

**RESOLUTION 10-25 - Approval for First Reading of Revised Board Policy
IKF – Graduation Requirements**

This resolution is for first reading for revised Board Policy IKF – Graduation Requirements.

Background: In December of 2009, the State Board of Education revised Oregon Administrative Rules regarding essential skills, diploma, modified diploma, extended diploma, alternative certificates and literacy instruction. These changes affected Policy IKF – Graduation Requirements.

The current MESD Policy has been reviewed and revised by the Administrative Policy Review Team to incorporate these changes. Further, the Administrative Policy Review Team has written a new Administrative Regulation to incorporate the requirements making future changes easier.

The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the State Board of Education revised Oregon Administrative Rules regarding graduation requirements affecting Multnomah ESD’s current Policy IKF – Graduation Requirements; and

WHEREAS, the Administrative Policy Review Team has reviewed and incorporated all of the required changes to both the Policy and the new Administrative Regulation.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Board Policy IKF – Graduation Requirements is approved for first reading as attached.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent is directed to bring Board Policy IKF – Graduation Requirements back for second reading and adoption at the next regular meeting of the Board.

**MULTNOMAH EDUCATION
SERVICE DISTRICT**

Code: IKF
Adopted: 10/21/08
Revised:

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The Board will establish graduation requirements for the awarding of a regular high school diploma, **modified diploma, extended diploma, alternative certificate or completion of a General Education Development document**, which meet or exceed state standards. ~~The Board will also establish minimum credit requirements for the awarding of an alternative certificate. Starting July 1, 2009, students in grades 9 through 12 must complete a minimum of 24 credits including three credits of mathematics and four credits of English. MESD may award a diploma to a student who does not satisfy mathematics or English credit requirements if the student meets or exceeds the academic content standards established by the Board, as demonstrated on Oregon state assessments, or displays proficiency in mathematics or English at a level established by the Board.~~

A student may satisfy graduation requirements in less than four years. The MESD will award a diploma to a student fulfilling graduation requirements in less than four years upon the student's request and, if required, if the student's parent or guardian consents.

The MESD will ensure that students have access to the appropriate resources to achieve a diploma, modified diploma, extended diploma or alternative certificate at each high school. The MESD will provide age appropriate and developmentally appropriate literacy instruction to all eligible students until graduation.

The MESD may not deny a student, who has the documented history of an inability to maintain grade level achievement due to significant learning and instructional barriers, or of a medical condition that creates a barrier to achievements, the opportunity to pursue a diploma with more stringent requirements than a modified diploma or an extended diploma for the sole reason the student has the documented history.

~~Students receiving their diploma on or after July 1, 2012, will need to complete a minimum of 24 credits including three credits of science, three credits in mathematics, three credits in career and technical education, the arts or a second language, six credits of electives and a portfolio of essential skills. Students who receive their diploma on or after July 1, 2014, must complete one math credit at the Algebra I level and two credits that are at a level higher than Algebra I.~~

The MESD may award a modified diploma or extended diploma to a student only upon the written consent of the student's parent or guardian. The MESD shall receive the written consent during the school year in which the modified diploma or extended diploma is awarded. This requirement does not apply to a student who is emancipated or has reached the age of 18 at the time the modified diploma or extended diploma is awarded.

MESD programs may award and Oregon Standard High School Diploma and/or other related diploma options (modified, extended, alternative certificate) as per the requirements identified in IKF-AR and based on the approval of our Local Service Plan by the component district school boards.

