



| Board Office Use: Legislative File Info. | |
|---|--------------|
| File ID Number | 20-0802 |
| Introduction Date | 5/13/20 |
| Enactment Number | 20-0669 |
| Enactment Date | 5/13/2020 If |

Memo

To Board of Education

From Kyla Johnson-Trammell, Superintendent
Sondra Aguilera, Chief Academic Officer
Lucia Moritz, High School Network Superintendent

Board Meeting Date May 13, 2020

Subject Proposed Amendments to Board Policy - BP 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements

Action Requested and Recommendation

Adoption by the Board of Education of amendments to Board Policy - BP 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements. The action requested and recommended is to approve amendments that include waiving specific graduation requirements due to the emergency conditions created by the COVID-19 pandemic and to address any future emergency situations that may arise.

Background

Currently, the District has some of the most rigorous graduation requirements compared to other school districts in California. The state-mandated minimum graduation requirements are 130 credits and OUSD graduation policy is aligned to the A-G requirements to provide additional college and career readiness support for students with the 230 credits required for graduation. The District has two additional graduation requirements:

- Earns a minimum Grade Point Average of 2.00 in courses that satisfy graduation requirements.
- A student shall complete a senior project/exhibition during his/her 12th grade year of high school. This project shall be a serious research project or exhibition which demonstrates achievement of school-wide learning goals and designated key content standards.

The District deeply believes in the value of these two additional graduation requirements and wants to limit negative consequences on students due to changes stemming from the emergency situation created by COVID-19. The waiver of these two requirements will not impact students' ability to apply to college and will only be in place during emergency situations like a pandemic.

In regards to removing the minimum 2.0 GPA requirement, the shift from letter grades to credit/no credit means students are not able to earn a letter grade to improve their Grade

Point Average (GPA) as credit/no credit courses are not counted when computing the GPA. By not waiving this GPA requirement, students who may have been on track to graduating before school closure on March 13 and have met all other graduation requirements, will be unable to graduate due to the inability to earn a letter grade.

Along the same line, the senior project graduation requirement is one that sets the District apart from the vast majority of other districts in the state, at some OUSD schools this is a capstone project that is recognized as cutting edge work on performance assessment and equity in the state of California and nationally. While the importance of the senior project/exhibition is clear, it is important to recognize that the current emergency situation makes it almost impossible for every student to access the type of support they normally would receive to complete the senior project/exhibition successfully.

Fiscal Impact

No Fiscal Impact

Attachments

Proposed Amendments to Board Policy - BP 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements (redline)
Proposed Amendments to Board Policy - BP 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements (clean)

OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board Policy Instruction

BP 6146 .1
High School Graduation Requirements

The Governing Board desires to prepare each student to obtain a diploma of high school graduation in order to provide students with opportunities for postsecondary education and/or employment.

A diploma of high school graduation shall be granted to any student who:

1. Completes a total of 230 credits in grades 9-12.
2. Earns a minimum Grade Point Average of 2.00 in courses that satisfy graduation requirements.
3. ~~Completes a Senior Project/Exhibition. Beginning in the 2005-06 school year, state legislation required each student completing grade 12 to have successfully passed the state exit examination in language arts and mathematics as a condition of high school graduation (Education Code 60851, 60859). Effective January 1, 2016, however, the exit examination requirement was removed as a condition for graduation for the 2015-16, 2016-17, and 2017-18 school years.~~

~~Also, beginning January 1, 2016, schools shall grant a diploma to any pupil who completed grade twelve in the 2003-04 school year or a subsequent school year and met all applicable graduation requirements other than the passage of the high school exit examination.~~

To obtain a diploma of graduation from high school, students shall earn 230 credits by completing the following courses in grades 9-12:

1. **40 credits of English:** 10 credits each in grades 9, 10, 11, 12.
2. **30 credits of Mathematics,** including Algebra and Geometry. Algebra and Geometry successfully completed at the middle school level count toward the Algebra and Geometry curricular requirement. Students must earn 30 credits of Mathematics while enrolled in high school. ~~[Note: UC/USC recommend 4 years of Mathematics.]~~
3. **30 credits of Science in grades 9-12,** including Biology and a Physical Science.
4. **30 credits of Social Studies** in grades 9-12 as follows:
 - 10 credits of World ~~Cultures~~History
 - 10 credits of U. S. History
 - 10 credits: American Government (5 credits) and Economics (5 credits)

