

# Book Policy Manual

## Section 5000 Students

### Title GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Code po5460

Status Active

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Last Revised February 27, 2017

#### 5460 - GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

It shall be the policy of the Board of Education to acknowledge each student's successful completion of the instructional program appropriate to the achievement of District goals and objectives as well as personal proficiency by the awarding of a diploma at fitting graduation ceremonies.

The Board directs the District Administrator to prepare a list of specific criteria for granting a high school diploma which includes the student's academic performance, the recommendations of teachers, the statutory credit requirements, and any additional Board- approved credit requirements.

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 as provided by State law.

Twenty-four (24) units of credits and eight (8) semesters of attendance are required for graduation from Ashland High School except as provided in Board policy.

The twenty-four (24) units of credit must include the following:

A. four (4) units of credit in English

1. one (1) unit English 9
2. one (1) unit English 10

Credit Recovery 9/10 can replace English 9 and 10 course requirements, but only 0.5 of 2 credit requirements

3. one (1) unit Applied Communications, Global Literature or British Literature
4. one (1) unit English credit from approved catalog of courses

B. three (3) units of credit in Social Studies to include:

1. one (1) unit of Global Studies
2. one (1) unit of U.S. History or The Story of the United States
3. one (1) unit of Social Studies electives

C. three (3) units of credit in Mathematics

D. three (3) units of credit in Science

E. one and one-half (1 1/2) units of credit in Physical Education

F. one-half (1/2) units of credit in Health

G. one-half (1/2) unit of credit in Finance and Career Studies

H. eight and one-half (8 1/2) units of credit in elective courses

All courses for credit shall be computed in grade point average (GPA) and class rank.

The Board permits students in 7th or 8th grade to earn credit towards a high school diploma in any class taken that is approved by the Board for such purpose, provided that the student is academically prepared based on performance on approved pupil assessments. Any course designated for high school credit at the middle school level must be taught by a teacher with high school certification in the subject matter and must be taught using curriculum and assessments equivalent to those used in the subject at the high school level.

Credit may be earned in any of the core required course areas of English, social studies, mathematics, or science.

Courses taken by middle school students for high school credit shall appear on the students' high school transcript, along with the grade received and the class will be factored into the students' high school grade point average.

The Board directs the District Administrator to develop appropriate courses after determining annually whether sufficient student interest and appropriate staffing justifies offering such course(s). The District Administrator shall establish procedures to determine whether a middle school student is academically prepared to take any course approved for high school credit.

In order to be granted a high school diploma, beginning with the 2016-2017 school year, a student must successfully complete a civics assessment.

Students with disabilities who properly complete the programs specified in their I.E.P. and have received the recommendation of the I.E.P. Committee may participate in graduation activities and may be awarded a diploma (provided the student satisfied the District's high school graduation requirements) or a certificate of attendance.

The principal of the high school shall prepare a report describing the District's policies on high school graduation standards, including a list of courses required under State law and the number of hours in each school term required to earn one (1) credit for those courses. Additionally, any change to the District's policies shall also be reported to the Department of Public Instruction or other appropriate agency after it has been approved by the Board and signed by the Board president, the District Administrator, and the principal. A student may be denied participation in graduation activities for disciplinary reasons and for non-payment of fees.

Students who have participated in interscholastic athletics, football and basketball cheerleading, for at least three (3) hours per week as defined in the course description handbook, while enrolled in grades ten (10), eleven (11) and twelve (12), and as documented by the coach/physical education teacher, and co-curricular director and approved by the principal, may be excused from one-half (.5) credits of the high school physical education requirement, provided they take an additional one-half (.5) credits in English, social studies, mathematics, science, or health education, at their choosing.

The Board may approve a course or courses in career and technical education that it determines may satisfy up to a total of one credit of mathematics and/or science credit.

Students may also earn an Ashland High School diploma through successful completion of the Graduation Equivalency Degree Option 2 (GEDO2) program. Students completing the GEDO2 program may participate in graduation activities.

It shall be the policy of the Board to periodically review and revise this policy specifying the criteria for awarding a diploma.

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## Legal

115.28, 118.30, 118.33, Wis. Stats.