

Policy Guide



Policy No. 217

Section PUPILS

Title GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Adopted AUGUST 21, 1989

Revised APRIL 21, 2020

| POLICY NO. 217 GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS | |
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| Section 1 | <p><u>Purpose</u></p> <p>It shall be the policy of the Board to acknowledge each student's successful completion of the instructional program appropriate to the student's interests and needs by the awarding of a diploma or certificate at fitting graduation ceremonies.</p> |
| Section 2 | <p><u>Authority</u></p> <p>The Board shall award a regular high school diploma to every student enrolled in this District who meets the requirements of graduation established by Chapter 4 of the Pennsylvania Department of Education Regulations and the Board of School Directors of the Keystone Oaks School District.</p> <p>The Board shall identify the planned courses which are required for graduation. These written plans shall be on file in the District, the District website, and shall be made available upon request for review by the designated representatives of the Pennsylvania Department of Education.</p> |

**POLICY NO. 217
GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

Students are required to take courses fulfilling the following credit requirements in order to graduate:

For the Senior Classes of 2020 and 2021:

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|-----------------------|-----------|
| 1. English * | 4 credits |
| 2. Social Studies * | 4 credits |
| 3. Mathematics * | 4 credits |
| 4. Science * | 4 credits |
| 5. Physical Education | 1 credit |
| 6. S.T.E.A.M. | 1 credit |

S.T.E.A.M. refers to Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics. The Program of Studies outlines specific courses that meet the S.T.E.A.M. designation.

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| 7. Health | 0.5 credit |
| 8. Electives | 7.5 credits |
| 9. Community Service (Equivalent to 60 hours of community service – details are described in the Community Service Handbook) | 0.5 credit |
| 10. Career Readiness/Job Shadowing (Details are described in the Career Readiness Handbook) | 0.5 credit |

**POLICY NO. 217
GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

For the Senior Classes of 2022 and 2023:

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|------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. English * | 4 credits |
| 2. Social Studies * | 4 credits |
| 3. Mathematics * | 4 credits |
| 4. Science * | 4 credits |
| 5. Physical Education/Health | 1 credit |
| 6. S.T.E.A.M. | 1 credit |

S.T.E.A.M. refers to Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics. The Program of Studies outlines specific courses that meet the S.T.E.A.M. designation.

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| 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 |

**POLICY NO. 217
GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

For the Senior Classes of 2024 and beyond:

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|---|------------|
| 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 |

**Courses fulfilling this requirement will be listed annually in the Program of Studies.*

Students must take a minimum of seven (7) credits per year.

Keystone Exams

The District will follow current guidelines for graduation requirements as they pertain to Keystone Exams or any other state testing requirements, available on the Pennsylvania Department of Education website.

Participation in Graduation Ceremonies

To be eligible to participate in the commencement exercises of his or her class, a senior must have completed all credit requirements for graduation. Those seniors who must attend summer school shall receive diplomas upon presentation of proof of successful completion of the required course or courses. Those students who must attend summer school will not be

**POLICY NO. 217
GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

permitted to participate in graduation ceremonies. A student who participates in the Special Education Program may participate in graduation ceremonies with his/her age appropriate peers even if all IEP goals have not been met. A student may only participate in graduation ceremonies one time. A certificate of attendance will be given at this time. The student will receive a high school diploma upon completion of his/her IEP goals.

No student who has completed the requirements for graduation shall be denied a diploma as a disciplinary measure, but may be denied participation in the ceremony of graduation when personal conduct so warrants. Such exclusion shall be regarded as a school suspension.

Students with unfulfilled financial obligations will not receive their diplomas, but may be allowed to participate in the ceremony.

Student Transcripts

PSSA scores will be included on student transcripts. Beginning with the class of 2017, the performance level for each Keystone Exam will be included.

Section 3

Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent shall develop procedures for implementing this policy which includes careful recording of each student's progress and accumulation of graduation requirements.

References:

School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 101 et seq., 1611, 1613, 1614

State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 4.24

Revision History: 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