

## Board Policy Review

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Tab	Policy Name and Number	Updated	New/Deleted	No Change Required
1	BP 6146.1	Updated due to addition of language to require completion of Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or California Dream Act application as a graduation requirement. Deletion of High School Exit Exam language		
2	AR6146.1	Updated due to addition of language to require completion of Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or California Dream Act application as a graduation requirement. Deletion of High School Exit Exam language		
3	AR 5123	Updated due to addition of language to require completion of Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or California Dream Act application as a graduation requirement. Deletion of High School Exit Exam language		

# Val Verde USD

## Board Policy

### High School Graduation Requirements

BP 6146.1

#### Instruction

The Board of Education 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. 6143 - Courses of Study)

(cf. 6146.3 - Reciprocity of Academic Credit)

#### Comprehensive and Virtual High School

#### Course Requirements

To obtain a high school diploma, students shall complete at least the following courses in grades 9-12, with each course being one year unless otherwise specified; successful completion of a minimum of 220 semester credits in ninth, tenth, eleventh, and twelfth grades:

1. Four courses in English (Education Code 51225.3)

(cf. 6142.91 - Reading/Language Arts Instruction)

2. Three 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)

Students may be awarded up to one mathematics course credit for successful completion of an approved computer science course that is classified as a "category c" course based on the "a-g" course requirements for college admission. (Education Code 51225.3, 51225.35)

(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)

(cf. 6142.92 - Mathematics Instruction)

(cf. 6152.1 - Placement in Mathematics Courses)

3. Three courses in science, including biological and physical sciences (Education Code 51225.3)

(cf. 6142.93 - Science Instruction)

4. 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. One course in visual or performing arts, foreign language, including American Sign Language, or career technical education (CTE) (Education Code 51225.3)

To be counted towards meeting graduation requirements, a CTE course shall be aligned to the CTE model curriculum standards and framework adopted by the State Board of Education.

(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. 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. 40 hours of community service is required for graduation from the comprehensive high school.

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

8. Completion of Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or California Dream Act application is required for graduation from the comprehensive or Virtual High School.

Continuation High School

Course Requirements

To obtain a high school diploma, students shall complete at least the following courses in grades 9-12, with each course being one year unless otherwise specified, Successful completion of a minimum of 200 semester credits in ninth, tenth, eleventh, and twelfth grades:

1. Three courses in English (Education Code 51225.3)

(cf. 6142.91 - Reading/Language Arts Instruction)

2. 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)

Students may be awarded up to one mathematics course credit for successful completion of an approved computer science course that is classified as a "category c" course based on the "a-g" course requirements for college admission. (Education Code 51225.3, 51225.35)

(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)

(cf. 6142.92 - Mathematics Instruction)

(cf. 6152.1 - Placement in Mathematics Courses)

3. Two courses in science, including biological and physical sciences (Education Code 51225.3)

(cf. 6142.93 - Science Instruction)

4. 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. One course in visual or performing arts, foreign language, including American Sign Language or career technical education (CTE) (Education Code 51225.3)

To be counted towards meeting graduation requirements, a CTE course shall be aligned to the CTE model curriculum standards and framework adopted by the State Board of Education.

(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. 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. 20 hours of community service is required for graduation from the continuation high school.

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

8. Completion of Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or California Dream Act application is required for graduation from the continuation high school.

Because the prescribed course of study may not accommodate the needs of some students, the 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)

(cf. 6142.4 - Differential Graduation and Competency Standards for Students with Disabilities))

The Superintendent or designee shall exempt or waive specific course requirements for foster youth or children of military families in accordance with Education Code 51225.3 and 49701.

(cf. 6173 - Education for Homeless Children)

(cf. 6173.1 - Education for Foster Youth)

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

#### Retroactive Diplomas

Until July 31, 2018, any student who completed grade 12 in the 2003-04 school year or a subsequent school year and has met all applicable graduation requirements other than the passage of the high school exit examination shall be granted a high school diploma. (Education Code 60851.6)

Senate Bill 172 suspends the administration of the CAHSEE for the 2015-16, 2016-17, and 2017-18 school years,

#### Legal Reference:

##### EDUCATION CODE

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  
51225.1 Exemption from district graduation requirements  
51225.2 Pupil in foster care defined; acceptance of coursework, credits, retaking of course  
51225.3 High school graduation  
51225.35 Mathematics course requirement; computer science  
51225.36 Instruction in sexual harassment and violence; district that require health education 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  
56390-56392 Recognition for educational achievement, special education  
60851.5 Suspension of high school exit examination  
60851.6 Retroactive diploma; completion of all graduation requirements except 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  
ASSEMBLY BILLS  
AB2160 Submitting GPAs for Cal Grants  
COURT DECISIONS  
O'Connell v. Superior Court (Valenzuela), (2006) 141 Cal.App.4th 1452

#### Management Resources:

##### WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Department of Education, High School <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/gs/hs>

