

## **Graduation Requirements**

In pursuit of its mission to ensure that all students reach their learning potential and are prepared for postsecondary and career opportunities, the Board of Education has established the following graduation requirements for students entering the ninth grade in the 2017-18 school year and each ninth grade class thereafter.

To receive a high school diploma from the district, students must meet or exceed the district's academic standards and measures required by this policy. Students with disabilities shall be provided access to all graduation pathways provided by this policy and shall have the opportunity to earn a high school diploma from the district.

### **College and career readiness**

The Colorado State Board of Education has adopted state graduation guidelines that identify college and career readiness measures in English (Reading, Writing, and Communication) and Math (Mathematics). The Board has selected its own measures from these state graduation guidelines.

Students must complete at least one English measure and one Math measure and meet or exceed the measure's corresponding cut score or criteria to demonstrate college and career readiness in English (Reading, Writing, and Communications) and Math. The Board's approved measures and cut scores are outlined in this policy's accompanying exhibit

### **Exceptions to the Board's required measures and cut scores/criteria**

If a student has demonstrated college and career readiness by completing an assessment or other measure that is not included in this policy's accompanying exhibit but is included in the state graduation guidelines, the principal or principal's designee may determine that such assessment or other measure is acceptable and meets the district's graduation requirements.

### **Courses required for graduation**

Students must obtain a minimum of 26 credits to graduate. Semester grades transcript with .5 credit per class per semester. The student must pass each class with a minimum grade of 60% to receive credit. A grade of incomplete must be made up within 1 week or a grade of F will be issued.

#### **LANGUAGE ARTS**

**4 CREDITS**

English I (9<sup>th</sup> grade)

English II (10<sup>th</sup> grade)

English III (11<sup>th</sup> grade)

English IV or College English (12<sup>th</sup> grade)

SOCIAL STUDIES 3 CREDITS

World History (9<sup>th</sup> grade)  
U.S. History (11<sup>th</sup> grade)  
American Government (12<sup>th</sup> grade)

MATHEMATICS 3 CREDITS

Integrated Math I or Acc. Integrated Math I (9<sup>th</sup> grade)  
Integrated Math II or Acc. Integrated Math II (10<sup>th</sup> grade)  
Integrated Math III or PreCalculus (11<sup>th</sup> grade)  
\*AP Calculus or PreCalculus (12<sup>th</sup> grade)

SCIENCE 3 CREDITS

Physical Science (9<sup>th</sup> grade)  
Biology (10<sup>th</sup> grade)  
Elective Science-Chemistry or EMT or Ag Science II,III,IV (11<sup>th</sup> grade)  
\*AP Chemistry or Human Anatomy & Physiology or Physics (12<sup>th</sup> grade)

FOREIGN LANGUAGE (10<sup>th</sup> grade) 1 CREDIT

PHYSICAL EDUCATION (9-12 grade anytime) 1 CREDIT

ELECTIVES 11 CREDITS

TOTAL: 26 CREDITS

\*Not a North Conejos School District graduation requirement but a HEAR (Higher Education Admissions Requirement) for students who plan on attending a 4-year college or university.

### **Units of credit required for graduation**

Students must obtain a minimum of 26 credits to graduate. Semester grades transcript with .5 credit per class per semester. The student must pass each class with a minimum grade of 60% to receive credit. A grade of incomplete must be made up within 1 week or a grade of F will be issued.

### **Credit from other institutions and home-based programs**

All students entering from outside the district must meet the district graduation requirements. The principal shall determine whether credit toward graduation requirements shall be granted for courses taken outside the district. Students' who are currently enrolled in the district and wish to obtain credit from outside institutions, or through "online" programs, must have prior approval from the principal.

The district shall accept the transcripts from a home-based educational program. In order to determine whether the courses and grades earned are consistent with district requirements and district academic standards, the district shall require submission of the student's work or other proof of academic performance for each course for which credit toward graduation is sought. In addition, the district may

administer testing to the student to verify the accuracy of the student's transcripts. The district may reject any transcripts that cannot be verified through such testing.

Students entering from outside the district must meet the district's course requirements. The principal or principal's designee shall determine whether credit toward course requirements shall be granted for courses taken outside the district.

In accordance with applicable state law, college courses completed pursuant to the student's participation in a "dropout recovery program" shall count as credit toward completion of the district's graduation requirements. A student seeking to enroll in a dropout recovery program shall work with his or her high school principal or designee in selecting college courses.

### **Early graduation**

The Board of Education believes that most students benefit from four years of high school experience and are encouraged not to graduate early. However, in some cases, students are ready for postsecondary education or other opportunities to completing four years of high school. Therefore, the principal may grant permission to students wishing to graduate early, provided the student has met all district graduation requirements in accordance with this policy and its accompanying exhibit.

Adoption: August 15, 2017

Revised: February 18, 2020

Revised: December 14, 2021

LEGAL REFS.: C.R.S. [22-1-104](#) (teaching history, culture and civil government)  
C.R.S. 22-1-104.7 (2)(a) (requirement to incorporate Holocaust and Genocide studies standards into existing course required for graduation)  
C.R.S. [22-32-109](#) (1)(kk) (board to establish graduation requirements that "meet or exceed" state graduation guidelines)  
C.R.S. [22-32-132](#) (discretion to award diploma to honorably discharged veterans)  
C.R.S. [22-33-104.5](#) (home-based education law)  
C.R.S. [22-35-101](#) et seq. (Concurrent Enrollment Programs Act)

CROSS REFS.: [AE](#), Accountability/Commitment to Accomplishment  
[AEA](#), Standards Based Education  
[IHBG](#), Home Schooling  
[IHBK\\*](#), Preparation for Postsecondary and Workforce Success  
[IHCDA](#), Concurrent Enrollment  
[IK](#), Academic Achievement  
[IKA](#), Grading/Assessment Systems