

Lakeland Joint School District #272

Jake Massey, Superintendent

15506 N Washington St., Rathdrum, Idaho 83858

208-687-0431

j.massey@lakeland272.org ~ web.sd272.org



One District. One Mission. Every Student. Every Day.

Board Agenda Item **Request**

AGENDA ITEM: Policy Revisions for 2700P - Graduation Requirements

PURPOSE: Update policy to match state requirements and ensure understanding.

MEETING DATE: 10.21.2026

PREPARED BY: Clerk of the Board - Sara Broderius

INFORMATIONAL SUMMARY:

[Current approved policy](#) (pg 2-6)

[Proposed draft with mark-ups](#) (pg 7-13)

[Proposed final \(no mark-ups\)](#) (pg 13-19)

POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Recommended for Board approval.

INSTRUCTION**High School Graduation Requirements Procedure**

The Idaho State Board of Education has set the standards for students, requiring a minimum of 46 credits to meet graduation requirements. Lakeland Joint School District exceeds the state standards and has provided an opportunity for 48 credits for graduation. The following expectations are identified in this procedure.

Special education students who have successfully completed their Individualized Education Program ('IEP') leading to completion of high school will be awarded a diploma.

Prior to registering for high school, each student will be provided with a copy of the current graduation requirements. Graduation requirements shall also be included in the student handbook.

Credits

The core of instruction is 30 credits and includes the following:

Secondary Language Arts and Communication

- Eight (8) credits of English (language study, composition, literature)
- One (1) credit of Speech or Debate

Mathematics

- Two (2) credits of Algebra I, Algebra I level equivalent Integrated Mathematics or courses that meet the High School Algebra Content Standards;
- Two (2) credits of Geometry, Geometry level equivalent Integrated Mathematics, or courses that meet the Idaho High School Geometry Content Standards; and
- Two (2) credits of mathematics of the student's choice.

Science

- Six (6) credits of Secondary Science
- Four (4) of the six (6) shall be laboratory science courses

Social Studies

- Three (3) credits of US History
- Two (2) credits of Government
- One (1) credit of Personal Financial Literacy and Money Management

Arts and Humanities

- Two (2) credits of Interdisciplinary Humanities, visual and performing arts, or foreign language

Health/Wellness

- One (1) credit of a health/wellness course.

Language Arts: Language study, composition, and literature for the appropriate grade level.

Mathematics: Integrated Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Business Mathematics, Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry, Fundamentals of Calculus, Probability and Statistics, Discrete Mathematics, and courses in mathematical problem solving and quantitative reasoning including mathematics taken through career technical education programs.

Dual credit engineering courses and computer science courses aligned to the state standards for grades nine (9) through (12), including AP Computer Science and dual credit computer Science courses may also be counted as a mathematics credit. Students who choose to take computer science and dual credit engineering courses may not concurrently count such courses as both a mathematics and science credit for the same course.

For the purposes of this procedure, the last year of high school shall include the summer preceding the fall start of classes. Students who return to school during the summer or the following fall of the next year for less than a full schedule of courses due to failing to pass a course other than math are not required to retake a math course as long as they have earned six credits of high school level mathematics.

Science: biology, computer science, physical science or chemistry, and earth, space, environment, or approved applied science.

Social Studies: Government, United States history, and economics. Courses such as geography, sociology, psychology, and world history may be offered as electives, but are not to be counted as a social studies requirement.

Arts and Humanities: Visual arts, music, theatre, dance, or world language. Courses such as literature, history, philosophy, architecture, or comparative world religions may satisfy the humanities standards if the course is aligned to the Interdisciplinary Humanities Content Standards.

Health/Wellness: Each student shall receive a minimum of 1 class period on psychomotor cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training as outlined in the American Heart Association (AHA) Guidelines for CPR to include the proper utilization of an automatic external defibrillator (AED) as part of the Health/Wellness course.

In addition to the 30 required credits, students will need to take 18 elective credits. Students participating in one season in any sport recognized by the Idaho High School Activities Association or club sport recognized by the District, or 18 weeks of a sport recognized by the District may choose to substitute participation for up to one credit of physical education.

Middle School

Students must meet 8th grade math standards before being permitted to 9th grade.

A student will have met the high school content and credit requirement for any required high school course if:

- The student completes such course with a grade C or higher before entering 9th grade;
- The course meets the same content standards required for high school; and
- The course is taught by a properly certified teacher.

