

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

1. Required Areas of Study

Each student must earn 16.5 credits distributed among the required areas of study as specified below:

	Total	Specifics	
Arts	1.0	Visual, performing and applied arts	1.0
English Language Arts	4.0	English 9 (Gr. 9)	1.0
		English 10 (Gr. 10)	1.0
		English electives (Gr. 11)	1.0
		English electives (Gr. 12)	1.0
Health	0.5	Health & Wellness (Gr. 10-12)	0.5
Mathematics	4.0	Algebra I	1.0
		Geometry	1.0
		Algebra II	1.0
		Mathematics elective (Gr. 12)	1.0
Physical Education	1.0	Personal Fitness (Gr. 9-12)	0.5
		*Physical Education elective (Gr. 9-12)	0.5
Science	3.0	Biology	1.0
		Chemistry or Physics	1.0
		Science elective	1.0
Social Studies	3.0	World History & Geography	1.0
		United States History & Geography	1.0
		United States Government	0.5
		Economics	0.5
Online		Online course experience (documentation of 20 hours)	

*Students may waive the physical education elective requirement of one-half unit of credit with one of the following options:

- a. successful participation in one interscholastic sport;
- b. participation in a cheerleading squad for one inter-scholastic season;
- c. successful participation in two seasons as a member of the Symphony Band marching program,
or
successful participation in one season of the Symphony Band marching program and two seasons of the Concert Band marching program.

A waiver of one term of required physical education shall not be construed as reducing the total number of credits needed for graduation as specified in this policy.

The grade-level requirements contained in this policy shall not apply to Community High School or to the Roberto Clemente Student Development Center. Due to the unique nature of these alternative schools, the sequence of courses in the curriculum may vary. However, the curriculum of these schools must be directed toward student acquisition of the State's High School Content Expectations and fulfillment of the established graduation requirements.

2. Total Credits

Each student shall be required to earn a total of at least 22 credits.

3. Requirements for Foreign Exchange

International exchange students who qualify for senior status and desire a diploma from the Ann Arbor Public School district must earn 4.0 credits distributed as follows:

American Literature (0.5)	United States History (1.0)
Additional English Elective (0.5)	Additional electives (1.5)
United States Government (0.5)	

4. Requirements for Transfer Students

Transfer students must meet the Ann Arbor Public Schools graduation requirements and must earn at least 4.0 units of credit in an Ann Arbor Public School.

5. Michigan Merit Exam

Participation in the Michigan Merit Exam is required for graduation from the Ann Arbor Public Schools. The test is offered in the Spring of 11th grade. Students who do not have a valid score from 11th grade have another opportunity to take the exam in the 12th grade.

IMPLEMENTATION OF GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

1. VISUAL, PERFORMING & APPLIED ARTS

Credit earned in any of the following courses may be applied toward the visual, performing & applied arts requirements.

Career & Technology Education

Cosmetology
Drafting I, II
Drafting, Architectural
Drafting, Computer Aided I, II, III
Graphic Communications I, II
Graphic Communications, Advanced
Homebuilding
Hospitality Today
Interior Design
Technology, Machine Tool
Technology, Metal
Technology, Physical
Foods
Interior Design

Dance

Dance

Theater †

Acting I, II
Theater I
Theater Design I, II
Theater, Musical

Music

All Music Courses

Visual Arts

All Art Courses

2. ENGLISH 9

Each student must earn one credit in 9th Grade English. Credit earned in English 9 or English 9 Intensive may be applied toward the one credit English 9 requirement. CHS students, please see CHS section of the guide.

3. ENGLISH 10

Each student must earn one credit in 10th Grade English. Credit earned in any of the following courses may be applied toward the one credit English 10 requirement. CHS students, please see CHS section of the guide.

English 10/English 10 Intensive

Humanities, African-American
English AC

4. LITERATURE

During grades 11–12, each student must earn at least two credits in English. Credit earned in any of the following courses may be applied toward the one credit literature requirement. CHS students, see CHS section of the guide.

All Literature Courses
English AC
English Literature & Composition, AP
Film I, Literature as

Film II
Humanities, African-American
Literature AC
Humanities, Literature AC

5. ADDITIONAL ENGLISH

Each student must earn additional credit in English. This course may be a non-literature elective, but may not be any speech course. Writing for Publication: Newspaper or Writing for Publication: Yearbook.

NOTE: Students may use a combination of two of the following business services technology courses to satisfy the of elective English Language Arts graduation requirement. Business courses may not be used to satisfy the literature requirement.

