

BOARD OF EDUCATION
FAIRFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FAIRFIELD, CT

Policy Committee Meeting
Tuesday, May 29, 2018
5:00 PM
501 Kings Highway East
Instructional Conference Room

Agenda

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of May 22, 2018 Minutes
- III. Policy:
 - a. High School Graduation Requirements
- IV. Future Items
 - a. Booster Clubs
 - b. Social Media Policy
 - c. 1311.1 Political Activities Administrative Regulation
 - d. High School Graduation Requirements
 - e. Board of Education Handbook
 - f. Student Discipline Policies - Expulsion
- V. Open Discussion/Public Comment
- VI. Adjournment

Future Meetings: June 5, June 19

All meetings will be held at 501 Kings Highway East, Superintendent's Conference Room unless otherwise noted.

BOARD OF EDUCATION
FAIRFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FAIRFIELD, CT

Policy Committee Special Meeting
Tuesday, May 22, 2018
5:30 PM
Roger Ludlowe Middle School
Team Room

Minutes

Call to Order 5:02 PM

- Present: Jeff Peterson, Jennifer Jacobsen, Phil Dwyer
- Colleen Deasy and Mike Cummings staff to committee

Approval of May 1, 2018 Minutes

- Approved 3-0

Policy: High School Graduation Requirements

- Mike Cummings reported to committee follow up on questions that had arisen at the May 1 meeting, including on the topics of community service as a graduation requirement, credits for science courses with a lab component that includes a “mini block” of time with the course, and an update on the draft policy.

Open Discussion/Public Comment

- Michelle Hermsen, Art Department Head for FPS, expressed concern with the Fine Arts requirement being “cut” from the draft policy. She stated that the philosophy of the Policy Committee was moving “from STEAM towards STEM.”

- Sara Hoefler, Music Department Head for FPS, stated that under federal law (ESSA), music and fine arts are considered core subject areas, and that to cut fine arts from a graduation policy would indicate that FPS is not holding students to rigorous standards. She also stated that Wilton, Westport and Darien all require at least a year of fine arts credit to graduate.
- John Whaley, FPS English Teacher, stated that he was concerned with the use of the SAT as a proficiency measure, and asked the Committee to consider why ELA is a mandated 8 semester requirement.
- Dave Fuller, a parent, stated that he was concerned that the policy as written is excluding students who might not be looking to go to college but instead are interested in being employed in trades. He also stated that he would like to see the Committee restore the Fine Arts requirement.
- Bob Smoler, FEA President, stated that he was also concerned about the SAT as a proficiency measure, he was concerned with the evaluative implications for staff that would result from the policy, and that he had a concern about the de-emphasis of the policy on the fine arts.

Vote to Adjourn 7:52

Students

Progress / Records

REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION

6146 (a)

Introduction

I. Graduating Classes 2018 - 2019

To graduate from the Fairfield Public Schools students in the class of 2019 to 2022 must earn a minimum of 43 credits and meet the credit distribution requirement. A student must demonstrate the designated computer applications proficiency One semester equals 1 credit.

Credit Requirements for Graduation

To meet the minimum requirements for a high school diploma, a student must earn 43 credits and achieve the following credit distribution:

<u>English</u>	<u>8 credits</u>
<u>Math</u>	<u>6 credits</u>
<u>Science</u>	<u>6 credits</u>
<u>Social Studies</u>	<u>6 credits</u>
	<u>(7 credits beginning with the class of 2015)</u>
<u>Physical Education & Health</u>	<u>3.2 credits (16 units)</u>
<u>Arts / Vocational</u>	<u>2 credits</u>

I.II. Graduating Classes 2019-2022

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Math	6 credits
Science	6 credits
Social Studies	6 credits
	(7 credits beginning with the class of 2015)
Physical Education & Health	3.2 credits (16 units)
Arts / Vocational	2 credits

II. Graduating Classes Beginning 2023

For the graduating classes commencing in 2023 students must earn a minimum of 25 credits and meet the credit distribution requirement. One semester equals .5 of a credit.

For 7th and 8th grade students - credit earned upon successful completion in grade seven or eight of any course, the primary focus of which corresponds directly to the subject matter of a specified course requirement in grades nine to twelve, up to three (3) credits.

Credit Requirements for Graduation

To meet the minimum requirements for a high school diploma, a student must earn 25 credits and achieve the following credit distribution:

Credits in the Humanities	<u>9 credits</u>
Comprising: comprised of:	
English	4.0 credits
Social Studies (1 in US History; .5 in Civics)	3.5 2.5 credits
Fine Arts	.5 credits
Additional credit in Humanities area, core or elective	2.0 1.5 credits

Credits in Science, Technology, Engineering and Technology (STEM)	<u>9 credits</u>
Comprising: comprised of:	
Math	3 credits
Science	3 credits
Additional credit in STEM area core or elective	3 credits

Physical Education and Wellness	<u>1 credit</u>
0.5 credit must be in PE	

Health and Safety	<u>1 credit</u>
0.5 credit must be in Health	

World Language	<u>1 credit</u>
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Electives	<u>3 credits</u>
These credits must be in addition to credits counting in the other required areas.	