Parents of middle school students taking a course for high school credit must be notified that the course is available for high school credit and must be given the option as to whether or not the course is transcribed. Students/families paying for courses with Advanced Opportunities funds are consenting to the course being transcribed as high school credit.

College Entrance Examination

Students will have the option to take a college entrance exam at no cost to the student or family in grade 11 or 12.

Senior Project

A student shall complete a senior project that includes a written report and oral presentation by the end of grade 12. Senior projects may be multi-year projects, group or individual projects, or approved pre-internship or school to work internship programs at the discretion of the District. The project must include elements of research, development of a thesis using experiential learning or integrated project based learning experiences, and a presentation of the outcome.

Completion of a postsecondary certificate or degree at the time of high school graduation or an approved pre-internship or internship program may be used to satisfy this requirement.

Civics Test

All secondary students must successfully pass the civics test or an alternate path as determined by the District. "Civics test" as used herein means the 100 questions used by officers of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services as a basis for selecting the questions posed to applicants for naturalization.

Any student who participates in a United States Government and Politics course and an associated college credit-bearing examination shall be deemed to have met this requirement.

The District will determine the method and manner in which to administer the civics test. A student may take the civics test, in whole or in part, at any time after enrolling in grade 7 and may repeat the test as often as necessary to pass the test. The District will document on the student's transcript that the student has passed the civics test.

The applicability of this requirement for students who receive special education services will be governed by the student's IEP.

Alternative Programs

Credit toward graduation requirements may be granted for planned learning experiences from accredited programs, such as summer school, college and university courses, correspondence courses, online/virtual courses, extended learning opportunities, and mastery-based education.

Credit for work experience may be offered when the work program is a part of and supervised by the school.

All classes attempted and all acceptable transfer credits shall be recorded on the transcript. All grades earned, including failures and retakes, shall be recorded as such and utilized in the calculation of Grade Point Average (GPA) and class rank. Credit shall be awarded only once regardless of repetition of the course.

Honor Roll

A student must have a minimum GPA of 3.5 to be placed on the honor roll. Specific information regarding honors at graduation is included in the student handbook.

Class Rank (GPA)

Class rank is compiled from the overall weighted or unweighted grade point average of the student, which includes the grade point in the four major academic areas, with emphasis placed on 4 years of mathematics, social studies, English, and science.

Waiver of Requirement

Graduation requirements will not be waived except as outlined in the Early Achievement of College/Career Readiness and Flexible Schedule portion of this policy. In hardship circumstances, the principal may recommend, and the Superintendent may approve, minor deviations from the graduation requirements.

Early Completion of Graduation Requirements, Early Achievement of College/Career Readiness, and Flexible Schedule

A student who completes all of the graduation requirements set forth above prior to the completion of eight semesters of school attendance in grades 9 through 12 may petition the Superintendent and Board for early graduation by submitting a petition to the Superintendent through the building principal. The Superintendent shall submit the petition to the Board for endorsement and approval at the end of the quarter preceding the requested graduation date.

A student may be relieved from completing their remaining high school graduation requirements and apply for a flexible schedule or graduate early if the student:

1. Is at least 16 years of age;
2. Maintains a cumulative 3.5 grade point average;
3. Obtains permission from a parent/guardian, if under the age of 18;
4. Achieves a college and career readiness score;
5. Files the following with the school:
 - a. Notification of their intent to take a flexible schedule OR graduate early;
 - b. The student's participation portfolio; and
 - c. An essay of at least one page explaining why the student wishes to have a flexible schedule which must include the future plans using the flexible schedule OR early graduation;
6. Completes the following:
 - a. The required civics test;
 - b. The economics credit, government credits, and senior project required to graduate. A student's senior project may describe the student's experience in achieving a college and career readiness score and a detailed explanation of the student's future plan.

Students eligible for a flexible schedule may be relieved from high school graduation requirements in order to:

1. Take elective courses, career technical education programs, or college courses selected by the student which are available within the District;
2. Participate in apprenticeships or internships;
3. Act as a tutor at any grade level; or
4. Engage in such other activities identified by the Board

A student who is granted a flexible schedule must adhere to the plan submitted to the school as a part of their eligibility. Students who are under 18 may modify their plan with the approval of the student's parent/guardian.

