

**Instruction**

**Graduation Requirements**

Graduation from our public schools implies (1) that students satisfactorily completed the prescribed courses of study for the several grade levels in accordance with their respective abilities to achieve, (2) that they have satisfactorily passed any examinations and/or standards established by the faculty and approved by the Board of Education, and (3) that they have fulfilled the legally mandated number and distribution of credits.

**Graduation Credit Requirements**

The District conforms with state regulations and statute regarding credits for graduation from high school. Students must satisfactorily complete a minimum of 25 credits, including not fewer than:

<b>Graduation Year</b>	<b>2023, 2024, 2025</b>
Academic Achievement in the Humanities	<p>11 total credits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Four (4) credits in English, including composition</li> <li>• Three (3) credits in Social Studies</li> <li>• One half (.5) credit in Civics</li> <li>• One (1) credit in Fine Arts</li> <li>• One half (.5) credit in Humanities elective</li> <li>• Two (2) credits in World Language</li> </ul>
Academic Achievement in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math	<p>11 total credits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Four (4) credits in Math</li> <li>• Three (3) credits in Science (including (1) life science and (1) physical science)</li> <li>• One half (.5) credit in Personal Finance</li> <li>• One and one half (1.5) credits STEM elective</li> <li>• Two (2) credits Wellness (including one (1) physical education, and one (1) health and safety education)</li> </ul>
Vision of the Graduate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One (1) Credit Capstone</li> <li>• Two (2) Credits Electives</li> </ul>

**Graduation Credit Requirements (cont.)**

<b>Graduation Year</b>	<b>2026 and beyond</b>
Academic Achievement in the Humanities	11 total credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Four (4) credits in English</li> <li>• Three (3) credits in Social Studies, including one half (.5) credit in Civics and one (1) credit in US History</li> <li>• One (1) credit in Fine Arts</li> <li>• One (1) credit in World Language, (3 highly recommended)</li> <li>• Two (2) credits in Humanities electives</li> </ul>
Academic Achievement in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math	11 total credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Three (3) credits in Math (through Algebra II or equivalent, 4 highly recommended)</li> <li>• Three (3) credits in Science (including 2 lab sciences)</li> <li>• One half (.5) credit in Financial Literacy</li> <li>• Two (2) credits in Wellness (including one (1) physical education, and one (1) health and safety education)</li> <li>• Two and one half (2.5) credits in STEM electives</li> </ul>
Vision of the Graduate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One (1) Credit in Capstone</li> <li>• Two (2) Credits in Electives</li> <li>• Participation in one of the following College and Career Pathways which consists of two (2) successfully completed courses that are either:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ College credit bearing</li> <li>○ In an established Career and Technical Education pathway</li> <li>○ Workplace experience</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

### **Graduation Performance Standards**

In addition to successful completion of the graduation credit requirements listed above, the following performance standards must be achieved for graduation:

Demonstrate Academic Achievement in the Humanities by meeting the performance standard in <u>one</u> of following ways:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Meeting the College and Career Benchmark on the Evidence Based Reading and Writing SAT (480)</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Achieving a combined average of at least a C for three or more English classes through the first semester of senior year</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Satisfying the requirements as designated on the IEP for qualifying students</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A student proposal approved by the principal</li></ul>

Demonstrate Academic Achievement in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) by meeting the performance standard in <u>one</u> of following ways:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Meeting the College and Career Benchmark on the Math SAT (530)</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Achieving a combined average of at least a C for three or more Math classes through the first semester of senior year</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Satisfying the requirements as designated on the IEP for qualifying students</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A student proposal approved by the principal</li></ul>

Demonstrate fulfilment of the Vision of a Graduate by:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Successfully completing fifteen (15) hours of community service in an approved program. Suggestions and recommendations for various programs and placements are available in the guidance office. Official documentation and a reflection paper must be submitted to high school administration upon completion of the community service. The SDE will grant a community service recognition award if a student earns at least 50 hours of community service and meets statutory criteria to earn one-half credit toward graduation.</li></ul>

## **Support and Remedial Services**

In addition, the District will provide adequate student support and remedial services for students beginning in grade seven. Such student support and remedial services shall provide alternate means for a student to complete any of the high school graduation requirements, previously listed if such student is unable to satisfactorily complete any of the required courses or exams. Such student support and remedial services shall include, but not be limited to, (1) allowing students to retake courses in summer school or through an on-line course; (2) allowing students to enroll in a class offered at a constituent unit of the state system of higher education, allowing students who received a failing score, as determined by the Commissioner of Education, on an end of the school year exam to take an alternate form of the exam; and (4) allowing those students whose individualized education plans state that such students are eligible for an alternate assessment to demonstrate competency on any of the five core courses through success on such alternate assessment.

## **Credits**

A credit defined as the equivalent of one forty-minute class period for each day of a school year. One-half credit is given for courses that compile work in one semester. If physical education is not taken because of medical excuse, another subject may be substituted.