Mastery Based Diploma Assessment	0.5 credit
Demonstrate proficiency in each of the six indicators of the Academic Expectations.	

<u>Mastery Based Diploma Assessment</u>	<u>0.5 Credit</u>
Completion of one of the options listed below in Section IV. Proficient Score on SAT (defined below)	0.5 credit

IV. SAT Performance

Mathematics:

Meet the State of Connecticut expectations for proficiency on the Math portion of the PSAT or SAT

Meet the State of Connecticut expectations for proficiency on the Math portion of the ACT

Present an SAT or ACT sub-score test which meets the criteria for a score of proficient.

Pass a competency based assessment to demonstrate proficiency in those designated sub-test areas.

Meet the proficiency standard on a district developed math portfolio

Completion of a course internship in a field of study or employment opportunity or volunteer role that requires the use of mathematics

Provide a grade equivalency sub-score on a scientifically valid assessment of mathematics. Students will meet proficiency, as defined by the State of Connecticut, on the Mathematics portion of the SAT.

~~Students who have not met the Connecticut SAT School Day mathematics criterion must demonstrate proficiency in one of the following ways:~~

~~a. The student can submit other verified SAT scores that meet the district's identified standard;~~

~~b. The student may present an SAT or ACT sub-score test taken during Saturday administrations which meets the criteria for a passing score as outlined in the Administrative Regulation.~~

~~c. The student can meet proficiency on the mathematics portion of the ACT which correspond to the district's identified standard as outlined in the Administrative Regulation.~~

~~d. The individual sub-tests of the SAT that do not meet the above criteria will be identified. Students will work with a teacher of mathematics to study for and pass a competency based assessment or meet grade equivalency on a norm referenced assessment to demonstrate proficiency in those designated sub-test areas.~~

~~e. Performance tasks as part of the Academic Expectations will be provided during the fall of the senior year for those students who did not demonstrate proficiency on Options A-D as listed above.~~

Reading Evidence Based Reading and Writing:

Meet the State of Connecticut expectations for proficiency on the Reading portion of the PSAT or SAT

Meet the State of Connecticut expectations for proficiency on the Reading portion of the ACT

Present an SAT or ACT sub-score test which meets the criteria for a score of proficient.

Pass a competency based assessment to demonstrate proficiency in those designated sub-test areas.

Present a grade equivalency sub-score on a scientifically valid assessment of reading.

Meet the proficiency standard on a district developed literacy portfolio

Completion of a course internship in a field of study or employment opportunity or volunteer role that requires the use of literacy skills

Provide evidence of a self-published or professionally published piece of work available for public access or purchase.

~~Students will meet proficiency, as defined by the State of Connecticut, on the Reading portion of the SAT.~~

~~Students who have not met the Connecticut SAT School Day reading criterion must demonstrate proficiency in one of the following ways:~~

~~a. The student can submit other verified SAT scores which meet the district's identified standard;~~

~~b. The student may present an SAT or ACT sub-score test taken during Saturday administrations which meets the criteria for a passing score as outlined in the Administrative Regulation.~~

~~c. The student can meet proficiency on the reading portion of the ACT which corresponds to the district's identified standard as outlined in the Administrative Regulation.~~

~~d. The individual sub-tests of the SAT that do not meet the above criteria will be identified. Students will work with a teacher of reading to study for and pass a competency based assessment or meet grade equivalency on a norm referenced assessment to demonstrate proficiency in those designated sub-test areas.~~

~~e. Performance tasks as part of the Academic Expectations will be provided during the fall of the senior year for those students who did not demonstrate proficiency on Options A-D as listed above.~~

V. Requirements for Graduation

Transfers

If a student transfers to a Fairfield high school after completing three (3) years of high school elsewhere, he/she is exempt from Fairfield High School Performance Standards.

Notification: Teachers, Students, and Parents

By October-August of the Senior Year, the guidance department will formally notify students, their teachers, and their parents or guardians if the district's standard has not been met in the areas of

Mathematics or Evidence- Based Reading and Writing. A plan will be put in place to assist the student in successful completion of an alternate pathway.

Options

If a student does not meet the credits required for graduation he or she may return to the high school for a fifth year, enroll in summer school, or enroll in other course options as pre-approved by the headmaster(s) and Chief Academic Officer.

Appeals

The headmaster(s) shall oversee all appeals processes for accepting credit substitutions in unique circumstances, or accepting credit from accredited institutions outside the Fairfield Public School system, such as other high schools, higher education, and national programs. The final authority to determine graduation eligibility rests with the Chief Academic Officer.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

| NEW LEGISLATION REFERENCE- HERE

Approved 8/27/04

Revised and Approved 9/27/05

Revised and Approved 1/12/2010