The Superintendent is authorized to create any procedures necessary to assist students to achieve early graduation or flexible schedules as well as create incentives for participation in any early graduation program. Students who opt for a flexible schedule may apply for Advanced Opportunities funding. Existing programs providing incentives to complete coursework early are described in Policy 2435 Advanced Opportunities.

Procedure History:

Revised on: August 11, 2020

Reviewed on: September 11, 2023

Revised on: December 11, 2023

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Credits

The core of instruction is 30 credits and includes the following:

Language Arts: Language study, composition, and literature for the appropriate grade level.

Total required credits are Nine (9)

- Eight (8) credits of English (language study, composition, literature)
- One (1) credit of Speech or Debate

Mathematics: Integrated Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Business Mathematics, Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry, Fundamentals of Calculus, Probability and Statistics, Discrete Mathematics, and courses in mathematical problem solving and quantitative reasoning including mathematics taken through career technical education programs.

Dual credit engineering courses and computer science courses aligned to the state standards for grades nine (9) through (12), including AP Computer Science and dual credit Computer Science courses may also be counted as a mathematics credit. Students who choose to take computer science and ~~dual credit~~ engineering courses may not concurrently count such courses as both a mathematics and science credit for the same course.

For the purposes of this procedure, the last year of high school shall include the summer preceding the fall start of classes. Students who return to school during the summer or the following fall of the next year for less than a full schedule of courses due to failing to pass a course other than math are not required to retake a math course as long as they have earned six credits of high school level mathematics.

Total required credits are Six (6)

- Two (2) credits of Algebra I, Algebra I level equivalent Integrated Mathematics or courses that meet the High School Algebra Content Standards;
- Two (2) credits of Geometry, Geometry level equivalent Integrated Mathematics, or courses that meet the Idaho High School Geometry Content Standards; and
- Two (2) credits of mathematics of the student's choice.

Science: ~~biology, computer science, physical science or chemistry, and earth, space, environment, or approved applied science.~~ **Physics, chemistry, earth and space sciences, and life science, applied sciences, engineering and computer science.** ~~Two (2) of the six (6) credits may include instruction in applied sciences, physics, chemistry, earth and space sciences, life sciences, engineering, or computer science.~~

Total required credits are Six (6)

- ~~Six (6) credits of Secondary Science~~
- ~~Four (4) of the six (6) shall be laboratory science courses~~
- **Four (4) of the six (6) credits shall be required to be from at least two (2) of the following content areas: physics, chemistry, earth and space sciences, or life science**
- **Two (2) credits may include instruction in applied sciences, physics, chemistry, earth and space sciences, life sciences, engineering or computer science.**

Social Studies: Government, United States history, ~~and economics~~ **and financial literacy.** Courses such as geography, sociology, psychology, and world history may be offered as electives, but are not to be counted as a social studies requirement.

Arts and Humanities **(also known as Fine Arts and World Languages):** Visual arts, music, theatre, dance, or world language. Courses such as literature, history, philosophy, architecture, or comparative world religions may satisfy the humanities standards if the course is aligned to the Interdisciplinary Humanities Content Standards.

Total required credits are Six-Five (5)

- ~~Three (3)~~ **Two (2)** credits of US History
- Two (2) credits of Government
- One (1) credit of **Economics and Personal Financial Literacy and Money Management**

Arts and Humanities **(also known as Fine Arts and World Languages)**

Total required credits are Two (2)

- Two (2) credits of Interdisciplinary Humanities, visual and performing arts, or foreign language

Health/Wellness: Each student shall receive a minimum of **one (1) training class period** on psychomotor cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training as outlined in the American Heart Association (AHA) Guidelines for CPR to include the proper utilization of an automatic external defibrillator (AED) as part of the Health/Wellness course.

Total required credits are One (1)

- One (1) credit of a health/wellness course.

Digital Literacy: The Digital Literacy course shall be a stand-alone course that includes instruction aligned to the Idaho Content Standards and the Information and Communication Technology Content Standards.

In addition to the 30 required credits, students ~~will need to take 16~~ **must earn a minimum of** 18 elective credits. ~~Students participating in one season in any sport recognized by the Idaho High School Activities Association or club sport recognized by the District, or 18 weeks of a sport recognized by the District may choose to substitute participation for up to one credit of physical education.~~

Total required credits are One (1)

- One (1) credit of Digital Literacy. This requirement applies to any student graduating after January 1, 2028.

