

REGULATION

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
HIGH POINT REGIONAL**

NO. R 5460

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5460 GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The Board of Education shall recognize the successful completion of the secondary school instructional program by the award of a state-endorsed diploma certifying that the pupil has met all state and local requirements for high school graduation. The Board shall certify annually to the County Superintendent that each pupil who has been awarded a diploma has met the requirements for graduation.

In order to qualify for a diploma a pupil must have completed the Program of Study assigned, as appropriate to the pupil's needs and abilities, to grades 9 through 12 and must have earned 135 credits to include the following areas:

- A. Twenty credits of English, not to include supplemental programs provided for the purposes of compensatory education;
- B. Fifteen credits of mathematics, not to include supplemental programs provided for the purposes of compensatory education;
- C. Fifteen credits of social studies to include:
 - Five credits of World History
 - A sequential ten credit program in United States History.
- D. Fifteen credits of a lab science.
- E. Five credits of health and physical education during each year of enrollment, distributed as a minimum of one hundred fifty minutes per week. Exception: Students taking a lab science in conjunction with a Health and Physical Education class will receive four credits;
- F. Five credits of world language;
- G. Five credits of Applied Practical Arts.
- H. Five credits of Visual, Performing Arts.
- I. Five credits of technology. Technological literacy, consistent with the Core Curriculum Content Standards, is also integrated throughout the curriculum.
- J. Beginning with students entering grade nine in 2008-09, to prepare all

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students for success in post secondary education and/or careers after graduation, all students shall complete by the end of their high school education at a minimum, coursework in language arts literacy, mathematics and science. These shall include college level preparatory English I, II, III and IV, Algebra I, Lab Biology or the equivalent content taught in an integrated or career-based format.

- K. Beginning with the graduating class of 2011, five additional credits of mathematics or a lab science.
- L. An approved 20 hour community service project is required and will be expanded to students in all grade levels. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in 2008-2009, all students will be required to complete 50 hours of community service by the end of their high school career. The community service graduation requirement engages students in projects that serve the community and build their social awareness while developing character and citizen skills.

Credit shall be assigned on the same basis to all high school courses offered by this Board. All courses offered for credit must be at the high school level, and no single course may satisfy more than one of the requirements listed above. Credit may be awarded for special study, such as the successful completion of college level courses, independent study programs, etc., with the prior approval of the Principal.

Each course of study required for graduation by this Board shall include a course outline to be mastered by those pupils enrolled in the course. Such course requirements shall be explicitly defined learning outcomes and demonstrable skills or, as appropriate to the course, satisfactory participation in particular educational experiences. Credit for each required course shall be awarded on the successful completion of the work assigned and satisfaction of the course requirements identified. Failure to either obtain or to demonstrate mastery of the course requirements shall result in the loss of credit(s) for the course. A student enrolled in a course of study shall be given every reasonable opportunity to remediate and satisfy a failed proficiency.

No pupil shall be awarded a high school diploma who has not passed the state 11th Grade High School Proficiency Assessment in Language Arts, Mathematics and in any other core area defined by the state. HPRHS will follow the NJ regulations governing the demonstration of proficiency on the HSPA for all students. A pupil who

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fails to demonstrate competency in one or more of the basic skills areas shall be given a comprehensive evaluation of his or her basic skills proficiencies through the Special Review Assessment (SRA) Process conducted under state regulations and guidelines.

Regular attendance is essential to the successful completion of a course of study, and pupils are expected to be present on every day that school is in session except as their attendance may be excused in accordance with Board policy. Attendance in class shall be considered as a prerequisite for demonstrating the required mastery of course requirements for each course of study included in the regular program of the school. Failure to maintain regular attendance in class shall result in the loss of credit(s) for the course in accordance with Board policy.

A copy of all state and local high school graduation requirements shall be distributed to each pupil who enters or transfers into the high school or to his or her parents or guardians.

Each course requirements is posted at the HPRHS website. Hard copies will be distributed to each pupil enrolled in that course or to his or her parents or guardians upon request.

Adopted: 18 December 1995

Revised: 04 August 2005, 05 December 2005, 15 December 2008