September 3, 2014

TO: Santa Clara County Board of Education

FROM: Darcie Green, Chair, Policy Development Subcommittee

VIA: Jon R. Gundry, County Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: First Reading of Revised Board Policy 6146.1

Associated Goals

GOAL 4: Improve organizational effectiveness and efficiency

Background

On August 13, 2014 the Policy Development Subcommittee met and approved the revision of the following Board Policy:

BP 6146.1 High School Graduation Requirements
Policy updated to reflect NEW LAW (AB 216) which requires districts to exempt from any district-adopted graduation requirements a foster youth who transfers into the district or between district high schools after completing his/her second year of high school, unless the district finds that the youth is reasonably able to complete the requirements in time to graduate by the end of his/her fourth year of high school. Policy also reflects NEW LAW (AB 97) which redirects into the LCFF funding for supplemental instruction for students who do not demonstrate "sufficient progress" toward passing the high school exit examination (without eliminating the district's responsibility to provide supplemental instruction for such students) and funding for intensive intervention and services for students who have not passed one or both parts of the exit exam by the end of grade 12.

Fiscal Implications

The proposed revisions have no fiscal implications.
Santa Clara County Office of Education
Board Policy
High School Graduation Requirements

BP 6146.1
Instruction

The Santa Clara County Board of Education (County Board) desires to prepare all students to obtain a high school diploma to enable them to take advantage of opportunities for postsecondary education and/or employment.

(cf. 5127 - Graduation Ceremonies and Activities)
(cf. 5147 - Dropout Prevention)
(cf. 5149 - At-Risk Students)
(cf. 6143 - Courses of Study)
(cf. 6146.3 - Reciprocity of Academic Credit)

Course Requirements

To obtain a high school diploma, beginning with the class of 2016-17, students shall complete at least the following courses in grades 9-12, with each course being one year unless otherwise specified:

1. Forty Units in English Language Arts Three courses in English (Education Code 51225.3)
   (cf. 6142.91 - Reading/Language Arts Instruction)

2. Twenty Units Two courses in mathematics (Education Code 51225.3)
   At least one mathematics course, or a combination of the two mathematics courses required for completion in grades 9-12, shall meet or exceed state academic content standards for Algebra I. (Education Code 51224.5)
   Completion, prior to grade 9, of Algebra coursework that meets or exceeds state academic content standards shall satisfy the Algebra coursework requirement, but shall not exempt a student from the requirement to complete two mathematics courses in grades 9-12. (Education Code 51224.5)
   (cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)
   (cf. 6142.92 - Mathematics Instruction)

3. Twenty units Two courses in science, including biological and physical sciences (Education Code 51225.3)
4. **Thirty units** Three courses in social studies, including United States history and geography; world history, culture, and geography; a one-semester course in American government and civics; and a one-semester course in economics (Education Code 51225.3)

(cf. 6142.3 - Civic Education)
(cf. 6142.93 - History-Social Science Instruction)

5. **Ten units** One course in visual or performing arts, foreign language, or American Sign Language or career technical education (CTE) (Education Code 51225.3)

(cf. 6142.2 - World/Foreign Language Instruction)
(cf. 6142.6 - Visual and Performing Arts Education)
(cf. 6178 - Career Technical Education)
(cf. 6178.2 - Regional Occupational Center/Program)

6. **Twenty units** Two courses in physical education, unless the student has been otherwise exempted pursuant to other sections of the Education Code (Education Code 51225.3)

(cf. 6142.7 - Physical Education and Activity)

7. Ten units in computer applications

8. Ten units in life skills, health and HIV/AIDS prevention

9. Ten units that fulfills a service learning requirement

(cf. 6142.4 - Service Learning/Community Service Classes)

10. Ten units that requires senior students to complete a senior multidisciplinary project.

11. Forty units in general electives

Santa Clara County Office of Education students will complete 220 units for graduation, effective June 2017.

Because the prescribed course of study may not accommodate the needs of some students, County Board shall provide alternative means for the completion of prescribed courses in accordance with law.

(cf. 6146.11 - Alternative Credits Toward Graduation)
(cf. 6146.2 - Certificate of Proficiency/High School Equivalency)

The County Superintendent or Superintendent’s designee shall exempt or waive specific course
requirements for foster youth or children of military families in accordance with Education Code 51225.1 and 49701.