~~Students who enter 9th grade on or after July 1, 2009, may earn a modified diploma if they meet specific requirements established by the State Board of Education and applicable MESD requirements and have demonstrated an inability to meet the full set of academic standards even with reasonable modifications and accommodations. To be eligible for a modified diploma a student must have a documented history of an inability to maintain grade level achievement due to significant learning and instructional barriers inherent to the student or a documented history of a medical condition that creates a barrier to achievement.~~

~~Alternative certificates will be awarded to a students with who does not satisfy the requirements for a diploma or modified diploma if the student meets minimum credit requirements established by MESD. Alternative certificates will be awarded based on individual student needs and achievement.~~ **A student who receives a modified diploma, extended diploma or alternative certificate will have the option of participating in a high school graduation ceremony with the student's class.**

The MESD will award to students with disabilities a document certifying successful completion of program requirements. No document issued to students with disabilities educated in full or in part in a special education program shall indicate that the document is issued by such a program. When a student who has an individualized education program ("IEP") completes high school, MESD will give the student an individualized summary of performance.

Eligible students with disabilities are entitled to a Free Appropriate Public Education ("FAPE") until the age of 21, even if they have earned a modified diploma, **extended diploma**, alternative certificate ~~certificate of attendance~~ or completion ~~of~~ a General Education Development document. The continuance of services for students with **disabilities for a modified diplomas, extended diploma or alternative certificate** is contingent on the IEP team determining **the student's continued eligibility and special education** services are needed.

MESD shall assess high school students' proficiency in the essential skills using assessment options that are approved by the State Board of Education. The assessment options determine student eligibility for the high school diploma or modified diploma.

Students and their parents will be notified of graduation and diploma requirements. A school team, including the student's parent(s), or guardian(s), shall decide if a student will work toward obtaining a regular diploma, modified diploma, **extended diploma, or** alternative certificate, **certificate of attendance or completion of a General Education Development document.**

~~MESD shall notify students and parents or guardians of the availability of diploma options when the student is in 5th grade.~~ **Beginning in grade five, the MESD will annually provide information of the availability of a modified diploma, an extended diploma, and an alternative certificate and the requirement for the diplomas and certificate to the parents or guardians of a student taking an alternate assessment.**

Parents or guardians must be involved in the decision to pursue a modified diploma. After students working toward a modified diploma complete the 8th grade, modified diploma information shall be reviewed annually with the student and his/her parents or guardians. A student's team may formally decide to revise a modified diploma decision.

MESD will review graduation requirements biennially in conjunction with the secondary school improvement plan. Graduation requirements may be revised to address student benchmark performance.

MESD will issue a high school diploma, upon request, to a person who served in the Armed Forces¹, as specified in Oregon law, if the person was discharged or released under honorable conditions and has received either a General Educational Development, a post-secondary degree or has received a minimum score on the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

ORS 329.035	ORS 339.115	OAR 581-022-1130
ORS 329.095	ORS 339.505	OAR 581-022-1131
ORS 329.447	ORS 343.295	OAR 581-022-1133
ORS 329.451		OAR 581-022-1134
ORS 332.107	OAR 581-021-0071	OAR 581-022-1135
ORS 332.114	OAR 581-022-0615	OAR 581-022-1210
ORS 339.030	OAR 581-022-1110	OAR 581-022-1215
		OAR 581-022-1350

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA, 20 U.S.C. § 1415 (k) (2006).

Assistance to States for the Education of Children with Disabilities, 34 CFR § 300.507 and § 300.508(a)-(c); §§ 300.510-300.514; §§ 300.530-300.536.

Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. §§ 791, et seq. (2006)

MESD Policy Cross Reference(s):

JA/JAA	Student Policies, Goals and Objectives
JECD/JECD-AR	Assignment of Students to Classes
JFE	Pregnant Students
JFF	Married Students
IG	Instructional Design

¹The policy applies to any person who:

1. Served in the Armed Forces of the U.S. at any time during:
 - a. World War I;
 - b. World War II;
 - c. The Korean Conflict; or
 - d. The Vietnam War;
 2. Served in the Armed Forces of the U.S. and was physically present in:
 - a. Operation Urgent Fury (Grenada);
 - b. Operation Just Cause (Panama);
 - c. Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm (Persian Gulf War);
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- d. Operation Restore Hope (Somalia);
 - e. Operation Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan); or
 - f. Operation Iraqi Freedom (Iraq);
3. Served in the Armed Forces of the U.S. in an area designated as a combat zone by the President of the U.S.