**Mackay School District No. 182**

**INSTRUCTION 2700P**

High School Graduation Requirements

Publication of Graduation Requirements

Prior to registering for high school, each student will be provided with a copy of the current graduation requirements. Graduation requirements shall also be included in the student handbook.

Credits

Students shall be expected to earn a total of 54 semester creditsin order to complete graduation requirements. Special education students who have successfully completed their IEP leading to completion of high school will be awarded a diploma.

The core of instruction is **40 semester credits,** with an additional 14 elective credits required for graduation:

Secondary Language Arts and Communication 12 credits

 English (language study, composition, literature) 8 credits

 Senior Seminar 2 credits

 Speech or Debate 1 credit

 Reading 1 credit

Mathematics 8 credits\*

 Algebra 1 (or meets Algebra 1 standards) 2 credits

 Geometry (or meets Geometry standards) 2 credits

 Algebra 2 or Equivalent 2 credits

 Secondary Mathematics of the student’s choice 2 credits

Dual credit engineering and computer science courses aligned to the state standards for grades 9-12, including AP Computer Science and dual credit computer science courses may be counted as mathematics.

Students who choose to take Computer Science and Dual Credit Engineering may not concurrently count such courses as both a mathematics and science credit.

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Science

 Secondary Science 6 credits\*

 \*(4 credits shall be laboratory sciences)

Social Studies 5 credits

 Government 2 credits

 US History 2 credits

 Economics and Financial Literacy 1 credit

Arts and Humanities 5 credits

 Spanish or Foreign Language 2 credits

 Secondary Humanities of the student’s choice 3 credits

Humanities courses include instruction in visual arts, music, theatre, dance, or world language aligned to the Idaho content standards for those subjects. Other courses such as literature, history, philosophy, architecture, or comparative world religions may satisfy the humanities standards if the course is aligned to the Interdisciplinary Humanities Content Standards

Health/Wellness 4 credits\*

 Health 1 credit

 PE 1 credit

 PE Elective 2 credits

Each student shall receive a minimum of 1 class period of psychomotor cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training as outlined in the American Heart Association Guidelines for CPR to include the proper utilization of an automatic external defibrillator (AED) as part of the Health/Wellness course. Additionally, students participating in one season in any sport recognized by the Idaho High School Activities Association or club sport recognized by the local school district, or 18 weeks of a sport recognized by the local school district may choose to substitute participation up to one credit of physical education. Students who choose to do this will write a letter to the Board requesting approval to substitute one season of sports for the one credit of physical education.

Middle School Credit

If a middle school student completes any required high school course with a grade of C or higher before entering the 9th grade, and if that course meets the same standards that are required in high school and the course is taught by a teacher certified to teach high school content then the student has met the high school content area requirement for such course. The student shall be given a grade for the successful completion of that course and such grade and the number of credit hours assigned to the course shall be transferred to the student’s high school transcript and the student’s parent or guardian shall be notified in advance when credits are going to be transcribed. However, the student’s parent or guardian may elect to not have the credits and grade transferred to the student’s high school transcript. The student still must complete the required number of credits in all high school core subjects identified above in addition to the courses completed in middle school, unless the student is a participant in the 8 in 6 Program.

College Entrance Examination

Completion of a College Entrance Examination is no longer required for graduation; however, the District will facilitate completion of the ACT or SAT prior to the end of the student’s eleventh grade year.

Senior Project

A student shall complete a senior project that includes a written report and oral presentation by the end of grade 12. Senior projects may be multi-year projects, group or individual projects, or approved pre-internship or school to work internship programs at the discretion of the District. The project must include elements of research, development of a thesis using experiential learning or integrated project based learning experiences, and a presentation of the outcome. Additional requirements for the senior project are at the discretion of the District.

Idaho Standards Achievement Tests (ISAT)

In addition to obtaining the necessary credits as outlined above, a student will take the Idaho Student Achievement Test (ISAT) as defined by State Board of Education rules.

Civics Test

All secondary students must successfully pass the civics test or alternative path. “Civics test” as used herein means the 100 questions used by officers of the United States citizenship and immigration services as a basis for selecting the questions posed to applicants for naturalization.

Any student who participates in a United States Government and Politics course and an associated college credit-bearing examination shall be deemed to have met this requirement.

The District will determine the method and manner in which to administer the civics test. A student may take the civics test, in whole or in part, at any time after enrolling in grade 7 and may repeat the test as often as necessary to pass the test. The District will document on the student’s transcript that the student has passed the civics test.

