

Policy Guide



Policy No. 217

Section PUPILS

Title GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Adopted AUGUST 21, 1989

Last Revised JUNE 20, 2023

POLICY NO. 217 GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS		
Section 1	<p><u>Purpose</u></p> <p>The Board shall establish graduation requirements and acknowledge each student's successful completion of the instructional program appropriate to the student's interests and needs by awarding diplomas and certificates at graduation ceremonies.</p>	
Section 2	<p><u>Authority</u></p> <p>The Board shall adopt the graduation requirements students must achieve in accordance with state law and regulations.</p> <p>The Board requires graduation requirements to be published and distributed to students and persons in parental relation, and made available in each school building and posted on the District's publicly accessible website. All changes to graduation requirements shall be published and distributed to students and persons in parental relation, and made available in each school building and posted on the District's publicly accessible website immediately following approval by the Board.</p>	<p>24 P.S. 121 22 PA Code 4.24, 4.51, 4.52</p> <p>22 PA Code 4.24 24 P.S. 510.2</p>

	<p style="text-align: center;">POLICY NO. 217 GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS</p> <p>Students are required to take courses fulfilling the following credit requirements in order to graduate:</p> <table><tr><td>1. English *</td><td>4 credits</td></tr><tr><td>2. Social Studies *</td><td>4 credits</td></tr><tr><td>3. Mathematics *</td><td>4 credits</td></tr><tr><td>4. Science *</td><td>4 credits</td></tr><tr><td>5. Physical Education/Health</td><td>1 credit</td></tr><tr><td>6. Computer Science *</td><td>0.5 credit</td></tr><tr><td>7. Electives</td><td>8 credits</td></tr><tr><td>8. Community Service (Equivalent to 60 hours of community service – details are described in the Community Service Handbook)</td><td>0.5 credit</td></tr><tr><td>9. Career Readiness/Job Shadowing (Details are described in the Career Readiness Handbook)</td><td>0.5 credit</td></tr></table> <p><i>*Courses fulfilling this requirement will be listed annually in the Program of Studies.</i></p> <p>Students must take a minimum of seven (7) credits per year.</p> <p><u>Diplomas</u></p> <p>The Board shall award a high school diploma to every student enrolled in this district who meets the requirements for graduation established by this Board.</p> <p>A student who has completed the requirements for graduation shall not be denied a diploma as a disciplinary measure, but the student may be denied participation in the graduation ceremony when personal conduct so warrants. Such exclusion shall be regarded as a school suspension.</p>	1. English *	4 credits	2. Social Studies *	4 credits	3. Mathematics *	4 credits	4. Science *	4 credits	5. Physical Education/Health	1 credit	6. Computer Science *	0.5 credit	7. Electives	8 credits	8. Community Service (Equivalent to 60 hours of community service – details are described in the Community Service Handbook)	0.5 credit	9. Career Readiness/Job Shadowing (Details are described in the Career Readiness Handbook)	0.5 credit	
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		<p>22 PA Code 4.24 24 P.S. 1611, 1613 Pol. 102, 127, 212</p> <p>Pol. 233</p>																		

	<p style="text-align: center;">POLICY NO. 217 GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS</p> <p><i>Students Experiencing Educational Instability –</i></p> <p>The District shall provide supports to ensure that students experiencing educational instability graduate in a timely manner, in accordance with law and Board policy. A graduation plan shall be developed to facilitate this process for students in grades nine (9) through twelve (12) who are experiencing educational instability.</p> <p><i>Students With Disabilities</i></p> <p>The Board shall permit a student with a disability, whose Individualized Education Program (IEP) prescribes continued educational services, to participate in commencement ceremonies with their graduating class and receive a certificate of attendance, provided that the student has attended four (4) years of high school. The Board shall issue a high school diploma to each student with a disability who completes the graduation requirements established by the Board or the goals established in the student's IEP, as determined by the student's IEP team.</p> <p><i>Part-Time Students -</i></p> <p>A student may qualify for graduation by attending a district school part-time when lawfully employed part-time or when officially enrolled part-time in a postsecondary institution.</p> <p><i>Full-Time Postsecondary Students -</i></p> <p>The fourth year of high school shall not be required for graduation if a student has completed all requirements for graduation and attends a postsecondary institution as a full-time student.</p> <p><i>Eligible Veterans -</i></p> <p>In order to honor and recognize honorably discharged eligible veterans who left high school prior to graduation to serve in World War II, the Korean War or the Vietnam War, the Board shall grant a diploma to a veteran who meets the applicable requirements of law and completes the required application.</p>	<p>24 P.S. 1331.1 Pol. 251</p> <p>24 P.S. 121, 1614 22 PA Code 4.12, 4.24, 11.27 34 CFR 300.102, 300.305 Pol. 113</p> <p>22 PA Code 11.5, 11.8</p> <p>22 PA Code 11.4, 11.8</p> <p>24 P.S. 1611</p>
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Section 3	<p style="text-align: center;">POLICY NO. 217 GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS</p> <p>Upon proper application, the Board may award a diploma posthumously to a veteran who meets the stated requirements.</p> <p>The Superintendent shall submit to the Board for its approval the names of veterans of World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War who are eligible for a high school diploma.</p> <p><u>Delegation of Responsibility</u></p> <p>The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible for ensuring the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Publication and distribution of graduation requirements to students and persons in parental relation. 2. Counseling of students regarding expectations of graduation requirements. 3. Assessment of individual student attainment of academic standards to ensure the student's progress toward achievement of graduation requirements. 4. Accurate recording and reporting of each student's progress and accumulation of graduation requirements. 5. Provision of assistance to those students having difficulty attaining the academic standards. 6. Development of a list of individuals who qualify for the award of a diploma. 7. Planning and executing graduation ceremonies that appropriately recognize this important achievement. <p>The Superintendent or designee shall annually, no later than December 1, report to the PA Department of Education (PDE) graduation information and data, as required by law.</p>	
		<p>22 PA Code 4.24 24 P.S. 510.2</p> <p>22 PA Code 4.12, 4.24, 4.51, 4.52 Pol. 102, 127, 212</p> <p>22 PA Code 4.12, 4.24, 4.51, 4.52 Pol. 102, 127, 212</p> <p>Pol. 212, 216</p> <p>24 P.S. 121 22 PA Code 4.24</p> <p>24 P.S. 121</p>

	<p style="text-align: center;">POLICY NO. 217 GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS</p> <p>Previously Revised: April 21, 2020; March 19, 2019; March 26, 2015; June 26, 2014; April 18, 2013; February 17, 2011; March 18, 2010; May 10, 2006; March 18, 2004; June 28, 1999</p> <p>References:</p> <p>School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 121, 510.2, 1331.1, 1611, 1613, 1614</p> <p>State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 4.12, 4.24, 4.51, 4.52, 11.27, 11.4, 11.5, 11.8</p> <p>Title 34 Education – 34 CFR 300.102, 300.305</p> <p>Board Policy – Pol. 102, 113, 127, 212, 216, 233, 251</p>	
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