POLICY TITLE: High School Graduation Requirements POLICY NO: 610
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NOTES: This policy has been updated to reflect the requirements of the current Idaho Board of Education administrative rules in effect for students entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade in the fall of 2009 or later, as well as the exception for students who have completed six (6) credits of math prior to the fall of their last year of high school to be exempt from taking math during their last year of high school.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

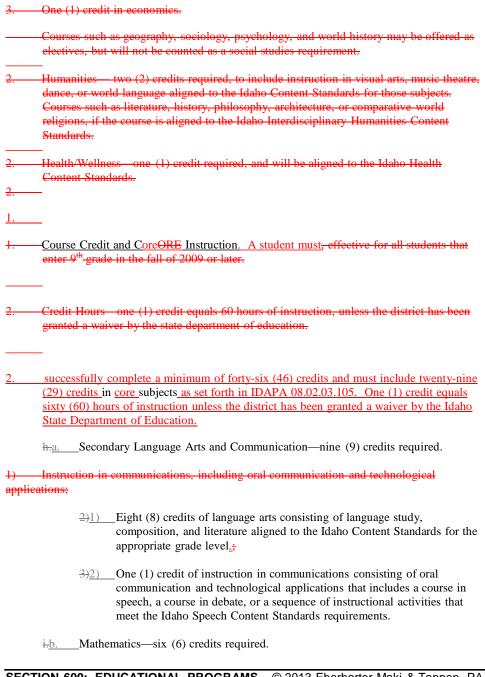
All students graduating from this	<u>S</u> school <u>D</u> district <u>No.</u>	_will meet the all state and
district graduation requirements.		

#### STATE STANDARDS FOR GRADUATION

The <u>Idaho</u> State Board of Education has established that all students graduating from an Idaho public high school must meet the following <u>minimum</u> requirements:

- 1.Local -Achievement Standards. A student must meet locally established subject area achievement standards as demonstrated through various measures of accountability including \_, but not limited to, examinations or other measures. The local standards must meet or exceed the standards set by the state.
- 2. <u>Course Credits and Core of Instruction</u>. A student must successfully complete a minimum of forty two (42) credits, one semester equaling one half (1/2) year, and successfully complete the following specified twenty five (25) credits core of instruction:
- 2. Secondary Language Arts and Communications—nine (9) credits required.
- 1. Eight (8) years of Language Arts are required, consisting of language study, composition and literature, aligned to the Idaho Content Standards for the appropriate grade level;
- One (1) credit of instruction in communications, consisting of oral communication and technological applications, that includes a course in speech, or a course in debate, or a sequence of instructional activities that meet the Idaho Speech Content Standards requirement.
- 2. Mathematics and Science eight (8) credits required.
- A minimum of four (4) credits in math are required. Instruction in secondary mathematics
  will include applied mathematics, business mathematics, algebra, geometry, trigonometry,
  fundamentals of calculus, probability and statistics, discrete mathematics and courses in
  mathematical problem solving and reasoning.
- A minimum of four (4) credits in science, with two (2) credits in laboratory sciences are
  required. Instruction in secondary science will include applied sciences, earth and space
  sciences, physical sciences, and life sciences.
- 2. Social Studies—five (5) credits required in the following subject areas:
- 1. Two (2) credits in government;
- 2. Two (2) credits in U.S. history;

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- Two (2) credits of Algebra I or courses that meet the Idaho Algebra I Content Standards.
- Two (2) credits of Geometry or courses that meet the Idaho Geometry Content Standards.
- 3) Two (2) credits of mathematics of the student's choice.
- Two (2) credits of the required six (6) credits of mathematics must be taken in the last year of high school in which the student intends to graduate. The last year of high school includes the summer preceding the fall start of classes. Students who return to school during the summer or the following fall for 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 (6) credits of high school level mathematics.
- 4)5) Students who have completed six (6) credits of math prior to the fall of their last year of high school, including at least two (2) semesters of an Advanced Placement (AP) or dual credit calculus or higher lever course, are exempt from taking math during their last year of high school.

j.c. Science—six (6) credits required.

- Secondary sciences include instruction in Instruction in biology; physical science or chemistry; and earth, space, environment or approved applied science.
- 2) Four (4) credits must be laboratory based-courses.
- k.d. Social Studies—five (5) credits required. in the following subject areas:
  - 4)1) Two (2) credits in government.;
  - 5)2) Two (2) credits in U.S. history.;
  - +)3 One (1) credit in economics.
  - 2)4) Courses such as geography, sociology, psychology, and world history may be offered as electives, but will not be counted as a social studies requirement.

Le. Humanities—two (2) credits required.

Comment [SKB1]: Proposed rule.

