



ABERDEEN SCHOOL DISTRICT

POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

NEPN Code: IKF-R

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

A. CREDITS

GRADUATES IN 2017, 2018, AND 2019

A student's Personal Learning Plan must document a minimum of 25 credits that include the following:

<p>Four units of Language Arts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. 1.5 units of Writing b. 1.5 units of Literature; must include .5 unit of American Literature c. .5 unit of Speech or Debate d. .5 unit of other Language Arts <p>Three units of Mathematics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. 1.0 unit of Algebra I b. 1.0 unit of Algebra II* c. 1.0 unit of Geometry* 	<p>Three units of Lab Science:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. 1.0 unit of Biology b. 1.0 unit of any physical science c. 1.0 unit of Chemistry* or Physics* <p>Three and one-half (3.5) units of Social Studies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. 1.0 unit of U.S. History b. .5 unit of U.S. Government c. .5 unit of World History d. .5 unit of Geography e. .5 unit of Personal Finance or Economics f. .5 unit elective 	<p>One unit of the following in any combination:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. approved Career and Technical Education (CTE) b. Capstone Experience c. World Language <p>1.0 unit of Fine Arts</p> <p>1.0 unit of Laboratory Computer Studies</p> <p>1.0 unit of Physical Education**</p> <p>1.0 unit of Health</p> <p>6.5 units of elective credits</p>
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GRADUATES IN 2020 AND FOLLOWING

A student's Personal Learning Plan must document a minimum of 25 credits that include the following:

<p>Four units of Language Arts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. 1.5 units of Writing b. 1.5 units of Literature; must include .5 unit of American Literature c. .5 unit of Speech or Debate d. .5 unit of other Language Arts <p>Three units of Mathematics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. 1.0 unit of Algebra I b. 1.0 unit of Algebra II* c. 1.0 unit of Geometry* 	<p>Three units of Lab Science:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. 1.0 unit of Biology b. 1.0 unit of Physics* c. 1.0 unit of Chemistry* <p>Three and one-half (3.5) units of Social Studies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. 1.0 unit of U.S. History b. .5 unit of U.S. Government c. .5 unit of World History d. .5 unit of Geography e. .5 unit of Personal Finance or Economics f. .5 unit elective 	<p>One unit of the following in any combination:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. approved Career and Technical Education (CTE) b. Capstone Experience c. World Language <p>1.0 unit of Fine Arts</p> <p>1.0 unit of Laboratory Computer Studies</p> <p>1.0 unit of Physical Education**</p> <p>1.0 unit of Health</p> <p>6.5 units of elective credits</p>
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* With school and parent/guardian approval, a student may waive this course in favor of a more appropriate course. A student may waive Algebra II or Geometry; the student cannot waive both. A student is still required to take three units of Math. If a student waives Chemistry or Physics, the student must still take three units of Lab Sciences.

**Upon anticipated completion of four (4) years participation in either a school sponsored athletic activity, Marching Band, or Show Choir, if academic scheduling conflicts are evident, students may petition Central High School Administration for a .5 credit waiver of Physical Education as required for graduation.

Additional requirements for the South Dakota Opportunity Scholarship are noted in the Central High School Gold Book.

B. CREDIT BY EXAM (COURSE EQUIVALENCY EXAM)

For courses approved by the Department of Education through a waiver process initiated by the District, the District will offer credit by exam for students enrolled in the District in grades 9-12.

Tests will be developed by the South Dakota Department of Education around course standards and the student must pass the exam with at least 85% proficiency on the first attempt for credit to be issued. Credit will be included on the student transcript upon achieving 85% proficiency or above and will be calculated as a part of a student's cumulative grade point average. A student will have a letter grade for the exam included on the student's transcript which will be assigned by the District that corresponds to the student's test score on the course equivalency exam. Failed attempts on the course equivalency exam will not be included on a student's transcript and will not be calculated as a part of a student's cumulative grade point average. A roster of participants, including the students' name, grade in school, district attendance center, and percentage on the completed exam before the start of the next school year will be reported to the Department of Education. The District will proctor the exam. Total credits earned through credit by exam will be limited to 4 credits.

All credits received by exam will apply toward the 25 credit requirement.

C. COURSES FOR HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT PRIOR TO NINTH GRADE

Students who take high school courses prior to ninth grade will receive high school credit within the subject area if the course is taught by a teacher with applicable certification, it meets the seat time requirements, and the student passes the course with a final grade of at least a C- prior to the start of the following school year. Upon successfully obtaining a final grade of at least C-, the letter grade will be posted on the student's transcript and the course will be calculated as part of the student's cumulative grade point average. A waiver for credit prior to grade nine must be approved by the State and the District.

D. GRADUATION – SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

The School Board recognizes that special curricula are necessary for the special education student and English Language Learner and further recognizes that School Board approval of such curricula meets the high school graduation requirements of the State upon the student's completion of said curricula. This may be accomplished by adapting the prerequisite high school coursework to the special needs and abilities of the students. A student identified as limited English proficient as defined in ARSD 24:42:08:01 may be excused from taking required units of credit if the student's parent or legal guardian and school counselor or administrator agree and the waiver is documented.

E. GRADUATION CEREMONY

The School District is committed to acknowledging academic achievement and to awarding a high school diploma to those students who have completed the required coursework for high school graduation.

High school students with twenty-three credits at the end of the third term of their senior year may participate in the graduation ceremony.

Extenuating circumstances may be appealed to the Superintendent.

Other Related Policies:

JGA – Enrollment of Students from Non-Accredited Schools

IJNDB/IJNDB-R – Distance Education

IHCDA/IHCDA-R/IHCDA-E – Concurrent Enrollment

IKFA/IKFA-R & IKFA-E – Early Graduation Requirements/Regulations

Legal References:

SDCL13-27-3 Child excused if provided alternative instruction
SDCL13-33-19 Recommended high school program and basic high school program
ARSD 24:42:08:01 Definition of Limited English Proficient
ARSD 24:43:08:12 Adding waived course credits to high school transcripts
ARSD 24:43:11:01 Number of required credits for graduation from high school
ARSD 24:43:11:02 Specific units of credit required for high school graduation
ARSD 24:43:11:07 Required high school unit offerings
ARSD 24:43:11:09 Course equivalency exam

ADOPTED: November 14, 2005

REVISED: October 14, 2008

REVISED: July 9, 2012

REVISED: July 8, 2013

REVISED: June 13, 2016