

OLD FORGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: GRADUATION
REQUIREMENTS

ADOPTED: November 29, 1985

REVISED: April 17, 2019

217. GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS	
1. Purpose	The Board will acknowledge each student's successful completion of the instructional program appropriate to the student's interests and needs by awarding a diploma at 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 results of district and state assessments.
SC 1611, 1613 Title 22 Sec. 4.13, 4.24 Pol. 100	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 as part of the district's Strategic Plan.
SC 1613 Pol. 102, 127	A requirement for graduation shall be the completion of work and studies representing the instructional program assigned to grades 9 through 12, which are aligned to established academic standards.
SC 1614 Title 22 Sec. 11.27 Pol. 113	The Board may permit an identified student with a disability to participate in graduation ceremonies with his/her graduating class, even though the student will not be granted a diploma and will continue to receive educational services.
Title 22 Sec. 11.4, 11.8	The Board requires that each candidate for graduation shall have earned 23.6 credits. The fourth year of high school shall not be required for graduation if a student has completed all requirements for graduation and attends a postsecondary institution as a full-time student.
Title 22 Sec. 11.5, 11.8	A student may qualify for graduation by attending a district school part-time when officially enrolled part-time in a postsecondary institution.
3. Delegation of Responsibility	The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible for planning and executing graduation ceremonies that appropriately recognize this important achievement.
4. Guidelines Pol. 213, 216	Accurate recording of each student's achievement of academic standards shall be maintained, as required by law and state regulations.

<p>Pol. 212</p>	<p>Students shall be informed of graduation requirements they are required to complete.</p> <p>Periodic warnings shall be issued to students in danger of not fulfilling graduation requirements.</p> <p>A student who has completed the requirements for graduation shall not be denied a diploma as a disciplinary measure, but the student may be denied participation in the graduation ceremony when personal conduct so warrants. Such exclusion shall be regarded as a school suspension.</p> <p>A list of all candidates for the award of a diploma shall be submitted to the Board for its approval.</p> <p>A list of all graduating students shall be submitted to the Board for its information and release to the public.</p> <p><u>Graduation Requirements</u></p> <p>Students in grades 9 through 12 are required to carry a minimum of five (5) major subject credits during each academic year. However, it is recommended students carry six (6) major subject credits.</p>																
<p>Title 22 Sec. 4.24</p>	<p>Satisfactory completion of the graduation project is required.</p> <p>Students in grades 9-12 must successfully complete one course in Family Consumer Science and one course in Survey of the Arts.</p> <p>Meeting the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania graduation requirement.</p> <p><u>Credits Needed For Graduation</u></p> <table data-bbox="454 1417 852 1711"> <tr> <td>English</td> <td>4.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Math</td> <td>3.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Science</td> <td>3.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>History</td> <td>3.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Art/Humanities</td> <td>2.4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P.E./Health</td> <td>1.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Electives</td> <td>6.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td><hr/>Total</td> <td><hr/>23.6*</td> </tr> </table> <p>* Students enrolled in a vocational program may have a different combination of credit requirements.</p>	English	4.0	Math	3.0	Science	3.0	History	3.0	Art/Humanities	2.4	P.E./Health	1.6	Electives	6.6	<hr/> Total	<hr/> 23.6*
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<p>Pol. 215</p>	<p>Students in grades 9-12 must take one course in Personal Finance, as a requirement for graduation.</p> <p><u>Summary</u></p> <p>Students must successfully complete the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. 23.6 credits.2. Graduation Project.3. Family Consumer Science and Survey of the Arts.4. Personal Finance.5. Meeting the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania graduation requirement.6. All specific requirements for graduation. <p><u>Promotion Recommendations</u></p> <p>Students in grades 9 through 12 will be retained if four (4) courses are failed during a school year. Homeroom assignments do not indicate the student's current grade level, nor does it guarantee the student will meet graduation requirements at the end of twelfth grade. Students not attending summer school to make up failed courses are at risk of not graduating. Parents/Guardians and students should review carefully the promotion requirements contained in the Parent/Student Handbook.</p> <p>In order for a student to receive a diploma after four (4) years of attendance, all graduation requirements must be satisfied. To assist parents/guardians and students in determining the progress of the student toward graduation, the following guidelines are suggested:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Grade 9 – a student should carry a minimum of five (5) major credits and a satisfactory grade in Physical Education.2. Grade 10 – a cumulative total of eleven (11) major credits and a satisfactory grade in Health and Physical Education should be earned by the completion of grade 10.3. Grade 11 – a cumulative total of seventeen (17) major credits earned and a satisfactory grade in Physical Education, Family Consumer Science, and Survey of the Arts should be earned by the completion of grade 11.
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Title 22
Sec. 4.24

4. Grade 12 – a cumulative total of twenty-three and six tenths (23.6) credits earned and a satisfactory grade in Physical Education should be earned by the completion of grade 12.

