

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to set forth requirements for graduation from Lakeville Area Public Schools.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

It is the policy of the school district that all students must pass the Minnesota Graduation Basic Standards tests in reading, mathematics, and written composition as per state requirements and must satisfactorily complete, as determined by the school district, all course credit requirements, graduation standards, and any additional requirements as established by the school board, in order to graduate.

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 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.

IV. TEST ADMINISTRATOR

The school district test administrator shall be in charge of all test procedures and shall bring recommendations to the school board annually for approval.

V. GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

- A. All students must meet the following graduation requirements:
 - 2009 graduates must pass the GRAD Written Composition, the GRAD Reading, and the BST Math.
 - 2010 graduates and beyond must pass the GRAD Written Composition, GRAD Reading Tests, and GRAD Math Tests.
- B. Graduates of 2009 and beyond must successfully complete 22 course credits for a total of 44 semester credits in grades 9-12 as follows:
 - 4 language arts credits encompassing English 9 or its equivalent; English 10 or its equivalent; and at least one class within each of these categories: literature, speech, and writing.
 - 3 mathematics credits encompassing the algebra, geometry, and statistics and probability content sufficient to satisfy the academic standards
 - 3 science credits including one in physical science, or its equivalent; one in biology; and .5 in geology & space systems, or its equivalent
 - 3.5 credits in social studies encompassing U.S history, geography, world history, economics, and government/citizenship
 - 1 credit in the arts
 - .50 credits in physical education
 - .50 credits in health

- 6 elective credits
- C. All students must satisfactorily complete the Career Portfolio requirements
- D. All students must complete the following Minnesota Academic Standards, in accordance with the standards developed by the Department of Education.
1. Minnesota Academic Standards, Language Arts K-12;
 2. Minnesota Academic Standards, Mathematics K-12;
 3. Minnesota Academic Standards, Science K-12;
 4. Minnesota Academic Standards, Social Studies K-12; and
 5. Minnesota Academic Standards, Arts K-12;
 6. Minnesota Academic Standards, Health and PE.
- E. Have met the requirements of an IEP or Section 504 accommodation plan
or
Have met the requirements of the Lakeville Area Learning Center.
- F. 2015 graduates must complete an algebra credit by the end of eighth grade and must also complete an Algebra II or its equivalent as part of the aforementioned three-credit requirement.
- G. 2015 graduates must complete a biology credit and a chemistry or physics credit as part of the aforementioned three-credit requirement.

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

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.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. §120B.02 (Education Expectations for Minnesota's Students)
 Minn. Stat. § 120B.024 (Graduation Requirements; Course Credits)
 Minn. Stat. § 120B.07 (Early Graduation)
 Minn. Stat. § 120B.11 (School District Process)
 Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0010-3501.0180 (Rules Relating to Graduation Standards –
 Mathematics and Reading)
 Minn. Rules Parts 3501-0200-3501.0290 (Rules Relating to Graduation Standards –
 Written Composition)
 Minn. Rules Parts 3501-0505-3501.0635 (K-12 Standards)
 20 U.S.C. § 6301, et seq. (No Child Left Behind Act)