Middle School

Students must meet 8th grade math standards before being permitted to 9th grade. **By the end of 8th grade, each student shall develop a parent-approved career pathway plan for their high school and post-high school options. The career pathway plan must be reviewed annually and may be revised at any time.**

A **middle school** student will have met the high school content and credit requirement for any required high school course if:

- The student completes such course with a grade C or higher before entering 9th grade;
- The course meets the same content standards required for high school; and
- The course is taught by a properly certified teacher.

Parents of middle school students taking a course for high school credit must be notified that the course is available for high school credit and must be given the option as to whether or not the course is transcribed. Students/families paying for courses with Advanced Opportunities funds are consenting to the course being transcribed as high school credit.

College Entrance Examination

~~Students will have the option to take a college entrance exam at no cost to the student (or family) once during either their 11th or 12th grade year, or family in grade 11 or 12.~~

Senior Project

~~For students graduating prior to 2028, a~~ A student shall complete a senior project that includes a written report and oral presentation by the end of grade 12. Senior projects may be multi-year projects, group or individual projects, or approved pre-internship or school-to-work internship programs at the discretion of the **District**. The project must include elements of research, development of a thesis using experiential learning or integrated project based learning experiences, and a presentation of the outcome.

Completion of a postsecondary certificate or degree at the time of high school graduation or an approved pre-internship or internship program may be used to satisfy ~~this requirement~~ **the requirement of a Senior project.**

Future Readiness Project

~~Beginning with the class of 2028, a student shall complete a Future Readiness Project by the end of 12th grade. The project must include an experiential component, such as a work-based, serviced-based, research-based, or portfolio-based component in which the student meets the Idaho College and Career Readiness Competencies. The District will determine how students will demonstrate the acquisition of college and career competencies.~~

Civics Test

All secondary students must successfully pass the civics test ~~or an alternate path as determined by the District~~ **established by the District to show the student has met the standards.** Civics test ~~as used herein means~~ **refers to** the 100 questions used by ~~officers of~~ the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services as a basis for selecting the questions posed to applicants for naturalization.

~~Beginning in 2027-2028, all secondary students must demonstrate that they have met the state civics and government standard by successfully completing the revised civics test provided by the State Board of Education.~~

Any student who ~~participates~~ **successfully completes** in an ~~United States Government and Politics course and an~~ associated college credit-bearing **course or** examination, **for United States government and history**, shall be deemed to have met this requirement.

~~The District will determine the method and manner in which to administer the civics test. A student may take the civics test, in whole or in part, at any time after enrolling in grade 7 and may repeat the test as often as necessary to pass the test. The District will document on the student's transcript that the student has passed the civics test. The~~ **successful completion of this requirement must be reflected on the student's transcript.**

The applicability of this requirement for students who receive special education services will be governed by the student's IEP.

Alternative Programs

Credit toward graduation requirements may be granted for planned learning experiences from accredited programs, such as summer school, college and university courses, correspondence courses, online/virtual courses, extended learning opportunities, and mastery-based education.

Up to two (2) credits for work experience outside of school may be offered during a student's senior year when the work program is a part of and supervised by the school.

All classes attempted and all acceptable transfer credits shall be recorded on the transcript. All grades earned, including failures and retakes, shall be recorded as such and utilized in the calculation of grade point average (GPA) and class rank. Credit shall be awarded only once regardless of repetition of the course.

Honor Roll

A student must have a minimum GPA of 3.5 to be placed on the honor roll. Specific information regarding honors at graduation is included in the student handbook.

Class Rank (GPA)

Class rank is compiled from the overall weighted and or unweighted grade point average of the student, which includes the grade point in the four major academic areas, with emphasis placed on 4 years of mathematics, social studies, English, and science.

Waiver of Requirement

Graduation requirements will not be waived except as outlined in the Early Achievement of College/Career Readiness and Flexible Schedule portion of this policy (*See below*). In hardship circumstances, the principal may recommend, and the Superintendent may approve, minor deviations from the graduation requirements.

Early Completion of Graduation Requirements and Early Achievement of College/Career Readiness, and Flexible Schedule

A student who completes all of the graduation requirements set forth above prior to the completion of eight semesters of school attendance in grades 9 through 12 may petition the Superintendent and Board of Trustees for early graduation by submitting a petition to the Superintendent through the building principal. The Superintendent shall submit the petition to the Board of Trustees for endorsement and approval at the end of the quarter preceding the requested graduation date.

