I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to set forth requirements for graduation from the school district.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

It is the policy of the school district that all students must satisfactorily complete, as determined by the school district, all course credit requirements and graduation standards, as established by the school board, in order to graduate unless a student's Individualized Education Program describes a different standard.

III. DEFINITIONS

A. "Course credit" is equivalent to a student's successful completion of an academic year of study or a student's mastery of the applicable subject matter, as determined by the school district.

B. "Department" means the Minnesota Department of Education.

C. "Unit" means a unit measuring education achievement based on successfully completing the requirements of a given course of study.

D. "Section 504 Accommodation" means the defined appropriate accommodations or modifications that must be made in the school environment to address the needs of an individual student with disabilities.

E. "Individualized Education Program," or "IEP," means a written statement developed for a student eligible by law for special education and services.

~~F. "English Learner" or "EL" student means an individual whose first language is not English and whose test performance may be negatively impacted by lack of English language proficiency.~~

IV. TEST ADMINISTRATOR

The Director of Teaching and Learning or designee shall be named the school district test administrator~~. Said person~~ and shall be in charge of all test procedures and shall make an annual report to the school board regarding the district's test results.

V. REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION

A. All 9-12 students must successfully engage in an appropriate number of credits as minimally defined by state statute.

9th - 12th Grade	
Math	3 credits
Science	3.5 credits
Language Arts	4 credits
Social Studies	3 credits
* Economics	0.5 credit
PE/Health	1.5 credits
Agriculture	0 credit
Art	0 credit
Business	0 credit
FACS	0 credit
Ind. Tech.	0 credit
Music	0 credit
The Arts	1 credit
World Lang.	0 credit
Electives	9.5 credits
Credits for Graduation	26

* This credit may be fulfilled in Social Studies, Business or Agriculture.

Beginning 2024-2025:
Effective/applicable to students entering 9th grade in 2024-2025

9th - 12th Grade	
Math	3 credits
Science	3 credits
Language Arts	4 credits
Social Studies	3 credits
* Economics	0.5 credit
# Personal Finance	0.5 credit
PE/Health	1.5 credits
Agriculture	0 credit
Art	0 credit
Business	0 credit
FACS	0 credit
Ind. Tech.	0 credit
Music	0 credit
The Arts	1 credit
World Lang.	0 credit
Electives	9.5 credits

Credits for Graduation	26
* This credit may be fulfilled in Social Studies, Business or Agriculture. # This credit may be fulfilled in Math, Social Studies, Business, Agriculture or FACS.	

B. Students in grades lower than grade 9 who complete one or more course(s) offered in grades 9-12 or equivalent to a course offering in grades 9-12 will also receive elective/required credit. The credit and grade earned in the course(s) will be reflected on the student's high school transcript and calculated into the student's high school GPA.

C. A student must complete a minimum of 26 credits in grades 9-12 including specific departmental course requirements and general electives. Credit requirements are defined in the High School Registration Guide. Course requirements are approved by the School Board as recommended by the Superintendent, with input from the Director of Teaching and Learning, Secondary Principals, and specific departments through curriculum review.

Total Graduation Requirements must be met by the last day of the school year in order for a student to participate in commencement ceremonies.

or

D. Have met the requirements of an I.E.P.

VI. EARLY GRADUATION

Students may be considered for early graduation, as provided for within Minn. Stat. § 120B.07, upon meeting the following conditions:

A. All credit requirements must be met.

B. The principal or designee shall conduct an interview with the student and parent or guardian, familiarize the parties with opportunities available in post-secondary education, and arrive at a timely decision.

C. The principal's decision shall be in writing and may be subject to review by the superintendent and school board.

IX. HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA FOR VETERANS

A. Diploma

The school district must, upon a request under Paragraph B. below issue a high school diploma to a veteran as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 197.447 who was unable to complete their high school education

for reasons related or unrelated to their military service, and who served during the Vietman War or in any earlier United States War or Conflict.

B. Request

A veteran may request a diploma on their own behalf, or a family member may make a posthumous request on behalf of a deceased veteran or service member. The high school diploma is awarded based on the veteran's knowledge and experience gained while in service, or the veteran's other relevant lived experience. The school district may require the veteran or veteran's requestor to provide evidence that the veteran was a Minnesota public school student or is a current Minnesota resident.

C. No Report Required

The school district is not required to report on diplomas issued under Minnesota Statutes, section 127A.135.

D. Assistance

The Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs and county veteran service officers may provide assistance to districts fulfilling diploma requests, including but not limited to verification of discharge paperwork.

VII. NOTICE

The school district will notify students and their parents of the school district's graduation requirements within 30 working days of a student's entry into ninth grade or within 30 working days of the student's transfer into the district.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 120B.018 (Definitions)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.02 (Educational Expectations and Graduation Requirements for Minnesota's Students)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.021 (Required Academic Standards)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.023 (Benchmarks)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.024 (Credits)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.07 (Early Graduation)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.11 (School District Process for Reviewing Curriculum, Instruction, and Student Achievement Goals; Striving for Comprehensive Achievement and Civic Readiness)

Minn. Stat. § 120B.125 (Planning for Students' Successful Transition to Postsecondary Education and Employment; Personal Learning Plans)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.13 (Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate Programs)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.251 (Ethnic Studies Requirements)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.30 (General Requirements; Statewide Assessments)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.303 (Assessment Graduation Requirements)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.307 (College and Career Readiness)
Minn. Stat. § 124D.09 (Postsecondary Enrollment Options Act)
Minn. Stat. § 124D.091 (Concurrent Enrollment Program Aid)
Minn. Stat. § 124F.08 (Education and Employment Transitions Partnerships)
Minn. Stat. § 127A.135 (High School Diploma for Veterans)
Minn. Rules Part 3501.0660 (Academic Standards for Kindergarten through Grade 12)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0750 (Academic Standards for Mathematics)
Minn. Rules Part 3501.0820 (Academic Arts Standards for Kindergarten through Grade 12)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0960 (Academic Standards in Science)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.1200-1210 (Academic Standards for English Language Development)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.1350 (Academic Standards for Social Studies)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.1400-3501.1410 (Academic Standards for Physical Education)
20 U.S.C. § 6301, *et seq.* (Every Student Succeeds Act)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 104 (School District Mission Statement)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 601 (School District Curriculum and Instruction Goals)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 614 (School District Testing Plan and Procedure)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 615 (Testing Accommodations, Modifications, and Exemptions for IEPs, Section 504 Plans, and LEP Students)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 616 (School District System Accountability)

ADOPTED: 07/06/98
REVISED: 03/06/00
REVISED: 12/04/00
REVISED: 05/07/01
REVISED: 12/01/03
REVISED: 06/02/05
REVISED: 01/03/08
REVISED: 05/06/10
REVISED: 12/02/10
REVISED: 01/05/12
REVISED: 01/02/14
REVISED: 01/04/18
REVISED: 01/05/23
REVISED: 02/01/24
REVISED: 01/02/25