

9700 ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

9733 Graduation Requirements - Graduating Class of 2005 and Beyond

It shall be the policy of the Board to acknowledge each student's successful completion of the instructional program appropriate to the student's interest and needs by the awarding of a diploma and a concentrated area of study certificate.

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. The listed requirements become effective with students entering ninth grade in August 2001.

Any student graduating from the senior high schools of the District is required to satisfactorily complete a minimum of **28.00** credits in grades 9-10-11-12 for a high school diploma. A breakdown of the credits is as follows:

**ACADEMIC SEQUENCE
Credit Requirements for Grades 9 through 12**

English	4.0 credits
Math	3.0 credits
Science	4.0 credits
Social Studies	4.0 credits
Phys. Ed.	1.0 credit
Foreign Language	2.0 credits
Health	.5 credit
Computer Technology	1.0 credit
Project	1.0 credit
Electives	<u>7.5 credits</u>

28.00 Total Credits for Graduation

OCCUPATIONAL PREPARATORY SEQUENCE
Credit Requirements for Grades 9 through 12

English	4.0 credits
Math	3.0 credits
Science	4.0 credits
Social Studies	4.0 credits
Phys. Ed.	1.0 credit
Health	.5 credit
Computer Technology	1.0 credit
Project	1.0 credit
Electives	<u>9.5 credits</u>

28.00 Total Credits for Graduation

CAREER CENTER SEQUENCE
Credit Requirements for Grades 9 through 12

English	4.0 credits
Math	3.0 credits
Science	4.0 credits
Social Studies	4.0 credits
Phys. Ed.	1.0 credit
Health	.5 credit
Computer Technology	1.0 credit
Project	1.0 credit
Electives (will include Career Center credits)	<u>9.5 credits</u>

28.00 Total Credits for Graduation

In order to graduate from the District, the student must demonstrate proficiency in the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) in mathematics, writing, and reading in grades 11 and/or 12. Students who do not score at the proficient level or above on the PSSA Reading and Mathematics must achieve a scaled score of 698 or above in mathematics and a scaled score of 673 or above in reading on the Metropolitan Achievement Test, Eighth Edition (MAT 8), the District's approved alternative assessment administered during their junior or senior year. In addition, a student failing to achieve proficiency or above in the grade 11/12 PSSA Writing Assessment must be evaluated at a proficient level on one of the optional items 1, 2, or 4 of the graduation project referenced within this policy in order to achieve local proficiency on the writing assessment.

The student's highest PSSA, grade 11 or 12, score in mathematics, reading, and writing will be recorded on their transcript.

A summary of the above paragraphs is listed below in chart form to assist in clarifying the above statements.

Area	PSSA (for Seals)	MAT 8	Local Style Manual
MATHEMATICS	Proficient/Advanced	≥ 698 Scaled Score	----
READING	Proficient/Advanced	≥ 673 Scaled Score	----
WRITING	Proficient/Advanced	----	Proficient on one of the optional items 1, 2, or 4 of the Graduation Project

In order to graduate from the District, a student must achieve proficiency or above on the PSSA in mathematics, reading and writing and/or achieve a scaled score equal to or above 698 in mathematics and equal to or above 673 in reading on the MAT 8 and/or achieve proficiency on optional items 1 or 2 or 4 of the District's graduation project in the area of writing.

"... Children with disabilities who satisfactorily complete a special education program developed by an Individualized Education Program team under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and this part shall be granted and issued a regular high school diploma by the ..." District.

The Superintendent or his/her designee is charged with reviewing the MAT 8 proficiency levels in reading and mathematics and local proficiency level in writing every two (2) years in order to determine new proficiency standards or reaffirm those in use. The Superintendent or his/her designee is authorized to develop procedures for implementation of this policy.