- (h) Humanities courses include ; including instruction in visual arts, music, theatre, dance, or world language aligned to the Idaho Content Standards for those subjects.
- (1)2) Courses such as literature, history, philosophy, architecture, or comparative world religions may satisfy the humanities standards if the course is approved by the Idaho Interdisciplinary Humanities Content Standards.
- f. Health/Wellness—one (1) credit required.
  - (1)1) The course must be -aligned to the Idaho Health Content Standards.
- 2-3. Mastery. A student may achieve credits by demonstrating mastery of a subject's content standards as defined and approved by the district. The board will appoint a committee to develop a process whereby students may be awarded credit upon having demonstrating mastery of a subject's content standards.
- 2.4. Proficiency Assessment. A student must achieve a proficient or advanced score on the 10<sup>th</sup> grade Idaho Standards Achievement Test (ISAT) in math, reading, and language usage. A student who does not attain at least a proficient score prior to graduation may appeal to the district and will be given an opportunity to demonstrate proficiency of the content standards through an alternate plan established by the district. Notice of the alternate plan will be provided to any student who has not achieved a proficient or advanced score on the ISAT by the fall semester of the student's 11<sup>th</sup> grade year. All alternate plans used to demonstrate proficiency, or modifications to such plans, will be reviewed by the Idaho State Board of Education.
  - a. Before entering an alternate measure, the student must be:
    - Enrolled in a special education program and have an Individual Education Plan (IEP);
    - Enrolled in a Limited English Proficient (LEP) program for three (3) academic years or less; or
    - 3) Enrolled in the fall semester of the 12<sup>th</sup> grade year.
  - b. The alternate plan must:
    - 1) Contain multiple measures of student achievement;
    - 2) Be aligned at a minimum to 10<sup>th</sup> grade content standards at a minimum;
    - 3) Be aligned to the state content standards for the subject matter in question;
    - 4) Be valid and reliable; and

- 5) Ninety percent (90%) of the alternate plan criteria must be based on academic proficiency and performance.
- c. A student is not required to achieve a proficient or advanced score on the ISAT if:
  - (h)1) The student received a proficient or advanced score on an exit exam from another state that requires a standards-based exam for graduation. Such state exit exams must be approved by the <a href="Idaho">Idaho</a>. State Board of Education, measure skills at the 10<sup>th</sup> grade level or above, and be in comparable subject areas to the ISAT;
  - 1)2) The student completes an alternate plan as outlined above;
  - 2)3) The student has an IEP that outlines alternate requirements for graduation or adaptations are recommended on the test; or
  - (3) The student is considered an LEP student through a score determined on a language proficiency test and has been in an LEP program for three (3) academic years or less.
- 3. College Entrance Examination. A (Effective for all students that enter the 9<sup>th</sup> grade in the fall of 2009 or later.) A student must take one (1) of the following college entrance examinations before the end of the student's 11<sup>th</sup> grade year: COMPASS, ACT or SAT. Scores must be included in the Learning Plan.

- a. A student may elect an exemption in their 11<sup>th</sup> grade year from the college entrance exam requirement if the student is:
  - (h)1) Enrolled in a special education program and has an Individual Education

    Plan (IEP) that specifies accommodations are not allowed for a reportable score on the approved tests; or
  - 4) Enrolled in a Limited English Proficient (LEP) program for three (3) academic years or less.

2)

- 4.6. Senior Project. A (Effective for all students that enter the 9<sup>th</sup> grade in the fall of 2009 or later.) A student must complete a senior project that must includes a written report and oral presentation by the end of the student's 12<sup>th</sup> grade year.
- 5. Middle School Courses. If a student completes any required high school courses with a grade of C or higher before entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade, and if that course meets the same standards that are required in high school, if the course is taught by a properly certified teacher who meets the federal definition of being highly qualified for the course being taught, and if

the school providing the course is accredited as recognized by the Idaho State Board of Education then the student has will have met the high school content and credit area requirement for such course. The student will be given a grade for the successful completion of that course and the grade and the number of credit hours assigned to the course will be transferred to the student's high school transcript. However, the student must complete the required number credits in all high school core subjects as identified above in addition to the courses completed in middle school.

<del>6.</del>7.

# DISTRICT REQUIREMENTS

[Insert district graduation requirements.]

## ADDITIONAL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

As a further condition of graduation, and as a condition of issuance of a diploma or certificate, or as a condition for issuance of a transcript, all indebtedness incurred by a person when he or she was a student must be paid. Furthermore, all books or other instructional material, uniforms, athletic equipment, advances on loans, or other personal property of the school district borrowed by the person when he or she was a student of the district must be returned. The payment of fees may be excused upon an adequate showing of financial need or other exigency.

#### **CREDIT CALCULATION**

Credits toward graduation requirements cannot be counted more than once for meeting the minimum requirements.

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### **LEGAL REFERENCE:**

Idaho Code Sections 33-119 33-603 33-1601, et seq. 18-4511

IDAPA 08.02.03.105 IDAPA Proposed Rule 08.02.03.105 (June 19-20, 2013)

## ADOPTED:

# AMENDED:

\*Language in text set forth in italics is optional.

Comment [SKB2]: Proposed Rule