

NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: GRADUATION
REQUIREMENTS

ADOPTED: March 10, 1997

REVISED: August 9, 2010

217. GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS	
1. Purpose	It shall be the policy of the Board to acknowledge each student's successful completion of the instructional program appropriate to the student's interests and needs by the award of a diploma or certificate at fitting graduation ceremonies.
2. Authority Title 22 Sec. 4.24, 4.52	The Board shall adopt the graduation requirements students must achieve, which shall include course completion and grades, completion of a culminating project, and as of 2008-09, satisfactory results of district and/or state assessments aligned with academic standards.
SC 1611, 1613 Title 4.13, 4.24 Pol. 100, 102	The Board shall award a regular high school diploma to every student enrolled in this district who meets the requirements of graduation established by this Board, its Strategic Plan and the Pennsylvania Department of Education.
SC 1614 Title 22 Sec. 11.27 Pol. 113	The graduation requirement for students with disabilities will be the same as those for students without disabilities unless the IEP team has determined that these requirements are inappropriate for the student. In such a case, the IEP team will delineate the student's educational program. If the IEP team has determined that a student with a disability should continue to receive special education beyond the fourth year of high school, that student shall be permitted to participate in graduation ceremonies with his/her class, but shall not be issued a diploma until s/he has completed his/her program.
SC 1613 Pol. 102, 127	The requirement for graduation shall be the completion of work and studies representing the instructional program and academic standards, course and project completion and results of required assessments assigned to grades 9 through 12. The Board shall identify the planned courses which are required for graduation. These written plans shall be on file in the district and shall be made available upon request for review by the designated representatives of the Department of Education.
SC 1613 Pol. 102, 127	A requirement for graduation shall be the completion of required assessments, work, and studies representing the instructional program assigned to grades 9 through 12, which are aligned to established academic standards.

<p>Title 22 Sec. 4.24</p>	<p>To be eligible to earn a diploma from Northern Lehigh High School, a student must earn twenty-four (24) credits in the following subjects:</p>																	
	<table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><u>SUBJECTS</u></th> <th style="text-align: right;"><u>CREDITS</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>English</td> <td style="text-align: right;">4.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mathematics</td> <td style="text-align: right;">4.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Science</td> <td style="text-align: right;">3.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Social Studies</td> <td style="text-align: right;">3.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Arts & Humanities*</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wellness & Fitness</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Technology</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Electives</td> <td style="text-align: right;">4.0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>NOTE: Consumer Life Skills, Civics: Government and Economics, Introduction to Software Concepts, and Introduction to Computer Applications must be passed for graduation. Beginning with the 2004-2005 school year, Concert Band and Concert Choir each earn 0.25 credits per semester.</p> <p>EXCEPTION: Introduction to Computer Application is waived for Lehigh Career & Technical Institute students.</p> <p>*Lehigh Career & Technical Institute credits may be used to fulfill A & H credits.</p> <p>Beginning with the 2004-2005 school year, half-day Lehigh Career & Technical Institute students will receive two (2) credits per semester and can earn a total of four (4) credits per school year.</p> <p>In addition, to receive a high school diploma, each student must:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Successfully complete a graduation project according to school district approved criteria. 2. Attain an overall grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 in grades 9-12. <p>It should be noted that students, in an effort to improve their GPA, may retake any course for a higher grade. This would include courses which a student previously passed or failed. Thus, the highest grade received in a course would be recorded on the student's transcript and be used in the calculation of the student's grade point average. (The lower grade is expunged.) However, additional credit for courses that are retaken will not be given.</p>	<u>SUBJECTS</u>	<u>CREDITS</u>	English	4.0	Mathematics	4.0	Science	3.0	Social Studies	3.0	Arts & Humanities*	2.0	Wellness & Fitness	2.0	Technology	2.0	Electives
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Students may take replacement courses for a higher grade:

1. In a subsequent semester at Northern Lehigh during the school year.
2. From a summer school program approved by the high school principal.
3. From a correspondence school program approved by the high school principal.
4. From a night school program approved by the high school principal.
5. From any other educational program approved by the high school principal.

Under extreme and/or extenuating circumstances, a student may petition the principal for a waiver not to include certain academic performances in the calculation of the overall grade point average. The principal's decision is determined based on the individual circumstances.

Grade Point Average

The Northern Lehigh School Board authorizes a system for calculating grade point averages upon credits attempted and grades received for students in grades 9 through 12. All courses are used in GPA calculations. Numerical averages are assigned point values as follows:

<u>Numerical Average</u>	<u>GPA Point Value</u>
93-100	4.00
90-92	3.66
87-89	3.33
83-86	3.00
80-82	2.66
77-79	2.33
73-76	2.00
70-72	1.66
67-69	1.33
63-66	1.00
60-62	0.66
Below 60	0.00
WF	0.00
* (SEE NOTE)	

<p>3. Delegation of Responsibility Pol. 213, 216</p> <p>Pol. 212</p> <p>SC 1613</p> <p>SC 1504</p> <p>4. Guidelines</p>	<p>NOTE: *.167 is added to a student’s cumulative GPA for every honors or AP class the student has taken.</p> <p>No student who has completed the requirements for graduation shall be denied a diploma as a disciplinary measure, but s/he may be denied participation in the ceremony of graduation when personal conduct so warrants. Such exclusion shall be regarded as a school suspension.</p> <p>The Superintendent shall develop procedures for implementing this policy which include the careful recording of the student's attainment of academic standards and accumulation of graduation requirements and:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Counsel students to know what is expected of them for completion of academic standards and their schooling. 2. Issue periodic warnings to students in danger of not fulfilling graduation requirements. 3. Preparation and submission to the Board for its approval a list of all candidates for the award of a diploma. 4. Preparation of suitable diplomas. 5. Planning and execution of graduation ceremonies which fittingly mark this important achievement. <p>The Board shall encourage community involvement in the recognition of student achievement through their continuing support of the Senior High School Scholarship Fund drive.</p> <p>Other awards and recognition may be given as deemed appropriate by the high school principal.</p> <p>It is suggested that trophies, letters, pins, certificates and other forms of recognition for athletic, music and other typical activities to those qualifying, including announcement of names, be given at times such as award assemblies rather than at graduation ceremonies.</p>
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SC 1611	<p><u>Diplomas For Eligible Veterans</u></p> <p>In order to recognize and honor veterans who left high school prior to graduation to serve in World War II and the Korean War, the Board shall grant a diploma to a veteran who completes the required application and meets the following requirements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Was honorably discharged from the Armed Forces of the United States of America.2. Served in the United States military between September 16, 1940, and December 31, 1946, and between June 25, 1950, and July 27, 1953.3. Attended high school and would have been a member of a graduation class during 1941 through 1953, but did not graduate due to entry into military service.4. Is a current resident of this district or attended high school in this district or a predecessor of this district. <p>Upon proper application, the Board may award a diploma posthumously to a veteran who meets the stated requirements.</p> <p>The Superintendent shall submit to the Board for its approval the names of veterans eligible for a high school diploma.</p> <p>References:</p> <p>School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 1504, 1611, 1613, 1614</p> <p>State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 4.13, 4.24, 4.51, 4.52, 11.4, 11.5, 11.8, 11.27</p> <p>Board Policy – 100, 102, 113, 127, 212, 213, 216</p>
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