University of California, List of Approved a-g courses:

<http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/freshman/requirements>

#### Policy VAL VERDE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

adopted: June 26, 2001 Perris, California

revised: May 10, 2011

revised: May 3, 2016

adopted: June 6, 2017

# Val Verde USD

## Administrative Regulation

### High School Graduation Requirements

AR 6146.1  
**Instruction**

Requirements for graduation and specified alternative means for completing the prescribed course of study shall be made available to students, parents/guardians and the public. (Education Code 51225.3)

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

Students shall not be required to have resided within the district for any minimum length of time as a condition of high school graduation. (Education Code 51411)

Students shall be required to complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or California Dream Act application as part of their high school graduation requirements. The student's high school will identify which students have fulfilled this requirement as indicated by the California Student Aid Commission Report that is generated weekly by the California Student Aid Commission for California high schools.

There may be a number of different reasons why some parents or students may not want to fill out either the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or the California Dream Act application therefore, these parents/students will have the option to fill out an "Opt Out Form" that would release them from fulfilling this graduation requirement. This form will be available at all of the high schools within Val Verde Unified School District.

Foreign exchange students may receive honorary diplomas pursuant to Education Code 51225.5.

Foreign exchange students will be exempt from completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or California Dream Act application requirement.

(cf. 6145.6 - International Exchange)

Students who complete all requirements for a high school diploma and demonstrate mastery of the curriculum in at least six subject matter areas may qualify for an honors diploma. (Education Code 51450, 51451)

The Golden State Seal Merit Diploma shall be issued to eligible students who demonstrate mastery of mathematics, English language arts, science, United States history and two subject matter areas selected by the student. (Education Code 51450, 51451)

(cf. 5126 - Awards for Achievement)

### Standards of Proficiency for the Classes of 2001-2003

Student progress toward proficiency in basic skills shall be assessed in English once during grades 7-9 and twice during grades 10-11. A separate assessment shall be made of the student's proficiency in each skill area, and a separate score given in each skill area.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide remedial instruction for any student who does not show adequate progress toward mastery of basic skills. This instruction may be provided in summer school and shall offer the student numerous opportunities to achieve mastery.

Notices shall inform a student's parent/guardian that the student shall not receive a high school diploma unless the prescribed standards are met.

Regulation VAL VERDE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Approved: June 26, 2001 Perris, California

Revised: June 6, 2017



# Val Verde USD

## Administrative Regulation

### Promotion/Acceleration/Retention

AR 5123  
**Students**

The Board of Education of the Val Verde Unified School District expects students to progress through each grade level within one school year. To accomplish this, instruction should accommodate the varying interests and growth patterns of individual students and include strategies for addressing academic deficiencies when needed.

Students shall progress through the grade levels by demonstrating growth in learning and meeting grade-level standards of expected student achievement.

#### ACCELERATION

The Superintendent may recommend a student for acceleration based upon:

1. Academic achievement
  - a. Grades/GPA
  - b. CAAASP results
2. Consideration of social and emotional growth

#### PROMOTION/RETENTION

Criteria for promotion, identification of at-risk, and retention are based on teacher grades, proficiency level of standards, district criterion reference tests, and teacher recommendation.

Students in grades 1, 2 and 3 shall be identified primarily on the basis of their level of proficiency in reading. Students in grades 4, 5 and 8 shall be identified in their level of proficiency in language arts, reading and math. Students shall be identified on the basis of grades and district assessments established by the Board. Promotion/Retention for Special Education students will also be addressed through the IEP process.

Criteria

Grades 1, 2, 3

Promotion:

Receives A,B,C, grade in Reading.  
Demonstrates competency with grade level standards.  
Teacher recommendation of proper placement.

Designated at Risk: (Identified each trimester - Placed into intervention)

Receives D or F grade in Reading.  
Demonstrates below basic competency in grade level standards.

Designated Retained: (Identified third trimester - Placed into intervention)

Receives a (F) grade in Reading.  
Demonstrates far below basic competency in grade level standards.

Grades 4, 5

Promotion:

Receives A, B, C, grade in Reading  
Receives A, B, C, grade in Math  
Receives A, B, C, grade in Language  
Demonstrates competency with grade level standards.

Designated at Risk: (Identified each trimester - Placed into intervention)

Receives D or F grade in Reading and/or  
Receives D or F grade in Math and/or  
Receives D or F grade in Language.  
Demonstrates below basic competency in grade level standards.

Designated Retained: (Identified third trimester - Placed into intervention)

Receives F grade in Reading. and/or  
Receives F grade in Math. and/or  
Receives F grade in Language.  
Demonstrates far below basic competency with grade level standards.

Grade 8

Promotion:

Demonstrates basic or above grade level competency of standards.  
Receives, A, B, C, D, grade in Language Arts, and Pre-Algebra/Algebra.