5. **20 credits of World Language** in grades 9-12. Sign Language may be used to satisfy this requirement. Enrollment in ELD classes for English Language Learners may satisfy this requirement.
6. **10 credits of Visual/Performing Arts** in grades 9-12. ~~(Beginning in 2006 UC will require a single year long approved course from a single discipline.)~~
7. **20 credits of Physical Education** or JROTC and Marching Band except where nonparticipation is authorized by the Education Code and the Board of Education.
8. ~~60~~**50 credits of electives which may be selected by students and parents.** A maximum of 40 credits of Outside Work Experience (OWE) and Inside Work Experience (IWE) combined (with Inside Work Experience limited to 20 credits) may be counted toward graduation.
9. Other approved secondary courses offered in English, Mathematics, Social Studies, Technology, and the Visual and Performing Arts may satisfy requirements for graduation. Refer to the District's Course Catalog.

Senior Project/Exhibition

A student shall complete a senior project/exhibition during his/her 12th grade year of high school. This project shall be a serious research project or exhibition which demonstrates achievement of school-wide learning goals and designated key content standards.

Alternative Credits Toward Graduation Requirements

In order to meet individual student needs and encourage all students to complete their high school education, the Governing Board ~~desire~~desires to provide flexibility in the completion of ~~prescribe~~prescribed courses in accordance with law.

As an alternative to completing the course requirements for high school graduation, students may fulfill one or more of the course requirements through:

1. Demonstration of skills and competencies;
2. Supervised work experience up to 40 credits in accordance with 5 CCR 1635, or other outside school experience;
3. Independent Study;
4. Credit earned at a postsecondary institution;
5. Correspondence instruction from a California university and/or other California Department of Education entities in subjects included within or related to the course of study offered in the school district;
6. Courses earned in an Adult Education Program; and
7. Military service and training in accordance with 5 CCR 1634
8. The District shall accept for credit any coursework satisfactorily completed by students while detained in a juvenile court school or county or state-operated institution. District

students who successfully complete district graduation requirements while so detained shall receive a diploma from the school they last attended (Education Code 48645.5)

9. Completion of course of study as determined by Individual Education Plan towards either a Diploma or Certificate of Completion

10. Completion of course of study as outlined by state education code and law for special populations including but not limited to, AB 2306, AB2121, AB 216, and AB 1806.

Alternatives for Graduation

9.11. It is the policy of the OUSD to provide information regarding alternative ways for students to receive recognition for completion of high school. The recognized programs are as follows: the Alternative Education Program, The Adult Education Program, and the General Education Development Program (GED). Information regarding all programs is available through the school counseling Department.

Computation of Grade Point Average

The Grade Point Average shall be computed on a 4.0 scale by using marks in all subjects, including repeated subjects taken in grades 9-12. This Grade Point Average shall be used to determine class ranks and shall be listed on the high school transcript. These computation methods are used for OUSD graduation only and not for college admissions or other purposes.

~~Advanced Honors Courses and Weightings~~

Designated HP (Honors Placement) and AP (Advanced Placement), ~~Dual Enrollment (DE) or concurrent enrollment courses that are CSU/UC transferable, International Baccalaureate (IB) courses, and some University of California Curriculum Integration~~ courses will be given extra weight per U.C. guidelines for college admission only. The 4.0 GPA scale is used for district computation. GPA's will be calculated and reported using both scales.

(cf. 6141.5 Early College Credit)

~~Pass/Fail Courses not Offered for a Letter Grade~~

~~Pass/Fail Courses~~ For courses that are not graded based on a letter grade, a "pass" or "credit" grade shall be counted toward completing the 230 credit graduation requirement, but not counted when computing Grade Point Average.

A student receiving a "D" or "F" in two or more subjects after the first marking period of the school year shall be placed on academic probation. Parents will be notified in writing during the second marking period. Conferences should be held with the students, parents, teachers, counselor, and the principal (designee) to discuss the appropriate program for the student.

Intervention Strategies

~~The school shall provide research-based intervention strategies that support acceleration, which may include, but are not limited it, the following:~~

1. The following options may be pursued to assist students:

1. After School Tutorial
2. Extra course work and/or assignments
3. Independent Study

4. Correspondence Course Options
- ~~5. Online credit recovery courses offered through the school district~~
- ~~6. Competency-based assessment systems and testing~~
- ~~7. School day acceleration courses~~
- ~~8. Summer School programs~~

Graduation Ceremony

Students must meet all requirements for graduation in order to be eligible to participate in school ceremonies.