ACADEMIC SEQUENCE

GRADE 9	GRADE 10	GRADE 11	GRADE 12
English (1)	English (1)	English (1)	English (1)
Math (1)	Math (1)	Math (1)	Science (1)
Social Studies (1)	Social Studies (1)	Social Studies (1)	Social Studies (1)
Science (1)	Science (1)	Science (1)	*Graduation Project (1) Pass/Incomplete
Phys. Ed. (.250) and Health (.50)	Phys. Ed. (.250)	Phys. Ed. (.250)	Phys. Ed. (.250)
Foreign Language (1)	Foreign Language (1)		
Required Electives (.50)	Required Electives (2.0)	Required Electives (2.5)	Required Electives 2.5
Computer Technology (1) - course will include On-Line, Electronic Search Strategies and Career Awareness material			
Minimum Credits taken in Grade 9 – 7.25	Minimum Credits taken in Grade 10 – 7.25	Minimum Credits taken in Grade 11- 6.75	Minimum Credits taken in Grade 12 - 6.75
			Total Credits needed for graduation – 28.00

* The Graduation Project grade will be recorded the student's senior year.

OCCUPATIONAL PREPARATORY SEQUENCE

GRADE 9	GRADE 10	GRADE 11	GRADE 12
English (1)	English (1)	English (1)	English (1)
Math (1)	Math (1)	Math (1)	Science (1)
Social Studies (1)	Social Studies (1)	Social Studies (1)	Social Studies (1)
Science (1)	Science (1)	Science (1)	Phys. Ed. (.250)
Phys. Ed. (.250)	Phys. Ed. (.250)	Phys. Ed. (.250)	* Graduation Project (1) Pass/Incomplete
Elective (1.5)	Required electives (3.0)	Required electives (2.5)	Required electives (2.5)
Health (.500)			
Computer Technology (1) - course will include On-Line, Electronic Search Strategies and Career Awareness material			
Minimum credits taken in Grade 9 – 7.25	Minimum credits taken in Grade 10 – 7.25	Minimum credits taken in Grade 11 – 6.75	Minimum credits taken in Grade 12 - 6.75
			Total credits needed for Graduation – 28.00

6 The Occupation Preparatory Sequence is for those students who are not
7 planning to attend a 4-year post-secondary institution or attend the Career Center.
8 The focus of this sequence is to prepare students for the world of work. Ninth grade
9 students in the Occupational Preparatory Sequence who decide to change to the
10 Career Center Sequence must declare this change by the end of the first semester of
11 their freshman year. These students must schedule an additional Phys. Ed. (.250)
12 course or substitute (.500) course the second semester of their freshman year.
13 Students who have selected the substitute option the first semester of their
14 freshman year must take Phys. Ed. the second semester. Students who change to
15 the Career Center sequence and do not schedule a Phys. Ed. or substitute course
16 the second semester of their freshman year will not be eligible to take a Phys. Ed.
17 course during their scheduled Career Center periods.
18

19 * The Graduation Project will be recorded the student's senior year. The
20 course titled Senior Project will be graded Pass/Incomplete and will not count
21 towards a student's GPA.
22

CAREER CENTER SEQUENCE

GRADE 9	GRADE 10	GRADE 11	GRADE 12
English (1)	English (1)	English (1)	English (1)
Math (1)	Math (1)	Math (1)	Science (1)
Social Studies (1)	<input type="checkbox"/> Social Studies (1)	Social Studies (1)	Social Studies (1)
Science (1)	<input type="checkbox"/> Science (1)	Science (1)	* Graduation Project (1) Pass/Incomplete
Phys. Ed (.250)	Phys. Ed (.250)	Phys. Ed (.250)	Phys. Ed (.250)
	Career Center (3)	Career Center (2.5)	Career Center (2.5)
Health (.500)			
Computer Technology (1) - course will include On-Line, Electronic Search Strategies and Career Awareness material.			
Elective (1.5) It is recommended that a student take physical education as one of their elective courses.			
**Minimum credits taken (7.25)	Minimum credits taken (7.25)	**Minimum credits taken (6.75)	**Minimum credits taken (6.75)
			Total Credits needed for Graduation – 28.00

Students who want to pursue a Career Center Sequence and fail a course in Grades 9, 10 or 11 are not eligible to “give-up” a Career Center period to make up a failed course. Career Center students who fail a course in grades 9, 10, or 11 will have the option to attend summer school or take a correspondence course to meet credit deficiencies.