Designated at Risk: (Identified each Benchmark Period - Placed into intervention)

Receives D or F grade in Language Arts and/or Pre-Algebra/Algebra.  
Demonstrates below basic competency in grade level standards.

Designated Retained: (Identified Benchmark 5 and/or 6 - Placed into intervention)

Receives a combination of 6 or more F semester grades in core academic areas of Math, Language Arts, Science, and Social Science.

Standards Proficiency Levels: Determined by standards based multiple assessments in grades 1-5 and 8.

Outstanding Achievement - (A) Superior grade level knowledge and skills.

Above Average Achievement - (B) Grade level knowledge and skills.

Average Achievement - (C) Minimal grade level knowledge and skills.

Below Average Achievement - (D) Lacking grade level knowledge and skills.

Little or No Achievement - (F) Extremely lacking grade level knowledge and skills.

## HIGH SCHOOL COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Progress toward high school graduation shall be based on the student's ability to pass required subjects and electives necessary to earn the required number of credits. The current course requirements necessary to receive a diploma in the Val Verde Unified School District are listed in Table A below:

### REQUIREMENTS:

STATE (Ed. Code)

RVHS/CHHS (Comprehensive)

VVHS (Continuation, Success Academy Non Public Schools)

Virtual School (Independent Study) Non-Public Schools

### ENGLISH

30

40 (English I, II, III, IV)

30 (English I, II, III)

40 (English I, II, III, IV)

## MATH

20

20 (Algebra I, Geometry/Geometry Concepts)

20 (Algebra I, Geometry Concepts)

20 (Algebra I, Geometry/Geometry Concepts)

## SCIENCE

20

30 (Physical, Life, Elective)

20 (Life, Earth)

30 (Physical, Life, Elective)

## SOCIAL SCIENCE

30

30 (World Cultures, US History, Econ/Government)

30 (World Cultures, US History, Econ/Government)

30 (World Cultures, US History, Econ/Government)

## PHYSICAL ED.

20

20

20

20

## HEALTH

5

5

5

5

## FINE ARTS/ LANGUAGE

10

10

10

10

## ELECTIVES VOC ED. CAHSEE/Prep/STC

65

65

65

TOTAL

135  
220  
200  
220

COMMUNITY SERVICE

40 Hours  
10 Hours  
20 Hours

Completion of:  
Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or  
California Dream Act application  
(Foreign exchange students will be exempt from this requirement)

Promotion to Grade 10:  
Accumulation of 50 credits  
Completion of English I  
Progressing in Math  
\*\*

Promotion to Grade 11:  
Accumulation of 100 credits  
Completion of English II  
Progressing in Math

Promotion to Grade 12: (Diploma)  
Accumulation of 170 credits  
Completion of English III

Promotion to Grade 12: (Certificate)

Student may be awarded a Certificate of completion in lieu of a diploma by fulfilling state requirements other than the HSEE and completing 190 Credits

\*\* Retention in the 9th grade is limited to 1 year.

Retention/Intervention Strategies (Response to Intervention)

The identification of at-risk students shall be determined at each grading period. Site teams consisting of the principal and lead teachers designated by the principal will identify students.

Each site will notify in writing to the parents/guardians of each student identified to participate in an intervention program.

Intervention programs:

1. After School Programs
  - a. Reading Improvement
  - b. Math Improvement
  - c. Language Skills Improvement
2. Summer School Programs

Students determined to be retained shall participate in a summer school program targeted to improve levels of proficiency. \* An evaluation of each student will occur at the end of the summer school. Students who meet promotion criteria will be promoted to the next grade level. Students not meeting promotion criteria will be retained in their current grade level.

Promotion or retention of Special Education students is determined by current assessment of the Individualized Education Plan (IEP) by the IEP team and the approval of the Special Education Director.

\*When funding is available.

### Appeal Process

The teacher's decision to promote or retain a student may be appealed consistent with Board Policy, Administrative Regulation, and law. The burden shall be on the appealing party to show why the decision should be overruled.

To appeal a teacher's decision, the appealing party shall submit a written request to the Superintendent or designee specifying the reasons why the teacher's decision should be overruled. The appeal must be initiated within 10 school days of the determination of retention or promotion. The teacher shall be provided an opportunity to state in writing the criteria on which the decision was based.

Within 30 days of receiving the request, the Superintendent or designee shall determine whether or not to overrule the teacher's decision. Prior to making this determination the Superintendent or designee may meet with the appealing party and the teacher. If the Superintendent or designee determines that the appealing party has proven that the decision should be overruled, then the decision shall be overruled.

The Superintendent's or designee's determination may be appealed by submitting a written appeal to the Board within 15 days. Within 30 days of receipt of a written appeal, the Board

shall meet in closed session to decide the appeal. The Board's decision is made on the basis of written documentation prepared as part of the appeal process. The decision of the Board shall be final.

Regulation VAL VERDE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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