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OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Community Schools, Thriving Students

Memo

To Board of Education

From Kyla Johnson-Trammell, Superintendent
Preston Thomas, Network Superintendent, Linked Learning High School

Board Meeting Date August 8, 2018

Subject Amendment - Board Policy - BP 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements

Action Requested Adoption by the Board of Education of an Amendment to Board Policy - BP 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements, updating the board policy that aligns district graduation policy to the A-G requirements and provides additional college and career readiness supports for students.

Background A comprehensive review of the district's graduation requirements codified in Board Policy 6146.1 revealed that board policy is not aligned with OUSD's district graduation systems and practices at school sites (Aeries, District Guidance Documents, websites, etc). Currently, nearly all high schools in OUSD have aligned their graduation requirements to the A-G requirements for the University of California and California State University system which require 20 units of World Language. However, the board policy that was adopted in 2008, has not been updated to officially require all students to take 20 units of World Language.

Current Board Policy 6146 .1, requires:

- 10 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.

In addition to the A-G requirements, there have been several changes in the programmatic offerings in high schools that should be included in the GPA weightings. The policy changes also provide a more accurate guidance for intervention strategies that schools can use to support student acceleration and meeting the graduation requirements.

Discussion In a review the graduation policy, these changes align closely with the Board's guidance. This alignment of graduation policy to the A-G requirements, the added GPA weightings for additional courses, and the intervention strategies to support student acceleration, will support more students to become college, career and community ready.

Recommendation Adoption by the Board of Education of an Amendment to Board Policy - BP 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements, updating the board policy that aligns district graduation policy to the A-G requirements and provides additional college and career readiness supports for students.

Fiscal Impact No Fiscal Impact

Attachments

- BP 6146.1 Revision

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. 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.

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:
 - ~~(incorporated in World Cultures)~~
 - 10 credits of World Cultures
 - 10 credits of U. S. History
 - 10 credits: American Government (5 credits) and Economics (5 credits)
5. **10-20 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. ~~[Note: UC requires 2 years of same language.]~~
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 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 to provide flexibility in the completion of prescribe 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)

Alternatives for Graduation

9. 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-Advanced 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.

(See BP 6141.5, Early College Credit)

Pass/Fail Courses

Pass/Fail Courses 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:~~

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

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 class will have one year from date of 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. Students who take more than one year from date of OUSD scheduled graduation must bring official transcripts to the Adult Education Office to receive a diploma.

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

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8/9/18

Aimee Eng
President, Board of Education



8/9/18

Kyla R. Johnson-Trammell
Secretary, Board of Education