(cf. 6173.1 - Education for Foster Youth)
(cf. 6173.2 - Education for Children of Military Families)

High School Exit Examination

As a condition for high school graduation, each student completing grade 12 shall have successfully passed the state exit examination in language arts and mathematics as a condition of high school graduation unless he/she receives a waiver or exemption. (Education Code 60851, 60859)

(cf. 6146.4 - Differential Graduation and Competency Standards for Students with Disabilities)
(cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)
(cf. 6162.52 - High School Exit Examination)

Supplemental instruction shall be offered to any student in grade 7-12 who does not demonstrate "sufficient progress," as defined in Board policy 6179 - Supplemental Instruction, toward passing the exit exam. (Education Code 37252, 60851)

(cf. 5148.2 - Before/After School Programs)
(cf. 6164.2 - Guidance/Counseling Services)
(cf. 6176 - Weekend/Saturday Classes)
(cf. 6177 - Summer School)
(cf. 6179 - Supplemental Instruction)

Students who have not passed one or both parts of the exit exam— all state and local graduation requirements— by the end of grade 12 except one or both parts of the exit exam shall be informed of educational options available within the SCCOE and/or the community to enable them to continue their progress toward a high school diploma or the equivalent of a diploma. shall have the opportunity to receive intensive instruction and services for up to two consecutive academic years after completion of grade 12 or until they have passed both parts of the exam, whichever comes first. (Education Code 37254)

(cf. 1312.4 - Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures)
(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)
(cf. 6164.2 - Guidance/Counseling Services)
(cf. 6158 - Independent Study)
(cf. 6181 - Alternative Schools/Programs of Choice)
(cf. 6184 - Continuation Education)

Certificates of Completion

Students who have passed all SCCOE's course-graduation requirements by the end of their senior year but are unable to pass the high school exit exam shall receive a certificate of completion.
Grade 12 except one or both parts of the exit exam also are eligible to receive a certificate of completion or comparable form of recognition to indicate that they have completed the required course of study.

The County Superintendent or Superintendent’s designee shall regularly report to the County Board regarding the number of students who have fulfilled all local and state graduation requirements except for the passage of the exit exam receiving a certificate of completion and the resources that have been offered to such students.

Retroactive Diplomas

The SCCOE may retroactively grant a high school diploma to a former student who was interned by order of the federal government during World War II or who is an honorably discharged veteran of World War II, the Korean War, or the Vietnam War, provided that he/she was enrolled in a SCCOE school immediately preceding the internment or military service and he/she did not receive a diploma because his/her education was interrupted due to the internment or military service. (Education Code 51430)

The SCCOE also may retroactively grant a diploma to a deceased former student who satisfies the above conditions. The diploma shall be received by the deceased student's next of kin. (Education Code 51430)

Legal Reference:
EDUCATION CODE
35186—Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures
37252 Supplemental instructional programs
37254 Supplemental instruction based on failure to pass exit exam by end of grade 12
37254.1 Required student participation in supplemental instruction
47612 Enrollment in charter school
48200 Compulsory attendance
48412 Certificate of proficiency
48430 Continuation education schools and classes
48645.5 Acceptance of coursework
49701 Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children
51224 Skills and knowledge required for adult life
51224.5 Algebra instruction
51225.1 Exemption from district graduation requirements
51225.2 Pupil in foster care defined; acceptance of coursework, credits, retaking of course
51225.3 Requirements for High school graduation
51225.5 Honorary diplomas; foreign exchange students
51228 Graduation requirements
51240-51246 Exemptions from requirements
51250-51251 Assistance to military dependents
51410-51412 Diplomas
51420-51427 High school equivalency certificates
51450-51455 Golden State Seal Merit Diploma
51745 Independent study restrictions
52378 Supplemental school counseling program
56390-56392 Recognition for educational achievement, special education
60850-60859 High school exit examination
66204 Certification of high school courses as meeting university admissions criteria
CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5
1600-1651 Graduation of students from grade 12 and credit toward graduation
COURT DECISIONS

Management Resources:
WEB SITES
CSBA:  http://www.csba.org
California Department of Education, High School: http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/gshs
University of California, List of Approved a-g Courses:
http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/freshman/requirements

Policy adopted: October 21, 2009
Policy revised: May 16, 2012

SANTA CLARA COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION
San Jose, California
Santa Clara COE
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(cf. 6142.3 - Civic Education)
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5. Ten units in visual or performing arts, foreign language, or American Sign Language or career technical education (Education Code 51225.3)

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(cf. 6142.6 - Visual and Performing Arts Education)

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