

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

In order to achieve a high school diploma, a student must successfully pass the New Jersey High School Proficiency Assessment (HSPA) in language arts literacy and mathematics. A student who fails one or more portions of this assessment, must attend a remedial program until he/she demonstrates mastery of the proficiency.

The Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) is a group of 19 states working together to develop a common set of computer-based K-12 assessments in English language arts literacy (ELA) and math linked to the new more rigorous Common Core State Standards (CCSS).

Beginning with the graduating class of 2016, new competency assessments (PARCC) will be used to determine student achievement in English language arts literacy (ELA) and mathematics. The high school ELA exams will be given at the end of the grade (for grades 9, 10, and 11). The high school math exams will be given at the end of the course (Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2). In addition to the end of grade/course exam (EOY), there will be mid-year assessments and performance-based assessments (PBA) administered to students in these courses.

For more information about PARCC, visit <http://www.parcconline.org>.

The New Jersey Biology Competency Assessment has already replaced the science component of the HSPA.

*****The New Jersey Department of Education has not yet indicated when proficiency on the PARCC exams will be required for graduation.***

In addition, all students are required to have a **minimum of 125** credits in order to earn a diploma.

- 4 years of English (20 credits)
- 4 years of Physical Education (3.75 credits/year) and Health (1.25 credits/year)
- 3 years of Mathematics (15 credits)
The credits are to include Algebra 1 and Geometry, and a third year of math that builds on the concepts and skills of Algebra and Geometry and prepares students for college and 21st century careers.
- 3 years of Science (15 credits) to include Biology
The credits are to include Lab Biology, Lab Chemistry and/or Physics and/or Environmental Science; plus a third laboratory/inquiry-based science.

Beginning with the graduating class of 2020 (current 7th grade students), AP Science classes will earn 7 credits and Level I, II, & III Science classes will earn 6 credits.

- 3 years of Social Studies (15 credits)
The credits are to include World Cultures, US History 1, and US History 2.
- 1 year of World Language (5 credits)
- 1 year of Visual or Performing Arts (5 credits)
- 1 year of 21st Century Life and Careers (5 credits)
- 1 semester of Financial Literacy (2.5 credits)

Technology literacy, consistent with the Core Content Curriculum Standards, is to be integrated through the curriculum.

The remaining credits should be selected to provide the student with a well-rounded program to prepare for post-secondary educational opportunities, immediate employment, and/or adult citizenship.

As the New Jersey Department of Education continues to disseminate information on the Core Curriculum Content Standards and the assessment strategies to measure mastery, the staff in the North Warren Regional School District will continue to review and revise local courses of study, as needed. It is possible that future communications from the Department of Education will require additions to the graduation requirements listed above or modifications of individual student schedules. In the event that any such changes are needed, students and parents will be contacted by their school counselor. The North Warren Regional School District will maintain its commitment to offer the programs necessary to all students to ensure their preparation for any mandated assessment.