Failure to Graduate with Class

Students who fail to graduate in time (8 semesters in grades 9-12) with their class will have one year from the date of the OUSD scheduled graduation to present official transcripts from an Adult Education Program and/or Community College Program verifying completion of requirements in order to receive a diploma from assigned school. The transcript must be verified by the School ~~Recorder.~~ Counselor or School Administrator. Students who take more than one year from the date of OUSD scheduled graduation must beingbring official transcripts to the Adult Education Office to receive a diploma.

Graduation Requirements Under Emergency Conditions

In emergency situations where physical school campuses are closed, the following graduation requirements may be waived upon approval by the Superintendent:

- Earns a minimum Grade Point Average of 2.00 in courses that satisfy graduation requirements.
- **Senior Project/Exhibition**
A student shall complete a senior project/exhibition during his/her 12th grade year of high school. This project shall be a serious research project or exhibition which demonstrates achievement of school-wide learning goals and designated key content standards.

These requirements will be waived as a temporary accommodation due to emergency situations to hold students harmless for situations that are out of their control. This waiver may be initiated at the discretion of the Superintendent.

Previous Requirement

Beginning in the 2005-06 school year, state legislation required each student completing grade 12 shall have successfully passed the state exit examination in language arts and mathematics as a condition of high school graduation (Education Code 60851, 60859). Effective January 1, 2016, however, the exit examination requirement was removed as a condition for graduation for the 2015-16, 2016-17, and 2017-18 school years.

Also, beginning January 1, 2016, schools shall grant a diploma to any pupil who completed grade twelve in the 2003-04 school year or a subsequent school year and met all applicable graduation requirements other than the passage of the high school exit examination.

Information

Questions concerning these procedures should first be directed to the principal and then to the appropriate Network Superintendent.

| 5/25/05; 4/30/08A; 8/19/15A; 12/16/15A; 8/8/18A; 05/13/2020A

**OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board Policy Instruction**

**BP 6146 .1
High School Graduation Requirements**

The Governing Board desires to prepare each student to obtain a diploma of high school graduation in order to provide students with opportunities for postsecondary education and/or employment.

A diploma of high school graduation shall be granted to any student who:

1. Completes a total of 230 credits in grades 9-12.
2. Earns a minimum Grade Point Average of 2.00 in courses that satisfy graduation requirements.
3. Completes a Senior Project/Exhibition.

To obtain a diploma of graduation from high school, students shall earn 230 credits by completing the following courses in grades 9-12:

1. **40 credits of English:** 10 credits each in grades 9, 10, 11, 12.
2. **30 credits of Mathematics**, including Algebra and Geometry. Algebra and Geometry successfully completed at the middle school level count toward the Algebra and Geometry curricular requirement. Students must earn 30 credits of Mathematics while enrolled in high school.
3. **30 credits of Science in grades 9-12**, including Biology and a Physical Science.
4. **30 credits of Social Studies** in grades 9-12 as follows:
 - 10 credits of World History
 - 10 credits of U. S. History
 - 10 credits: American Government (5 credits) and Economics (5 credits)
5. **20 credits of World Language** in grades 9-12. Sign Language may be used to satisfy this requirement. Enrollment in ELD classes for English Language Learners may satisfy this requirement.
6. **10 credits of Visual/Performing Arts** in grades 9-12.
7. **20 credits of Physical Education** or JROTC and Marching Band except where nonparticipation is authorized by the Education Code and the Board of Education.

8. **50 credits of electives which may be selected by students and parents.** A maximum of 40 credits of Outside Work Experience (OWE) and Inside Work Experience (IWE) combined (with Inside Work Experience limited to 20 credits) may be counted toward graduation.
9. Other approved secondary courses offered in English, Mathematics, Social Studies, Technology, and the Visual and Performing Arts may satisfy requirements for graduation. Refer to the District's Course Catalog.

Senior Project/Exhibition

A student shall complete a senior project/exhibition during his/her 12th grade year of high school. This project shall be a serious research project or exhibition which demonstrates achievement of school-wide learning goals and designated key content standards.

Alternative Credits Toward Graduation Requirements

In order to meet individual student needs and encourage all students to complete their high school education, the Governing Board desires to provide flexibility in the completion of prescribed courses in accordance with law.

