

SECTION: **STUDENTS**

TITLE: **HIGH SCHOOL PROMOTION AND GRADUATION**

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| <p>1. Authority</p> <p>2. Guidelines</p> | <p>The Board has established this policy to specify the Wilson Area High School promotion and graduation requirements.</p> <p><u>Minimum Coursework Requirements by Grade</u></p> <p>Students are required to schedule five credits of coursework each year at minimum, and to pass five credits of coursework in order to advance to the next level. A total of 22.5 credits must be earned in order for a student to graduate.</p> <p>Grade 9 – 5 credits Grade 10 – 5 credits Grade 11 – 5 credits Grade 12 – 5 credits Extra credits to be taken any time grade 9-12 – 2.5 credits Total required for graduation – 22.5 credits</p> <p>Students are required to schedule a minimum of five majors per year and an overall minimum of 26 periods per week. Seniors will be required to pass a minimum of 4 full credit courses in the senior year regardless of their cumulative total to be eligible to participate in graduation ceremonies.</p> <p><u>Minimum Program Requirements</u></p> <p>1. The minimum high school program shall include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• English – 4 units of credit• Social Studies – 3 units of credit (to include American Cultures 1 and 2, and World Cultures)• Science – 4 units of credit (to include Biology and three other science courses)• Mathematics – 4 units of credit (to include Algebra 1) Algebra 1 completed at the Intermediate School fulfills this requirement but does not count as a graduation credit.• Arts or Humanities – 2 units of credit• Health and Physical Education – 1.4 units of credit• Electives – 4.1 units of credit <p>Graduation Project – Students must demonstrate the ability to</p> |
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apply, analyze, synthesize, and evaluate information and communicate significant knowledge and understanding.

PA Core Standards and PA Academic Standards – Students must demonstrate proficiency in the PA Core Standards and PA Academic Standards. The Keystone Exam will be used to determine the level of proficiency. Beginning with the class of 2017, students must demonstrate proficiency in Algebra 1, Biology, and Literature Keystone Exams or project-based assessment.

Total – 22.5 credits required for graduation

2. A unit of credit for graduation purposes shall consist of a planned course of 120 hours of instruction. Courses of less than 120 hours will be awarded fractional credit: courses of more than 120 hours of instruction will be awarded fractionally more than 1 credit. No course may be counted more than once to meet graduation requirements.

All full year classes that meet a minimum of 5 times per week will receive one full credit. Additional credit is offered as follows:

- Full year classes that meet 6 times/week – 1.2 credits
- Full year classes that meet 7 times/week – 1.4 credits

3. Arts and humanities credits may be earned in art, industrial arts, home economics, music, band, chorus, foreign languages, and additional courses in English and social studies.
4. Credits for electives may be earned in art, industrial arts, home economics, music, band, chorus, foreign languages, business education, computer courses, and vocational-technical education. The completion of a full year's course at the vocational-technical school shall count as 3 credits toward graduation.
5. Computer courses do not count toward the credit requirements for science or mathematics.
6. Students participating in off campus classes, which are not part of the Wilson Area High School curricular offerings, shall take the courses for personal enrichment, college credit, or curriculum diversification. Such courses would not have grades included in the cumulative GPA.
Supplanting a Wilson Area High School curricular graduation requirement could be approved if the option meets or exceeds the rigors of the high school curricular requirements. Such approved courses would have grades incorporated into the student cumulative GPA. An approved off-campus course, such as an approved college academic course, would receive equal treatment to a WAHS weighted course. Approved courses would equate as follows:

- one semester approved college course - .5 High School credit
- two semesters approved college course – 1.0 High School credit

7. The minimum standard for passing a course for the year is to establish a final average of 60% or greater. Grades on a report card reflect that each marking period grade equals 20% of the final average, while the mid-term and final exam equate to the final 20%. Courses with no final exams are averaged with only four grades, each equal to 25% of the final average.

8. Students must obtain a minimum of (1) 5 credits to be promoted to grade 10; (2) 10 credits to be promoted to grade 11; and (3) 15 credits to be promoted to grade 12. A student who has not met promotion requirements and is retained as a senior shall not be afforded the opportunity to participate in trips or other activities beyond the initial year in senior homeroom.

Students will be able to regain class privileges if evidence at the end of the first semester indicates that the credit deficiency is being eliminated. The change in status will take place only after administrative review.

9. Students who do not earn the minimum graduation requirements are ineligible to participate in the graduation ceremonies. Such students will be awarded their diplomas upon completion of the necessary requirements and will be given the option of participating in a subsequent commencement exercise.

Transfer students will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis as to their eligibility for participation in graduation ceremonies.