GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS/STANDARDS OF PROFICIENCY

Graduation from the schools of this district demonstrates that students have satisfactorily completed the prescribed courses of study in accordance with their respective abilities to achieve, that they have satisfactorily passed any examinations and other requirements set by the faculty, and standards of proficiency as required by law and local policies.

It is expected that the instructional staff will apply measures of achievement to provide evidence that all students have progressed far enough toward school goals and objectives to warrant graduation, according to paragraph one above. It is also expected that students will achieve at levels which compare well with other high school graduates in the state and nation.

District Competency Requirements

District competency requirements will align with state requirements, and all students must pass the state High School Exit Exam in order to receive a diploma.

No student who has completed grades nine through twelve shall receive a diploma of graduation from high school if he/she has not completed:

1. At least the following number of courses in the subjects specified, each course having a duration of one year:
   a. Four courses in English at Nevada Union and Bear River beginning June, 2000 and thereafter, three courses in English at all alternative district sites through June 2002, thereafter four courses in English at all sites
   b. Three courses in mathematics. Beginning with the graduating class of 2004 and thereafter, all students in grades 7-12 must have taken a course or a combination of two courses in which content meets or exceeds the rigor of the content standards for Algebra I that are adopted by the State Board of Education
   c. Two courses in science, including biological and physical sciences
   d. Three courses in social studies, including United States history and geography; world history, culture and geography; and American government, civics and economics
   e. One course in visual or performing arts (the requirement could be met with one semester of each for a total of one year) or one year of a foreign language or one year of career technical education
   f. Two courses in physical education unless the student has been exempted pursuant to Education Code provisions
GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS/STANDARDS OF PROFICIENCY
(continued)

2. Other courses required by the Board:
   a. Health
   b. GSR (General State Requirements)

   These requirements may be met through enrollment in one or more "stand alone" courses that cover the state-adopted standards in these curricular areas or in other courses in which these same standards are embedded.

3. Students must complete a final exhibition consisting of the presentation of his or her Senior Project or Graduation by Portfolio during the last semester of the senior year. (This requirement must be met by the graduating class of 1999 and all succeeding classes).

4. Juniors and seniors may take no more than two of the following courses (or any combination thereof) during either semester: Teaching Assistant, Peer Tutoring, School Service, or an open period (seniors only) for a maximum of 20 credits toward graduation.

5. The total credits required for graduation are 220. These 220 credits include all of the requirements above, plus electives. Effective with the graduating class of 2011, the total credits required for graduation at Silver Springs High School and Sierra Foothill High School shall be 200 credits, including all of the requirements set forth above, plus electives. The total credits required at all other schools in the district shall remain 220 credits.

6. In order to receive a diploma from a comprehensive high school (Bear River or Nevada Union), students must have been enrolled in a comprehensive high school beginning no later than the second week following the opening of school in their year of graduation. In addition, they must be continuously enrolled in a comprehensive high school program for both the fall and spring semesters during the school year in which they expect to receive a diploma.

   However, on a case-by-case basis and with the written permission of the Superintendent or designee, exceptions can be made to grant a student a comprehensive school diploma when he/she has not attended his/her entire senior year at a comprehensive site.

   The Board, with the active involvement of parents, administrators, teachers and students, shall adopt alternative means for students to complete the prescribed course of study, which may include:
GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS/STANDARDS OF PROFICIENCY
(continued)

1. Practical demonstration of skills and competencies
2. Supervised work experience or other, outside school experience
3. Interdisciplinary study
4. Independent study
5. Earned credit at a postsecondary institution

The requirements for graduation and specified alternative modes for completing the prescribed course of study shall be made available to students, parents and the public.

Certificate of High School Achievement

A student is eligible to receive a "Certificate of High School Achievement" by satisfying all of the following requirements:

1. Complete all requirements for a standard diploma except for one or both of the following:
   a. The receipt of a passing score on the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE) or
   b. Successful completion of a course or combination of two courses in which content meets or exceeds the rigor of the content standards for Algebra I that are adopted by the State Board of Education

2. Be continuously enrolled in courses in which curriculum is designed to give the student an opportunity to attain the skills and knowledge otherwise needed to pass the CAHSEE and meet the Algebra I requirement.

Review of Graduation Requirements

At a minimum of every three years, district policy related to local curriculum requirements, course content, and course sequence shall be aligned to the standards adopted by the State Board of Education.
Review of Academic Progress Prior to Graduation

A program shall be established and maintained to ensure that each student, upon reaching the age of sixteen or prior to the end of the tenth grade, whichever occurs first, has received a systematic review of his/her academic progress and has received counseling on the options available to the student during the final two years of high school. The program shall provide for meeting with the student, and where feasible, with the student's parent/guardian, to explain the academic progress needed for satisfactory completion of high school. The program shall give first priority to identifying students who are not earning credits at a rate which will enable them to graduate with the rest of their class and to providing these students with counseling services.

Legal Reference: (see next page)
GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS/STANDARDS OF PROFICIENCY
(continued)

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
48980 Required notification at beginning of term
49701 Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children
51224 Skills and knowledge required for adult life
51224.5 Algebra instruction
51223.3 Requirements for 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
University of California, List of Approved a-g Courses:
http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/fresman/requirements

Policy
adopted: December 10, 1984
revised: January 15, 2003
revised: September 17, 2003
revised: February 15, 2006
revised: February 20, 2008
revised: October 13, 2010
revised: October 9, 2013

NEVADA JOINT UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
Grass Valley, California