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Graduation Requirement

Beginning with the Class of 2022, the following options exist to meet the statewide graduation requirement:

- **Keystone Proficiency Pathway:** Scoring proficient or advanced on each Keystone Exam - Algebra I, Literature, and Biology.
- **Keystone Composite Pathway:** Earning a satisfactory composite score on the Algebra I, Literature, and Biology Keystone Exams (while achieving at least a proficient score on at least one of the three exams and no less than a basic score on the remaining two). No later than July 30, 2019, the Secretary shall recommend, and the State Board of Education shall approve, the satisfactory composite score.
- **Alternate Assessment Pathway:** Successful completion of locally established grade based requirements for academic content areas associated with each Keystone Exam on which the student did not achieve proficiency **and** one of the following:
 - Attainment of an established score on an approved alternate assessment (SAT, PSAT, ACT, ASVAB);
 - Gold Level on the ACT WorkKeys Assessment;
 - Attainment of an established score on an Advanced Placement Program or an International Baccalaureate Diploma Program exam in an academic content area associated with each Keystone Exam on which the student did not achieve at least a proficient score;
 - Successful completion of a concurrent enrollment course in an academic content area associated with each Keystone Exam in which the student did not achieve at least a proficient score;
 - Successful completion of a pre-apprenticeship program; or
 - Acceptance in an accredited 4-year nonprofit institution of higher education and evidence of the ability to enroll in college-level coursework.
- **Evidence Based Pathway:** Successful completion of locally established grade-based requirements for academic content areas associated with each Keystone Exam on which the student did not achieve proficiency and demonstration of three pieces of evidence consistent with the student’s goals and career plans, including
 - One of the following:
 - Attainment of an established score on the ACT WorkKeys assessment, a SAT subject test, an Advanced Placement Program Exam, or an International Baccalaureate Diploma Program Exam;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Acceptance to an accredited nonprofit institution of higher education other than a 4-year institution and evidence of the ability to enroll in college level coursework; ▪ Attainment of an industry-recognized credential; or ▪ Successful completion of a concurrent enrollment or postsecondary course; and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Two additional pieces of evidence, including one or more of the options listed above, or: satisfactory completion of a service learning project; attainment of a score of proficient or advanced on a Keystone Exam; a letter guaranteeing fulltime employment; a certificate of successful completion of an internship or cooperative education program; or satisfactory compliance with the NCAA’s core courses for college-bound student athletes with a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.0. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CTE Pathway: For Career and Technical Education (CTE) Concentrators, successful completion of locally established grade-based requirements for academic content areas associated with each Keystone Exam on which the student did not achieve proficiency and attainment of an industry-based competency certification related to the CTE Concentrator’s program of study or demonstration of a high likelihood of success on an approved industry-based competency assessment or readiness for continued meaningful engagement in the CTE Concentrator’s program of study. <p>Students shall be permitted to retake any Keystone Exam, or Keystone Exam module, in which the student did not score proficient or above at the next available testing date.</p> <p>These end of course exams are to be administered at/near the end of that course for which content students are being tested. The exam grades will be independent of the final course grade for the student. Student participation is a requirement of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.</p> <p>A student with a disability who satisfactorily completes a special education program developed by an individualized education program team under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and 22 Pa. Code Ch. 14 (relating to special education services and programs) that does not otherwise meet the requirements of the Keystone Graduation requirement shall be granted and issued a regular high school diploma.</p>
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<p>SC 1611</p>	<p><u>Diplomas For Eligible Veterans</u></p> <p>In order to honor and recognize eligible veterans who left high school prior to graduation to serve in World War II or the Korean War, the Board shall grant a diploma to a veteran who meets the applicable requirements of law and completes</p>
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the required application.

Upon proper application, the Board may award a diploma posthumously to a veteran who meets the stated requirements.

The Superintendent shall submit to the Board for its approval the names of veterans of World War II and the Korean War who are eligible for a high school diploma.

References:

School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 1611, 1613, 1614

State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 4.13, 4.24, 4.52, 11.4, 11.5, 11.8, 11.27

Board Policy – 100, 102, 113, 127, 127.1, 212, 213, 215, 216