

Springfield Public Schools

DISTRICT RE-4

389 Tipton Street ♦ Springfield, CO 81073

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February 20, 2017

Dear Springfield Parents:

I write to report critical changes to graduation requirements affecting students graduating in 2021 and thereafter. Every student currently 8th grade or below will be affected by these changes. This has been mandated by the Colorado Department of Education.

In addition to the local credit requirements adopted by the Springfield School Board, students in the graduating class of 2021 and thereafter will be required to demonstrate College and Career-Readiness. This may be done in a variety of ways as illustrated on the attachment entitled Graduation Guidelines Fact Sheet. College and Career-Readiness is demonstrated by achieving a minimum score in English and Math in any of the menu of options listed on the Fact Sheet. The minimum scores need not be from the same test. For example, assume a student has the following scores:

- ACT: English 20, Math 18
- ASVAB: English 30, Math 30
- SAT: English 420, SAT Math 480

This student has demonstrated College and Career-Readiness because the ACT English score and the SAT Math score are both above the benchmark. College and Career-Readiness must only be demonstrated once in each subject to be eligible to graduate from Springfield High School. The demonstration will be half of the equation to graduate; the other half is to complete the prescribed coursework as identified by the attachment titled Graduation Requirements. This policy may also be found in the Jr/Sr High School student handbook.

Currently, Springfield High School offers the following measures: Accuplacer, ASVAB, Concurrent Enrollment, and SAT. Students will have access to these four measures to demonstrate College and Career-Readiness as part of their education at Springfield High School; and if need be, an individualized capstone project will be developed for students to demonstrate Career-Readiness. Students may attempt additional demonstrations at their expense, such as the ACT.

Please direct questions regarding these changes to Kyle Lasley at 523-6522.

Respectfully,



Kyle Lasley, Counselor
Springfield High School

Menu of College and Career-Ready Demonstrations

Local school boards establish high school graduation requirements that meet or exceed the Colorado Graduation Guidelines for the graduating class of 2021.

Local school boards and districts select from this menu to create a list of options that their students must use to show what they know or can do in order to graduate from high school, beginning with the graduating class of 2021. School districts may offer some or all of the state menu options, may raise a cut score on an included assessment and may add graduation requirements in other content areas. Graduation Guidelines begin with the implementation of: Individual Career and Academic Plans (ICAP), Colorado Academic Standards for all content areas including Civics, and 21st Century Skills.

Districts have the authority to adapt the college and career demonstrations necessary to earn a standard high school diploma to accommodate for students with the following exceptions: English learners, gifted students and students with disabilities.

Students must demonstrate college or career readiness in English and math based on at least one measure.

MENU OF OPTIONS. This menu lists the minimum scores required.

ACCUPLACER	
English	Math
62 on Reading Comprehension	61 on Elementary Algebra
ACCUPLACER is a computerized test that assesses reading, writing, math and computer skills. The results of the assessment, in conjunction with a student's academic background, goals and interests, are used by academic advisors and counselors to place students in a college courses that match their skill levels.	
ACT	
English	Math
18 on ACT English	19 on ACT Math
ACT is a national college admissions exam. It measures four subjects - English, reading, math and science. The highest possible score for each subject is 36.	
ACT Compass	
English	Math
79	63
The ACT COMPASS is a computerized test that helps colleges evaluate students' skills and place them in appropriate courses. It offers tests in reading, writing, math, and English as a second language.	
ACT WorkKeys - National Career Readiness Certificate	
English	Math
Bronze or higher	Bronze or higher
ACT WorkKeys is an assessment that tests students' job skills in applied reading, writing, mathematics and 21st century skills. Scores are based on job profiles that help employers select, hire, train, develop and retain a high-performance workforce. Students who score at the bronze level (at least 3) in applied mathematics, mapping and reading earn the ACT's National Career Readiness Certificate.	
Advanced Placement	
English	Math
2	2
AP exams test students' ability to perform at a college level. Districts choose which AP exams will fulfill this menu option. Scores range from 1 to 5 (highest).	
ASVAB	
English	Math
31	31
The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) is a comprehensive test that helps determine students' eligibility and suitability for careers in the military. Students who score at least 31 are eligible for service (along with other standards that include physical condition and personal conduct). Students who take the ASVAB are not required to enlist in the military.	

Concurrent Enrollment	
English	Math
Passing grade per district and higher education policy	Passing grade per district and higher education policy
Concurrent enrollment provides students the opportunity to enroll in postsecondary courses, simultaneously earning high school and college credit. School districts and institutions of higher education each determine passing grades for credit. A passing grade is determined by district and higher education policy for concurrent enrollment. An eligible concurrent enrollment course is 1) the pre-requisite directly prior to a credit-bearing course or 2) a credit-bearing course.	
District Capstone	
English	Math
Individualized	Individualized
A capstone is the culminating exhibition of a student's project or experience that demonstrates academic and intellectual learning. Capstone projects are district determined and often include a portfolio of a student's best work.	
Industry Certificate	
English	Math
Individualized	Individualized
Industry certificates are credentials recognized by business and industry. They are district determined, measure a student's competency in an occupation, and they validate a knowledge base and skills that show mastery in a particular industry.	
International Baccalaureate	
English	Math
4	4
IB exams assess students enrolled in the official IB Diploma Programme. Courses are offered only at authorized IB World Schools. Scores range from 1 to 7 (highest).	
SAT	
English	Math
430	460
The SAT is a college entrance exam that is accepted or required at nearly all four-year colleges and universities in the U.S. The current SAT includes sections on reading, writing and math. The highest possible score for each section is 800.	
Collaboratively-developed, standards-based performance assessment	
English	Math
State-wide scoring criteria	State-wide scoring criteria
<i>(In development)</i>	

Graduation Requirements:

English.....	4.0 units of credit
Math and Science.....	5.0 units of combined credit (Required combination of 3.0 math and 2.0 science <u>or</u> 2.0 math and 3.0 science)
Social Science.....	3.0 units of credit
General Business.....	1.0 unit of credit
P.E. or Band.....	2.0 units of credit
Life Skills.....	1.0 unit of credit
Computers.....	1.0 units of credit
Junior Projects.....	0.5 unit of credit
Speech.....	0.5 unit of credit

A minimum of 26.0 credits must be earned to graduate from Springfield HS. Of the 26.0 credits, a minimum of 18.0 must be the required courses on the list above. The additional courses are approved elective and/or approved college courses.

All courses are weighted the same with respect to awarding credit. All regular semester-length courses hold a value of 0.5 units or credits.