Only courses taken in grades nine through twelve, inclusive, and that are in accordance with the state-wide subject matter content standards, adopted by the State Board of Education shall satisfy this graduation requirement except that a student may be granted credit (1) toward meeting the high school graduation requirements upon the successful demonstration of mastery of the subject matter content described in this section achieved through education experiences and opportunities that provide flexible and multiple pathways to learning, including cross-curricular graduation requirements, career and technical education, virtual learning, work-based learning, service learning, dual enrollment and early college, courses taken in middle school, internships and student-designed independent studies, provided such demonstration of mastery is in accordance with state-wide subject matter standards; (2) for the successful completion of coursework at an institution accredited by the Department of Higher Education or regionally accredited. One three-credit semester course, or its equivalent shall equal one-half high school credit. (3) A student may also be granted credit toward meeting a specified course requirement in grades, seven or eight of any course, the primary focus of which corresponds directly to the subject matter of a specified course requirement in grades nine to twelve, inclusive.

### **Credits (cont.)**

A credit shall consist of not less than the equivalent of a forty-minute class period for each school day of a school year except for a credit or part of a credit toward high school graduation earned (1) at an institution accredited by the Board of Regents for Higher Education or State Board of Education or regionally accredited, (2) through on-line course work, or (3) through a demonstration of mastery based on competency and performance standards, in accordance with guidelines adopted by the State Board of Education.

All credits earned toward meeting any of the graduation requirements through the successful completion of online courses must be approved by the guidance department.

### **Student Success Plans**

The District shall create a student success plan for each enrolled student, beginning in grade six. Such plan shall include a students' career and academic choices in grades six to twelve, inclusive. Beginning in grade six, such student success plan shall provide evidence of career exploration in each grade including, but not limited to, careers in manufacturing. The District shall utilize the Department of Education's issued and revised guidance regarding changes to such student's success plans. In creating such student success plans, consideration shall be given to career and academic choices in computer science, science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

The student success plans shall be created, if possible, in collaboration with each student and the student's parent/guardian and shall, to the extent it does not conflict with the career choices of the student or his/her parent/guardian, include an academic plan that is in compliance with the District's challenging curriculum policy.

### **Award of High School Diplomas**

Students who complete all graduation requirements shall receive a diploma at the June commencement. Individuals also may satisfy graduation requirements by the satisfactory completion of the following:

1. Successful completion of a summer course or summer courses comparable (as determined by the Principal) to the subject(s) in which the student was deficient.
2. Withdrawal from high school prior to graduation to work on a job that assisted the war effort during World War II, December 7, 1941 through December 31, 1946, not receiving a diploma as a consequence of such work and has been a resident of Connecticut for at least fifty (50) consecutive years.

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Students meeting these requirements and wishing to graduate at the end of any semester other than their second semester in the twelfth grade may do so after submitting a letter of request to the high school.

Students receiving special education who do not successfully complete a prescribed program shall be granted a certificate of attendance at the completion of the school year following their 21st birthday.

**Academic Advancement Program**

The District permits students in grades eleven and twelve to substitute (1) achievement of a passing score on an existing national examination, as determined by the State Department of Education, or series of examinations approved by the State Board of Education, (2) a cumulative grade point average determined by the State Board of Education and (3) at least three letters of recommendation from school professionals (defined in 10-66dd), for the required high school graduation requirement. The State Board of Education will issue an Academic Advancement Program Certificate to any student successfully completing such program. The Academic Advancement Program Certificate shall be considered in the same manner as a high school diploma for purposes of determining eligibility of a student for enrollment at a Connecticut public institution of higher education.

The District shall permit a student to graduate from high school upon the successful completion of the above described academic advancement program.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes  
10-5c Board examination series pilot program. Issuance of certificate (as amended by P.A. 13-247)  
10-14n State-wide mastery examination. Conditions for reexamination. Limitation on use of test results. (as amended by Section 115 of PA 14-217)  
10-16(l) Graduation exercises. (as amended by P.A. 96-26 An Act Concerning Graduation Requirements and Readmission and Placement of Older Students)

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10-221a High school graduation requirements. (as amended by P.A. 00-124, An Act Concerning High School Diplomas and Veterans of World War II, P.A. 00-156, An Act Requiring A Civics Course for High School Graduation and P.A. 08-138, An Act Concerning High School Credit for Private World Language Courses Other Subject Areas), P.A. 10-111, An Act Concerning Education Reform in Connecticut, P.A. 135, An Act Concerning Implementation Dates for Secondary School Reform, P.A.13-57, An Act Concerning Honorary Diplomas for Vietnam Veterans, P.A. 13-122, An Act Concerning Minor Revisions to the Education Statutes, P.A. 13-247, Budget Implementer Bill, P.A. 15-237 An Act Concerning High School Graduation. and PA 17-42 and P.A. 19-58, An Act Promoting Careers in Manufacturing to Public School Students and P.A. 21-199 Section 4, An Act Concerning Various Revisions to the Education Statutes.)

10-233(a) Promotion and graduation policies.

P.A. 13-108 An Act Unleashing Innovation in Connecticut Schools

P.A. 13-247 An Act Implementing Provisions of the State Budget

P.A. 15-237 An Act Concerning High School Graduation.

P.A. 16-44(SS) (Section 310)

**Policy adopted: 9/97 revised 6/01**

**GRANBY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

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**Granby, CT**