As an alternative to completing the course requirements for high school graduation, students may fulfill one or more of the course requirements through:

1. Demonstration of skills and competencies;
2. Supervised work experience up to 40 credits in accordance with 5 CCR 1635, or other outside school experience;
3. Independent Study;
4. Credit earned at a postsecondary institution;
5. Correspondence instruction from a California university and/or other California Department of Education entities in subjects included within or related to the course of study offered in the school district;
6. Courses earned in an Adult Education Program; and
7. Military service and training in accordance with 5 CCR 1634
8. The District shall accept for credit any coursework satisfactorily completed by students while detained in a juvenile court school or county or state-operated institution. District students who successfully complete district graduation requirements while so detained shall receive a diploma from the school they last attended (Education Code 48645.5)
9. Completion of course of study as determined by Individual Education Plan towards either a Diploma or Certificate of Completion
10. Completion of course of study as outlined by state education code and law for special populations including but not limited to, AB 2306, AB2121, AB 216, and AB 1806.

Alternatives for Graduation

11. It is the policy of the OUSD to provide information regarding alternative ways for students to receive recognition for completion of high school. The recognized programs are as follows: the Alternative Education Program, The Adult Education Program, and the

General Education Development Program (GED). Information regarding all programs is available through the school counseling Department.

Computation of Grade Point Average

The Grade Point Average shall be computed on a 4.0 scale by using marks in all subjects, including repeated subjects taken in grades 9-12. This Grade Point Average shall be used to determine class ranks and shall be listed on the high school transcript. These computation methods are used for OUSD graduation only and not for college admissions or other purposes.

Honors Courses

Designated HP (Honors Placement) and AP (Advanced Placement) courses will be given extra weight per U.C. guidelines for college admission only. The 4.0 GPA scale is used for district computation. GPA's will be calculated and reported using both scales.

Courses not Offered for a Letter Grade

For courses that are not graded based on a letter grade, a "pass" or "credit" grade shall be counted toward completing the 230 credit graduation requirement, but not counted when computing Grade Point Average.

A student receiving a "D" or "F" in two or more subjects after the first marking period of the school year shall be placed on academic probation. Parents will be notified in writing during the second marking period. Conferences should be held with the students, parents, teachers, counselor, and the principal (designee) to discuss the appropriate program for the student.

Intervention Strategies

The following options may be pursued to assist students:

1. After School Tutorial
2. Extra course work and/or assignments
3. Independent Study
4. Correspondence Course Options

Graduation Ceremony

Students must meet all requirements for graduation in order to be eligible to participate in school ceremonies.

Failure to Graduate with Class

Students who fail to graduate in time (8 semesters in grades 9-12) with their class will have one year from the date of the OUSD scheduled graduation to present official transcripts from an Adult Education Program and/or Community College Program verifying completion of requirements in order to receive a diploma from assigned school. The transcript must be verified by the School Counselor or School Administrator. Students who take more than one year from the date of OUSD scheduled graduation must bring official transcripts to the Adult Education Office to receive a diploma.

Graduation Requirements Under Emergency Conditions

In emergency situations where physical school campuses are closed, the following graduation₃

requirements may be waived upon approval by the Superintendent:

- Earns a minimum Grade Point Average of 2.00 in courses that satisfy graduation requirements.
- **Senior Project/Exhibition**
A student shall complete a senior project/exhibition during his/her 12th grade year of high school. This project shall be a serious research project or exhibition which demonstrates achievement of school-wide learning goals and designated key content standards.

These requirements will be waived as a temporary accommodation due to emergency situations to hold students harmless for situations that are out of their control. This waiver may be initiated at the discretion of the Superintendent.

Previous Requirement

Beginning in the 2005-06 school year, state legislation required each student completing grade 12 shall have successfully passed the state exit examination in language arts and mathematics as a condition of high school graduation (Education Code 60851, 60859). Effective January 1, 2016, however, the exit examination requirement was removed as a condition for graduation for the 2015-16, 2016-17, and 2017-18 school years.

Also, beginning January 1, 2016, schools shall grant a diploma to any pupil who completed grade twelve in the 2003-04 school year or a subsequent school year and met all applicable graduation requirements other than the passage of the high school exit examination.

Information

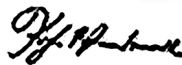
Questions concerning these procedures should first be directed to the principal and then to the appropriate Network Superintendent.

5/25/05; 4/30/08A; 8/19/15A; 12/16/15A; 8/8/18A; 05/13/2020A



5/14/2020

Jody London
President, Board of Education



5/14/2020

Kyla Johnson Trammell
Secretary, Board of Education