or modifications specified in the student's IEP or 504 Plan.
- The student with disabilities participated in remedial or supplemental instruction focused on passing the high school exit exam either through the student's school, private tutoring or other means.
- The student with disabilities took the subject matter competency exam (CAHSEE exam) after receiving remedial or supplemental instruction unless the District did not administer the exam again after the instruction was completed.

Ongoing Waiver Option for Students With Disabilities

At the request of a parent or guardian, a school principal shall submit a request for a waiver of the requirement to successfully pass the high school exit examination to the governing board for a student with a disability who has taken the high school exit examination with modifications that alter what the test measures and has received the equivalent of a passing score on one or both subject matter parts of the examination.

The board may waive the requirement to successfully pass one or both subject matter parts of the high school exit examination for a student with a disability if the principal certifies to the board that the student has all of the following:

1. An Individualized Education Program (IEP) or Section 504 Plan in place that requires the accommodations or modifications to be provided to the pupil when taking the high school exit examination.
2. Sufficient high school level coursework either satisfactorily completed or in progress in a high school level curriculum sufficient to have attained the skills and knowledge otherwise needed to pass the high school exit examination.
3. An individual score report for the student showing that the student has received the equivalent of a passing score on the high school exit examination while using a modification that fundamentally alters what the high school exit examination measures as determined by the State Board of Education.

(cf. 5125 – Student Records)

(cf. 5127- Graduation Ceremonies and Activities)

(cf. 6164.2 – Guidance Services)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

37252 Summer school instructional programs

48430 Continuation education schools and classes

48431.6 Academic progress and counseling review program; educational options; career guidance

51224 Course of study

51225.3 Requirements for graduation

51225.4 Course of instruction implementation policy; certification

51226 Model curriculum standards

51240-51246 Exemptions from requirements

51260-51269 Drug educations

51400-51442 Diplomas and certificates

52508 Diplomas or certificates (adult school)

52510 Requirements for eighth grade graduation (adult school)

60850(f)(5) Definition of modification

60851(c) Waiver of the high school exit examination

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

1600-1651 Graduation of pupils from grade 12 and credit toward graduation

Adopted: February 13, 1992

Revised: 2/11/03; 11/03, 6/04

3/8/06, 12/13/06, 8/25/10, 10/12/11

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Sebastopol, California