Business Courses

Business Technology I
Business Applications

May Be Substituted for

1/4 unit of English Elective
1/4 unit of English Elective

6. CTE COURSES

Students are permitted to use the following courses to meet graduation requirements:

Web Page Design I (Digital/Multimedia and Information Resources Design)—APPLIED ART CREDIT (.5)

Web Page Design II (Digital/Multimedia and Information Resources Design)—APPLIED ART CREDIT (.5)

Marketing –ENGLISH CREDIT (.5 credit for completing both semesters)

Marketing –ECONOMIC CREDIT (.5 credit for completing both semesters)

Accounting I – Math Related (4th year of math) --.5 Credit

Accounting II – Math Related (4th year of math) --.5 Credit

NOTE: See #25 regarding waivers.

7. HEALTH

Each student must earn one-half credit in Health & Wellness.

8. MATHEMATICS

Each student must earn required credits in mathematics. The student must take a math or math-related course in the senior year.

Computerized accounting 1, 2 and Computerized science 1 & 2.

9. ALGEBRA I Each student must earn one credit in first-year algebra. Credit earned in any of the following courses may be applied toward the requirement. Students must pass the final common assessment for the course.

NOTE: Students may earn Algebra I credit, if successfully completed, in middle school and will be reflected on the high school transcript.

Algebra I
Algebra I - 1/3, 2/3, 3/3 (combined) Algebra I – 1/4, 2/4, 3/4, 4/4 (combined)

10. GEOMETRY Each student must earn one credit in Geometry. Credit earned in any of the following courses may be applied toward the requirement. Students must pass the final common assessment for the course.

Geometry
Geometry AC Geometry - 1/3, 2/3, 3/3 (combined)

11. ALGEBRA II

Each student must earn one credit in Algebra II. Credit earned in any of the following courses may be applied toward the requirement. Students must pass the final common assessment for the course.

Algebra II
Algebra II AC Algebra II - 1/3, 2/3, 3/3 (combined)
Algebra II – 1/4, 2/4, 3/4, 4/4 (combined)

12. PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Each student must earn one credit in physical education; one-half of that credit must be in the required Personal Fitness course. The other one-half of that credit must be in a physical education elective.

†A dance course may be used to meet the physical education elective requirement or the arts requirement, but not both.

13. BIOLOGY

Each student must earn one credit in Biology. Students must pass the final common assessment for the course. Credit earned in any of the following courses may be applied toward the requirement.

Biology
Biology – 1/3, 2/3, 3/3 (combined) Biology, AP
Science, Integrated I & II

14. CHEMISTRY OR PHYSICS

Each student must earn one credit in chemistry or physics. Students must pass the final common assessment for the course. Credit earned in any of the following courses may be applied toward the requirement.

Chemistry
Chemistry: Sustainable/Green
Chemistry, Advanced:
Sustainable/Green
Chemistry, AP Science, Integrated I & II
Physics
Physics C: Mechanics, AP
Physics, Conceptual

15. ADDITIONAL SCIENCE

Each student must earn additional credit in science. Credit earned in any of the following courses may be applied toward the requirement.

Biology, AP
Earth Science
Ecology & Resource Management
Geophysical Science Geophysical Science AC
Physics†
Physics, AP†
Physics, Conceptual†
†A physics course may be used to meet the physics requirement or the additional science requirement, but not both.

16. UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Each student must earn one-half credit in United States Government.

Government, U.S.
Government & Politics, U.S. AP
Civics & Economics, Real World I

17. WORLD HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY

Each student must earn credit in World History & Geography. Credit earned in any of the following courses may be applied toward the requirement.

History & Geography, World
History & Geography, World-Early

History & Geography, World-Modern
History & Geography, World - Survey

18. UNITED STATES HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY

Each student must earn one credit in United States History & Geography. Credit earned in any of the following courses may be applied toward the requirement.

History, American Studies AC
History, U.S. AP
History, U.S. – Minority Perspective

History & Geography, U.S.
Humanities, African-American History AC

19. ECONOMICS

Each student must earn one-half credit in economics. Credit earned in any of the following courses may be applied toward the requirement.

Civics & Economics, Real World II
Economics

Economics, Global

20. ONLINE COURSE EXPERIENCE

Each student must document their online experience of at least 20 hours in core academic courses or in online courses.

Online classes: The class is delivered 100% entirely online. A fact-to-face orientation and face-to-face proctored tests are required.

