

## EDUCATION PROGRAM

### *Series 600*

#### **Policy Title: Graduation Requirements**

#### **Code Number: AR605.4**

A student must earn 44 credits to graduate from high school. A student will not be allowed to graduate with fewer than 44 credits without the approval of the Board. The Board shall have complete discretion to determine extraordinary circumstances.

The list below shows the mandatory units by subject area to be completed (for 30 credits). Fourteen is the minimum number of elective credits to be applied toward high school graduation requirements.

#### **English-Language Arts - 8 Credits**

- 2 credits of English I or Honors English I
- 2 credits of English II or Honors English II, or AP Language and Composition
- 2 credits of English III, Honors English III, or AP English Literature and Composition
- 2 credits of English IV or English Composition I & II

#### **Mathematics - 6 Credits**

- 2 credits of Mathematics, must include Algebra I
- 4 additional Mathematics electives

#### **Science - 6 Credits**

- 2 credits of Science, must include Biology
- 2 credits of Physical Science and 2 credits of elective or
- 2 credits of Chemistry and 2 credits of Physics

#### **Social Studies- 6 Credits**

- 2 credits of American History (state required)
- 2 credits of World History
- 1 credit of American Government (state required)
- 1 credit of Personal Finance Literacy\* (\*state required beginning with graduating class of 2021)

## **Fine Arts - 2 Credits**

Fine Arts credits must be earned from two of the following areas: Music, Visual Arts, Theatre / Drama or Humanities.

## **Physical Education – 4 Credits**

Physical Education Required Each Semester According to Board Policy 602.11. Students must successfully complete (pass and earn credit) a physical education course one semester of each year of high school. Board Policy 602.11 outlines exceptions and exemptions to this requirement.

## **CPR Certification**

Every student not otherwise exempt must complete certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

## **Middle School**

High school classes taken during middle school will be counted as high school credit toward graduation and will also be computed into the high school grade point average.

## **Graduation Requirements for Special Education Students**

Graduation requirements for special education students will be in accordance with the prescribed course of study as described in their Individualized Education Program (IEP). In accordance with state standards, beginning with the graduating class of 2022, graduation requirements for special education students will include successful completion of four years of English, three years of math, three years of social studies and three years of science. Prior to the student's graduation, the IEP team shall determine that the graduation requirements have been met. Upon successful completion of the prescribed courses of study, students with disabilities will enjoy the same ceremonial activities as any other student.

The District shall issue to special education students the same certificate of diploma as granted to other students.

## **Weighted Grade Point Average**

The method of computation for the weighted grade point average will be based on the GPA Plus formula. The Superintendent or his/her designee will validate whether students have met the District's requirements for graduation.

## **Policy Development**

First Adoption:	December 15, 1998
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Legal Reference:	Iowa Code §§ 256.7, .11; 279.8; 280.3, .14 281 I.A.C. 12.1, .3(5), .5.