The applicability of this requirement for students who receive special education services will be governed by the student’s Individualized Education Plan.

Waiver of Requirement

Graduation requirements generally will not be waived except as outlined in the Early Achievement of College/Career Readiness and Flexible Schedule portion of this policy. However, in rare and unique hardship circumstances, the Superintendent may recommend and the School Board may approve minor deviation from the graduation requirements.

Alternative Programs

Credit toward graduation requirements may be granted for planned learning experiences from accredited programs, such as summer school, university courses, correspondence courses, online/virtual courses, extended learning opportunities, and master-based education.

Credit for work experience may be offered when the work program is a part of and supervised by the school.

All classes attempted at Mackay Jr./Sr. High School and all acceptable transfer credits shall be recorded on the transcript. All grades earned, including failures and retakes, shall be recorded as such and utilized in the calculation of grade point average (GPA) and class rank. Credit shall be awarded only once regardless of repetition of the course.

Honor Roll

A student must have a minimum GPA of 3.5 to be placed on the honor roll. Specific information regarding honors at graduation is included in the student handbook.

Class Rank (Grade Point Average)

Class Rank is compiled from semester grades. Courses not eligible for GPA are designated with an asterisk on the report card.

Early Completion of Graduation Requirements

A student who completes all of the graduation requirements set forth by the District and the State Department of Education prior to the completion of eight semesters of school attendance in grades 9 through 12 may petition the Superintendent and Board for early graduation by submitting such a petition to the Superintendent through the building principal. The Superintendent shall submit the petition to the Board for endorsement and approval at the end of the quarter preceding the requested graduation date.

Early Achievement of College/Career Readiness and Flexible Schedule

A student may, at the student’s option and upon notification to the student’s school, be relieved from completing their remaining high school graduation requirements and apply for a flexible schedule or graduate early if the student:

1. Is at least 16 years of age;
2. Maintains a cumulative 3.5 grade point average;
3. Obtains permission from a parent/guardian, if under the age of 18;
4. Achieves a college and career readiness score;
5. Files the following with the school:
6. Notification of their intent to take a flexible schedule OR graduate early;
7. The student’s participation portfolio; and
8. An essay of at least one page explaining why the student wishes to have a flexible schedule which include the future plans using the flexible schedule or early graduation;
9. Completes the following:
10. The required civics test;
11. The economics credit, government credits, and senior project required to graduate. A student’s senior project may describe the student’s experience in achieving a college and career readiness score and a detailed explanation of the student’s future plan.

Students eligible for a flexible schedule may be relieved from high school graduation requirements in order to:

1. Take elective courses, career technical education programs, or courses selected by the student which are available within the District;
2. Participate in apprenticeships or internships;
3. Act as a tutor at any grade level; or
4. Engage in such other activities identified by the Board.

A student who is granted a flexible schedule must adhere to the plan submitted to the school as part of their eligibility. Students who are under 18 may modify their plan with the approval of the student’s parent/guardian.

The Superintendent is authorized to create any procedures necessary to assist students to achieve early graduation as well create incentives for participation in any early graduation program. Existing programs providing incentive to complete coursework early are described in Policy 2435 Advanced Opportunities.

In order to transition to the updated graduation requirements, seniors graduating prior to Aug 31, 2024 may graduate with 52 credits. Seniors graduating after September 1, 2024 must meet all graduation requirements.

The Class of 2024 will need 52 required credits.

The Class of 2025 will need 54 credits.

Cross Reference: 2435 Advanced Opportunities

 2440 Online Courses and Alternative Credit Options

 2460 Extended Learning Opportunities

 2610 Advancement Requirements (9 through 12)

 2640 Mastery-Based Education

 2705 Military Compact Waiver

Legal Reference: I.C. § 33-4601, *et seq.* Advanced Opportunities

I.C. § 33-6101 et. seq. Opportunities for College and Career Ready Students

 IDAPA 08.02.01.350 Early Graduation

 IDAPA 08.02.03.105 High School Graduation Requirements

 IDAPA 08.02.03.107 Middle Level Credit System

Procedure History:

Promulgated on: March 23, 2015

Revised on: July 12, 2021

Revised on: April 11, 2022

Revised on: December 12, 2022

Revised on: November 13, 2023

Revised on: March 12, 2024

Revised on: January 13, 2025