Blended classes: The class is a blend of face-to-face classroom instruction and online instruction. Students attend the face-to-face section during scheduled class time and work both with the instructor both in person and in the virtual environment.

Note about math courses:

The online and blended math courses are self-paced and use mastery learning instructional and assessment methods. Using web-based intelligent software, students receive math explanations and practice problems from the course objectives. They are given periodic assessments where they demonstrate mastery. The face-to-face, direct instruction uses a holistic approach where students can see where math objectives fit into the larger picture.

The 100% online class is most successful with students who very confident in their math skills and wish to advance a level in math by completing a full-year course in one semester or during the summer.

The blended class can be successful with students who have difficulties performing well on tests even though they attend class and complete homework assignments. The weekly cumulative assessments provide needed memory and math skill practice.

21. WAIVERS

In order to maintain rigorous academic standards while assuring responsiveness to the needs of students for flexibility in meeting Ann Arbor's curricular requirements, the Ann Arbor Board of Education affirms its support for a process to review and grant waivers from the required curriculum in the middle and high schools.

The objectives of some required courses may be met through successful completion of certain courses in other departments. Students may waive the physical education elective requirement of one-half unit of credit with one of the following options:

- a. successful participation in one interscholastic sport;
- b. participation in a cheerleading squad for one inter-scholastic season;
- c. successful participation in two seasons as a member of the Symphony Band marching program, or successful participation in one season of the Symphony Band marching program and two seasons of the Concert Band marching program.

A waiver of one term of required physical education shall not be construed as reducing the total number of credits needed for graduation as specified in this policy.

If a student is granted a permanent medical waiver, he/she must take Sports Medicine.

1. Community Resource Program. A student and parent may develop and submit a plan to the Principal or designee to waive a graduation requirement by engaging in activities that meet the educational intent of the required course.

2. Mastery of Course Outcomes. Students may request a waiver of a course required for graduation if they are able to demonstrate mastery of the outcomes of the course. Examples of ways in which students may demonstrate mastery are successful completion of the course final exam, (cont'd)

and/or successful completion of an oral examination, or submission of a written project, testing out or portfolio demonstrating mastery. In every case, a plan must be prepared and submitted to the Principal or designee of the home school for review and approval prior to proceeding with the activity.

3. Legal Requirements. Consistent with guidelines from the State Board of Education and Public Act 226 (1977), parents have a right to excuse their child, without penalty, from participating in the reproductive health portion of the Health & Wellness course. Parents wishing to exercise this option need only submit a written request to the appropriate school administrator.

Courses which are required by state legislation or the State Board of Education (i.e. American Government) may not be waived.

GENERIC FOUR YEAR PLAN WORKSHEET

Each school will provide a more detailed worksheet for you to complete

Goals are essential to planning your career. They serve as a road map, giving you a destination and a route. With a concrete path, you will be able plan for and achieve the career of your choice. There is no better time to plan for your future than now. To help you along the way, complete the four-year high school plan using graduation requirements and electives that support your career pathway. Include work-related experience in your plan. As you gain new experiences, you may find the need to revise your plan. Remember that this plan should reflect your interests and abilities and should be INDIVIDUALIZED TO MEET YOUR NEEDS.

Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
1 st TERM	1 st TERM	1 st TERM	1 st TERM
1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2
3	3	3	3
4	4	4	4
5	5	5	5
6*	6*	6*	6*
7*	7*	7*	7*
2 nd TERM	2 nd TERM	2 nd TERM	2 nd TERM
1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2
3	3	3	3
4	4	4	4
5	5	5	5
6*	6*	6*	6*
7*	7*	7*	7*
3 rd TERM*	3 rd TERM*	3 rd TERM*	3 rd TERM*
1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2
3	3	3	3
4	4	4	4
5	5	5	5

*where applicable

SUMMARY OF REQUIRED COURSES – DISTRIBUTION OF CREDITS

2011 & Beyond	2011 & Beyond	2011 & Beyond
1.0 Arts	1.0 Algebra I	1.0 Biology
1.0 English (Gr. 9)	1.0 Algebra II	1.0 Chemistry or Physics
1.0 English (Gr. 10)	1.0 Geometry	1.0 Science elective
1.0 English (Gr. 11)	1.0 Mathematics elective (Gr. 12)	0.5 United States Government
1.0 English (Gr. 12)	0.5 Personal Fitness	1.0* United States History (& Geography*)
0.5 Health	0.5 Physical Education elective	1.0 World History & Geography
		0.5 Economics