
High School Policy 2.103

The Background:

Currently the State Board of Education has two separate policies governing high schools: High School Policy and the High School Examinations Policy. As part of the policy audit undertaken by State Board staff, a comprehensive review of these two policies was undertaken in coordination with the Department of Education. The relevant sections of the High School Examinations Policy have now been included in the High School Policy, which will create a single policy for all high school requirements. Furthermore, the High School Policy has been revised to concentrate on key policy requirements, and sections that focus on general guidance or best practices have been removed in order to streamline the policy. Finally, a new section outlining requirements for credit recovery courses has also been included.

Below is a brief summary of the changes (page numbers reflect the tracked changes document):

- **Page 2:** Updates the section on the occupational diploma requirements to be consistent with policy changes passed by the State Board in 2014.
- **Page 2:** Adds language to include Integrated Math I, II, and III in the section on mathematics graduation requirements. Clarifies that students completing any required math credits prior to the 9th grade will receive graduation credit for those courses, but that those students are still required to be enrolled in a mathematics course each year of high school.
- **Page 3:** Removes duplicative section of the policy concerning Algebra I employment standards. This language remains in the employment rule.
- **Page 5:** Clarifies that local boards of education may allow students to count foreign language and fine arts credits towards their elective focus.
- **Page 7:** Removes the Active Learning section.
- **Page 8-9:** Removes the Integrated Curriculum section.
- **Page 9:** Removes the Extra Support to Meet Student Needs.
- **Pages 10-13:** Adds relevant language from the High School Examinations Policy into the Assessment section, including a section outlining End-of-Course Examinations and a section on the requirements for adult students to receive a diploma.
- **Pages 14-16:** Adds a new section outlining requirements for credit recovery courses and practices.
- **Pages 16-17:** Removes the School Wide Improvement section.
- **Pages 17-18:** Removes the Professional Development section.

The Recommendation:

The Department of Education and SBE staffs recommend acceptance of this item on first reading.