

FAIRVIEW SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: GRADUATION
REQUIREMENTS

ADOPTED: June 20, 1994

REVISED: June 23, 2008

217. GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS	
1. Purpose	It shall be the policy of the Board to acknowledge each student's successful completion of the instructional program appropriate to the student's interests and needs by the award of a diploma or certificate at fitting graduation ceremonies.
2. Authority SC 1611, 1613 Title 22 Sec. 4.13, 4.24 Pol. 100	The Board shall award a regular high school diploma to every student enrolled in this district who meets the requirements of graduation established by this Board. There may also be a certificate awarded by this district which shall be based on special circumstances that support such an award.
SC 1613	The requirement for graduation shall be the completion of work and studies representing the instructional program assigned to grades nine through twelve. The Board shall identify the planned courses which are required for graduation. These written plans shall be on file in the district and shall be made available upon request for review by the designated representatives of the Department of Education.
Pol. 100, 102	In order to graduate from high school, a student shall demonstrate achievement of the student learning outcomes as outlined in the district Strategic Plan and in accordance with Policy 102 Educational Goals. Each candidate for graduation shall have earned a minimum number of credits equaling twenty-nine (29). Student course load will be a minimum of eight (8) credits per year (four (4) per semester) approved by the guidance department.
Title 22 Sec. 4.24 Pol. 113	All identified special education students will satisfactorily complete a special education program IEP (Individualized Education Plan).

<p>Title 22 Sec. 4.24</p> <p>Title 22 Sec. 4.24, 4.52</p>	<p>In planning an educational program, the student must consider the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Course length will be one (1) semester in duration; however, some courses may be nine (9) weeks in length.2. Semester long courses shall be granted one (1) credit per semester. Nine (9) week courses shall be granted one-half (0.5) credit. All courses must be successfully completed before credit is granted.3. The principal shall decide whether to transfer credit for courses from other school systems or activities outside the Fairview School District. Students who wish to receive transfer credit should make this request to the principal and provide the principal information pertaining to:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. The course title.b. Where the credit was earned.c. When the credit was earned.d. The description of course content (in writing from the institution).4. Graduation will be recommended upon successful completion of a minimum of twenty-nine (29) credits.5. Student course load will be a minimum of eight (8) credits per year, four (4) per semester, approved by the guidance department.6. Each student must successfully complete a graduation project and/or graduation portfolio requirements.7. Each student must successfully attain a Proficient or above rating of the PSSA Assessment or successful completion of the PSSA math or reading district assessment, or demonstrate proficiency on each of the PSSA tested standards.
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Course requirements for graduation from high school will be the successful completion of credits in the areas listed below:

4.0	Communications
4.5	Social Studies
4.0	Math
4.0	Science
1.0	Computer Applications
2.5	Wellness/Physical Education
2.0	Foreign Language
0.5	Driver's Education
0.5	SAT Prep
<u>6.0</u>	Electives
29	Total

Graduation requirements for the vocational program will be the successful completion of credits in the areas listed below:

Graduation Requirements – Vo-Tech Students

4.0	English
3.5	Social Studies
3.0	Math
3.0	Science
2.0	Wellness
1.0	Computer Applications
0.5	Driver's Education
<u>12.0</u>	Vo-Tech
29	Total

Optional Educational Opportunities

Pol. 118

The "Academic" Contract - A student may select to complete a course under the individual direction of a teacher without having to attend regular class sessions. A written contract agreement is completed between the student and the teacher with approval of the parents/guardians and the counselor. Course credit is received when the teacher designates that all contracted work is completed.

<p>Pol. 118</p>	<p>The "Service" Contract - A student may select to assist in the operations of the school day, i.e., library assistant, office assistant, audio-visual assistant, lab assistant, under the direction of an approved staff member. A written contract agreement is completed between the student and the advisor with approval of the parents/guardians and the counselor advisor. Course credit is earned when the contract is completed.</p> <p>Externally Earned Credits - A student wishing to repeat a course (summer school) or enrich their curriculum outside the Fairview School District curriculum must supply the following information to his/her counselor for prior approval:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The specific school and location. 2. The number of course hours. 3. The course description and/or objectives (if requested). 4. The instructional materials (if requested). 5. The method and type of evaluation. <p><u>Graduation Participation</u></p> <p>No student who has completed the requirements for graduation shall be denied a diploma as a disciplinary measure, but s/he may be denied participation in the ceremony of graduation when personal conduct so warrants. Such exclusion shall be regarded as a school suspension.</p>
<p>SC 1614 Title 22 Sec. 11.27 Pol. 113</p>	<p>The Board shall permit a student with a disability, who has attended four (4) years of high school, to participate in commencement ceremonies with his/her graduating class and receive a certificate of attendance, even if the student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP) prescribes continued educational services. The student may receive a high school diploma when s/he completes his/her Individualized Education Plan (IEP).</p>
<p>3. Delegation of Responsibility Pol. 213, 216</p>	<p>The Superintendent shall develop procedures for implementing this policy which include the careful recording of the student's exit outcomes as determined by the Board and state regulations and shall:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Counsel students to know what is expected of them for completion of their schooling.

<p>Pol. 212</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Issue periodic warnings to students in danger of not fulfilling graduation requirements. 3. Prepare and submit to the Board for its approval a list of all candidates for the award of a diploma or certificate, or a list of all graduating students for the information of the Board and release to the public. 4. Plan and execute graduation ceremonies which fittingly mark this important achievement.
<p>4. Guidelines</p>	<p>Fairview High School will issue a general diploma to all students who qualify for graduation, without regard to the student's major field of interest or future plans. The student who satisfactorily completes the requirements for this diploma will meet the basic graduation requirements of both the State of Pennsylvania and of the Fairview School District. The courses leading to this diploma shall be designed to meet the varying needs and abilities of the student body. The transcript of the student's high school work will reveal the kinds of courses studied and indicate the variations and quality of the student's performance in the program followed.</p> <p>Guidance counselors will meet with new students (grades 9-12) and evaluate work completed in the previous district. The high school principal will consider the recommendation of the counselors to determine the amount of credits necessary for the students to complete for a Fairview High School diploma.</p> <p>Fairview students who do not score at the Proficient level or above on the 11th grade PSSA math, reading, or writing test would be required to satisfactorily complete a local assessment or PDE retest to meet the Fairview School District graduation requirements.</p> <p><u>Diplomas For Eligible Veterans</u></p> <p>SC 1611</p> <p>In order to recognize and honor veterans who left high school prior to graduation to serve in World War II or the Korean War, the Board shall grant a diploma to a veteran who completes the required application and meets the following requirements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Was honorably discharged from the Armed Forces of the United States of America. 2. Served in the United States military between September 16, 1940, and December 31, 1946, (World War II veterans) or between June 27, 1950, and January 31, 1955, (Korean War veterans).

3. Attended high school between 1937 and 1946 and would have been a member of a graduation class during 1941 through 1950 but did not graduate due to entry into military service (World War II veterans), or attended high school between 1947 and 1955 and would have been a member of a graduation class during 1951 through 1957 but did not graduate due to entry into military service (Korean War veterans).
4. Is a current resident of this district or attended high school in this district or a predecessor of this district.

Upon a proper application, the Board may award a diploma posthumously to a veteran who meets the stated requirements.

The Superintendent shall submit to the Board for its approval the names of veterans eligible for a high school diploma.

References:

School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 1611, 1613, 1614

State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 4.13, 4.24, 4.52, 11.4, 11.5, 11.8, 11.27

Board Policy – 100, 102, 113, 118, 212, 213, 216