

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS (Opt Out)

Students entering ninth grade on or after July 1, 2010, and before July 1, 2016, may qualify for participation in the graduation requirements Opt Out program. Eligible students may graduate without having completed the requirements for graduation prescribed by State law. Students wishing to participate in this program must have attended high school for two years.

A student wishing to participate and his or her parent(s) or guardian must sign and file written consent to the student's graduating without completion of the requirements for graduation and acknowledgement that one consequence of failure to complete the requirements for graduation is ineligibility to enroll in most state universities in Ohio without further course work.

The minimum requirements for graduation from high school under the Opt Out are as follows.

### Minimum

English Language Arts	4 units
Social Studies, including one-half unit of American History and one-half unit of American Government	3 units
Science, including one unit each in Physical Science and Biology *	3 units
Mathematics **	4 units
Health	½ unit
Physical Education	½ unit
Electives ***	<u>5 units</u>
Total	20 units

\* The required science units must include inquiry-based laboratory experience that engages students in asking valid scientific questions and gathering and analyzing information.

\*\* One of the four required units must be one of the following: probability and statistics, computer programming, applied mathematics or quantitative reasoning, or any other course approved by the Ohio Department of Education.

\*\*\* Each student's electives shall include at least one unit, or two half units chosen from among the areas of business/technology, fine arts, and/or foreign language.

The District retains the authority to increase these minimum requirements in compliance with State law. Under State law, the District may stipulate any of the following:

1. a minimum high school curriculum that requires more than 20 units of academic credit to graduate;
2. an exception to the District's minimum high school curriculum that is similar to the graduation requirements Opt Out, but with additional requirements, which may include the requirement that the student successfully complete more than the minimum curriculum listed above or
3. that no exception comparable to the graduation requirements Opt Out is available within the District.

The student and parent/guardian must also agree to fulfill any procedural requirements stipulated by the school to ensure informed consent and facilitate orderly filing of statements required under State law.

Additionally, participation in the program requires the student, the student's parent or guardian and a representative of the student's high school to jointly develop student success plan for the student. The student's success plan must specify that the student will do one of the following:

1. matriculate to a two-year degree program;
2. acquire a business and industry credential or
3. enter an apprenticeship.

The student's high school provides counseling and support for the student related to the student's success plan during the remainder of the student's high school experience.

(Approval date:)