

613 GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to set forth requirements for graduation from the school district.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The policy of the school district is that all students must satisfactorily complete, as determined by the school district, all course credit requirements, all state academic standards, or local standards where state standards do not apply.

III. DEFINITIONS

A. "Academic standard" means:

1. a statewide-adopted expectation for student learning in the content areas of language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, physical education, or the arts; or
2. a locally-adopted expectation for student learning in health, the arts, career and technical education, or world languages.

B. "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.

C. "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.

D. "Individualized Education Program," or "IEP," means a written statement developed for a student eligible by law for special education and services.

E. "English language learners" or "ELL" student means an individual whose first language is not English and whose test performance may be negatively impacted

IV. DISTRICT ASSESSMENT COORDINATOR

The Director of Teaching and Learning shall be named the school district test administrator. Said person 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 fulfill graduation assessment requirements as established by Minnesota statute 120B.30:

1. Encouragement to participate on a nationally normed college entrance exam in grade 11 or grade 12;

2. Based on appropriate state guidelines, students with an IEP may satisfy state graduation requirements by achieving an individual score on the state-identified alternative assessments.

B. All students must:

1. complete the required Minnesota Academic Standards in language arts, math, science, social studies, the arts, and physical education, and locally-developed standards in health; Academic standards will be reviewed on an ongoing basis and as appropriate

2. complete the required 28 high school course credits as determined by the school district, including:

- Four credits of language arts;
- Three credits of mathematics, encompassing at least algebra, geometry, statistics and probability sufficient to satisfy the academic standard. Students must satisfactorily complete an Algebra I credit by the end of eighth grade. Students must satisfactorily complete an Algebra II credit or its equivalent;
- Three credits of science, including at least one credit in biology, one credit of chemistry or physics, and one elective credit of science;
- Four credits of social studies, encompassing at least United States history, geography, government and citizenship, world history, and economics;
- One credit in the arts;
- One credit in physical education;
- One credit in health;
- One credit in technology from Computer Applications or Computer Assisted Drafting and Design;
- One credit in Career Explorations;
- One-half credit in Money Management;
- One credit in Independent Living; and
- A minimum of 8 elective course credits.

C. A School Board-approved agriculture science course may fulfill a science credit.

D. A School Board-approved career and technical education course may fulfill a mathematics, or arts credit requirement.

E. The specific courses that students must take to graduate are listed each year in the Dover-Eyota High School Student Registration Manual.

F. With the approval of the high school guidance counselor, students may be able to be excused from one or more of the “non-core” graduation requirements when taking courses that are deemed to be more rigorous in nature. This will be determined on a course-by-course basis.

G. The academic standards for language arts, mathematics, and science apply to all students except the very few students with extreme cognitive or physical impairments for whom an IEP team has determined that the required academic standards are inappropriate. An IEP team that makes this determination must establish alternative standards.

VI. EARLY GRADUATION

In accordance with Minnesota Statute 120B.07, any secondary school student who has completed all required courses or standards may, with the approval of the student, the student’s parent or guardian, and local school

officials, graduate before the completion of the school year.

VII. NOTICE

The school district will notify students and their parents of the school district's graduation upon enrollment into high school and via the high school registration guide.

Cross References:

Dover-Eyota Public Schools Policy 104 (School District Mission Statement)

Dover-Eyota Public Schools Policy 601 (School District Curriculum and Instruction Goals)

Dover-Eyota Public Schools Policy 614 (School District Testing Plan and Procedures)

Dover-Eyota Public Schools Policy 615 (Testing Accommodations, Modifications, and Exemptions for IEPs,

Section 504 Plans and LEP Students)

Dover-Eyota Public Schools Policy 616 (School District System Accountability)