* The Graduation Project grade will be recorded the student's senior year.

** Minimum credits taken by students in grades 9 through 12 who pursue the Career Center Sequence vary due to the wide range of options students have at each grade level. All Career Center students will be required to successfully complete 28.000 credits for graduation.

RATIONALE FOR CAREER CENTER SEQUENCE

The present sequence of required courses necessitates sophomores to take a Phys. Ed., Health, Math or Science course at Warren Area High School or the Career Center. This situation has placed a tremendous strain on staff and classroom space at these two schools. Sophomores from Eisenhower, Youngsville, and Sheffield are forced to “give-up” a period of Career Center in order to meet graduation requirements. This loss of a class period, the entire sophomore year, makes it very difficult for a Career Center student to complete and pass the competency requirements of the Career Center Program.

The proposed sequence would address these problems currently being faced by Warren Area High School and the Career Center. The proposed sequence would, more importantly, allow Career Center students to have 3 periods of Career Center during their sophomore, junior and senior years.

There would be, however, two exceptions in this sequence. Students from Eisenhower, Sheffield or Youngsville who elect to attend the Career Center and schedule Band would have to “give-up” a Career Center period in order to meet graduation requirements and take Band for credit. Currently, there are less than 15 students in this category, and allowing them to take a course at Warren Area High School would not create a burden to the staff or classroom space at

2
3 Warren Area High School or the Career Center. Tidioute students who are block
4 scheduled may also need to “give-up” a Career Center period to meet graduation
5 requirements.

6
7 **OPTIONS FOR CAREER CENTER STUDENTS**

8
9 The following options are available only to Career Center students from
10 Eisenhower, Youngsville, and Sheffield because they lose a period of instruction due
11 to travel their sophomore, junior and senior years.

- 12
13 1. Take two (2) Phys. Ed. courses or one (1) Phys. Ed. course and one (1)
14 substitute course their freshman year, if they participate in a District
15 sponsored sport or marching band. This would eliminate the need for a
16 sophomore Career Center student to take a course at Warren Area High
17 School and allow the student to take three periods of Career Center.
18
19 2. Take a second “required” social studies or science course their freshman year
20 to free up a semester during their sophomore year. The open semester would
21 allow Career Center students to take two (2) Phys. Ed. courses their
22 sophomore year or one (1) Phys. Ed. course and one (1) substitute course, if
23 they participate in a Warren County School District sponsored sport or
24 marching band. All courses during the sophomore year would be taken at the
25 home school.
26
27 3. Career Center students in grade 11 would have the following Phys. Ed.
28 options available: 1) Defer Phys. Ed. to their senior year and take two (2)
29 Phys. Ed. courses their senior year. 2) Participate in a WCSD sponsored
30 sport or marching band their junior year to attain their Phys. Ed. credit. The
31 course that would be substituted for Phys. Ed. would be the third period of
32 Career Center. 3) Defer Phys. Ed. to their senior year and take one (1) Phys.
33 Ed. course and one (1) substitute course, if they participate in a WCSD
34 sponsored sport or marching band.
35
36 4. Each year Career Center students who elect to take band for credit at the
37 home school will:

38
39 1) “Give-up” a Career Center period in order to meet all requirements for
40 graduation. 2) Schedule a course at Warren Area High School. 3) Be required to
41 sign an agreement that they will fulfill all Career Center competency requirements in
42 two (2) periods in order to receive 3 Career Center credits.

43
44 Adoption Date - April 8, 2002
45 Revised: January 12, 2004 – Second Reading
46 Practice -
47 Legal Reference - Chapter 4 – Academic Standards and
48 Assessment – January 1999.
49 Cross Reference - 9145, 9190