

## **Policy 613 GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

### **I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to set forth requirements for graduation from the school district.

### **II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

The policy of the school district is that all students entering Grade 9 in the 2013-2014 school year and later must demonstrate, as determined by the school district, their satisfactory completion of the credit requirements and their understanding of academic standards. The school district must adopt graduation requirements that meet or exceed state graduation requirements established in law or rule.

A. The minimum credit requirements for high school graduation are:

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Full Year Credits</u>
Language Arts	4
Social Studies (including all State requirements)	3.5
Mathematics (including all State requirements)	3
Science (including all State requirements)	3
Physical Education	1
Arts	1
Health	.5
Electives	7
TOTAL	23 credits

These twenty-three (23) graduation credits may be earned in grades nine, ten, eleven and twelve during the regular school year or during summer school sessions.

All students must meet Minnesota graduation and graduation assessment requirements in accordance with the timeline established by the School Board and /or the State. Exemptions to this requirement will be granted in accordance with State Rule and Law.

### **III. EARLY COMPLETION OF HIGH SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS**

Students may be considered for early graduation, as provided for within Minn. Stat. § 120B.07, upon meeting the following conditions:

- A. All course or standards and credit requirements must be met;
- B. The principal or designee shall conduct an interview with the student and parent or guardian, familiarize the parties with opportunities available in post-secondary education, and arrive at a timely decision; and

- C. The principal's decision shall be in writing and will be reported to the superintendent with possible review by the school board.

Early completion of graduation requirements will be permitted, but there will be only one graduation ceremony held at Northfield High School and one graduation ceremony held at the Alternative Learning Center, both traditionally held at the end of the academic year.

#### **IV. GRANTING OF DIPLOMA**

- A. Upon completion of graduation requirements specified in this Policy 613 Graduation Requirements, a student will be granted a standard high school diploma.
- B. The academic standards for language arts, mathematics, and science apply to all students except students with extreme cognitive or physical impairments for whom an IEP team has determined that the required academic standards are inappropriate. An IEP team that makes this determination must establish alternative standards.
- C. Students who have or will have successfully completed graduation requirements by the last day of the school year may participate in the commencement program and receive a diploma. Students who are one-half semester credit short of either the required courses or of the total credits required may also participate in commencement but will not receive a diploma until all graduation requirements are completed. Any student who is more than 1/2 credit short of either requirement is not allowed to participate in commencement.

#### **Policy 613 Graduation Requirements**

Adopted: 1/14/2008; Revised: 9/23/13; Revised: 04.13.2020

School Board

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 659

Northfield, Minnesota

**Legal References:** Minn. Stat. § 120B.02  
Minn. Stat. § 120B.018  
Minn. Stat. § 120B.021  
Minn. Stat. § 120B.023  
Minn. Stat. § 120B.024  
Minn. Stat. § 120B.07 (Early Graduation)  
Minn. Stat. § 120B.11  
Minn. Stat. § 120B.125  
Minn. Stat. § 120B.30  
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0640-3501.0655 (Academic Standards for Language Arts)  
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0700-3501.0745 (Academic Standards for Mathematics)  
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0800-3501.0815 (Academic Standards for the Arts)  
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0900-3501.0955 (Academic Standards in Science)  
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.1300-3501.1345 (Academic Standards for Social Studies)  
U.S.C. § 6301, et seq. (Every Student Succeeds Act)

**Cross References:** Policy 104 (School District Mission Statement)  
Policy 614 (Mandated Testing)  
Policy 615 (Testing Accommodations, Modifications, and Exemptions for IEP, Section 504, and ELL Students)

