



KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Assistant Superintendent

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October 26, 2009

TO: Board of Education
FROM: Dave Jones, Assistant Superintendent
SUBJECT: Proposed Policy Revisions

The following policies were reviewed by the Board Policy Committee on October 19, and are scheduled to be reviewed by the Board at both a Worksession and for first reading at the Board meeting on November 2, 2009.

These policies are now presented for a first read at the regular Board meeting. The administration recommends making the following changes to policy:

BP 6146.1 High School Graduation Requirements – Language eliminated which refers to graduations in year 2009 and beyond.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The purpose of graduation requirements is to set guidelines that will insure that each high school graduate is exposed to the depth and variety of learning experiences necessary for present and future social and economic survival. Graduation requirements should be specific enough to direct students into major curricular areas and yet flexible enough to provide for individual student's abilities and needs. Completion of these requirements should be viewed as a minimal educational experience to be enriched through the selection of additional courses of student's choice.

Time Requirements

Students must attend high school (Grades 9-12) for a period of four years, eight semesters, or sixteen quarters unless they receive Board approval for an alternative program.

Credit Requirements

A total of 22 units composed of those requirements listed below and successful completion of all parts of the State of Alaska, High School Graduation Qualifying Examination:

1. Language Arts - 4.0 credits
2. Mathematics - 3.0 credits
3. Social Studies - 3.0 credits ~~{(World History - 1.0, U.S. History - 1.0, Government - 0.5, Social Studies Elective - 0.5 (Alaska Studies - 0.5 are required for class of 2009 and beyond))}~~
4. Science - 3.0 credits which must include 1.0 credit life science and 1.0 credit physical science.
5. Physical Education - 1.0 credit with the option of waiving 1/2 credit for cocurricular participation
6. Health - .5 credit
7. Practical and/or Creative Arts - 3.0 credits of practical or creative arts with a minimum of .5 practical arts and .5 creative arts credit
8. Electives - 4.5 credits or more may be taken as electives

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS (continued)

Optional Methods Of Satisfying Requirements

1. Students will be allowed to waive the elective 1/2 credit physical education graduation requirement through participation in athletic activities sponsored by the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District.
2. The student must substantiate that they have participated in a minimum of 4,050 minutes (67.5 hours) in order to receive a waiver.
3. The student will not receive credit for the physical education waiver but rather, will have their elective physical education requirement decreased by 1/2 credit, thus enabling them to take additional courses in another area.
4. The 1/2 physical education elective credit may be waived by participating in, and completing in good standing, District sponsored athletic activities. Such activities must be completed during a time period not to exceed a single school year and the preceding or following summer. Other activities outside of the School District, verified by a certified teacher employed by the District, may meet the waiver requirement provided the activity meets the same time requirements as listed above.
5. Vigorous athletic activities not sponsored by the District may be considered for a waiver if students meet the minimum time requirements and are supervised by a certified teacher or individuals approved by ASAA.

(cf. - 6146.8 Diplomas)

Legal Reference:

ALASKA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

4 AAC 06.075 *High school graduation requirements*