A student may be relieved from completing their remaining high school graduation requirements and apply for a flexible schedule or graduate early if the student:

1. Is at least 16 years of age;
2. Maintains a cumulative 3.5 grade point average;
3. Obtains permission from a parent/guardian, if under the age of 18;

4. Achieves a college and career readiness score;
5. Files the following with the school:
 - a. Notification of their intent to take:
 - i. a flexible schedule; OR
 - ii. graduate early;
 - b. The student's participation portfolio; and
 - c. An essay of at least one page explaining:
 - i. why the student wishes to have a flexible schedule which must include the future plans using the flexible schedule; OR
 - ii. why the student wishes to graduate early;
6. Completes the following:
 - a. The required civics test;
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3. Act as a tutor at any grade level; or
4. Engage in such other activities identified by the Board **of Trustees**.

A student who is granted a flexible schedule must adhere to the plan submitted to the school as a part of their eligibility. Students who are under 18 may **request to** modify their plan with the approval of the student's parent/guardian **and resubmit the flexible schedule to the school**.

The Superintendent is authorized to create any procedures necessary to assist students to achieve early graduation or flexible schedules as well as create incentives for participation in any early graduation program. Students who opt for a flexible schedule may apply for Advanced Opportunities funding. Existing programs providing incentives to complete coursework early are described in Policy 2435 Advanced Opportunities.

Cross Reference:

Idaho Department of Education - [High School Graduation Minimum Requirements](#)

Legal References:

[IC 33-1602](#) United States Constitution... Citizenship, Civics Test

[IC 33-6102](#) ~~Opportunities for College and Career Ready Students~~ **Flexible Schedule**

[IC § 33-6104](#) **Early Graduation**

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Total required credits are Nine (9)

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Science: Physics, chemistry, earth and space sciences, and life science, applied sciences, engineering and computer science.

Total required credits are Six (6)

- Four (4) are required to be from at least two (2) of the following content areas: physics, chemistry, earth and space sciences, or life science
- Two (2) credits may include instruction in applied sciences, physics, chemistry, earth and space sciences, life sciences, engineering or computer science.

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Total required credits are Five (5)

- Two (2) credits of US History
- Two (2) credits of Government
- One (1) credit of Economics and Financial Literacy

Arts and Humanities (also known as Fine Arts and World Languages)

Total required credits are Two (2)

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In addition to the 30 required credits, students must earn a minimum of 16 elective credits.

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a work-based, serviced-based, research-based, or portfolio-based component in which the student meets the Idaho College and Career Readiness Competencies.

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Any student who successfully completes an associated college credit-bearing course or examination, for United States government and history, shall be deemed to have met this requirement.

The successful completion of this requirement must be reflected on the student's transcript.

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5. Files the following with the school:
 - a. Notification of their intent to take:
 - i. a flexible schedule; OR
 - ii. graduate early;
 - b. The student's participation portfolio; and
 - c. An essay of at least one page explaining:
 - i. why the student wishes to have a flexible schedule which must include the future plans using the flexible schedule; OR
 - ii. why the student wishes to graduate early;
6. Completes the following:
 - a. The required civics test;
 - b. The economics/financial literacy credit, government credits, and senior project or future readiness project required to graduate. A student's project may describe the student's experience in achieving a college and career readiness score and a detailed explanation of the student's future plans.

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1. Take elective courses, career technical education programs, or college courses selected by the student which are available within the District;
2. Participate in apprenticeships or internships;
3. Act as a tutor at any grade level; or
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The Superintendent is authorized to create any procedures necessary to assist students to achieve early graduation or flexible schedules as well as create incentives for participation in any early graduation program. Students who opt for a flexible schedule may apply for Advanced Opportunities funding. Existing programs providing incentives to complete coursework early are described in Policy 2435 Advanced Opportunities.

Cross Reference:

[Idaho Department of Education](#) - High School Graduation Minimum Requirements

Legal References:

[IC 33-1602](#) United States Constitution... Citizenship, Civics Test

[IC 33-6102](#) Flexible Schedule

[IC § 33-6104](#) Early Graduation

Procedure History:

Revised on: August 11, 2020

Reviewed on: September 11, 2023

Revised on: December 11, 2023

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