

## SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE MENOMONIE AREA

345.6

### GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The District believes that it is in the best interest of Menomonie High School students to experience the diversity and quality of the school's curriculum, which permits students to choose a high quality educational program. The District is committed to the success of all students. Students, teachers, the home, and the school share responsibility for the achievement of that success.

It is the District's responsibility to provide opportunities for students to learn the knowledge and skills identified by the state standards; to use multiple measures of assessment for instructional decision-making as well as for evaluating student learning; and to apply the best practices that the District knows about teaching and learning to maximize individual student learning.

The District awards diplomas to recognize students who have met certain academic requirements of the District. In order to graduate from Menomonie High School and receive a diploma, a student must satisfy the requirements set out in this policy. The policy requirements are grounded in the District's curriculum and state law requirements applicable to granting a diploma. The Menomonie High School educational program is designed to be completed in four years or eight semesters. Early graduation may be granted in accordance with District procedures.

Graduates from Menomonie High School shall complete a minimum number of credits to meet the graduation requirement as specified in the high school handbook. Beginning with the graduating class of 2013, the following minimum credit total shall be required for graduation:

Class of 2013	26 Credits
Class of 2014 and beyond	25 Credits

Credit totals shall be made up by a combination of required and elective credits. Included in the minimum course requirements for graduation is the successful completion of required credits as follows:

- |    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |     |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| a. | One and one half credits in physical education which incorporate instruction in the effects of exercise on the human body, health-related physical fitness, and activities for lifetime use.                                                           | 1.5 |
| b. | Four credits of English which incorporate instruction in written communication and oral communication, grammar, usage, and literature.                                                                                                                 | 4   |
| c. | Three credits of social studies which incorporate instruction in state and local governments.                                                                                                                                                          | 3   |
| d. | One credit during the freshman and sophomore years and one additional credit before graduation in mathematics which incorporate instruction in the properties, processes, and symbols of arithmetic and elements of algebra, geometry, and statistics. | 3   |

- e. Three credits of science, which incorporate instruction in the biological sciences and physical sciences. 3
- f. .5 credit in health education, which incorporates instruction in personal, family, community and environmental health. .5
- g. .5 credit in personal financial literacy (beginning with the graduating class of 2014). .5
- h. Remaining credits equal to, or exceeding the required credit total for graduation from Menomonie High School, shall be made up by selecting classes from available electives. Students are encouraged to select electives that represent a well-rounded balance of classes that include career and college readiness skills, life skills and an appreciation of the arts.

#### Wisconsin Civics Graduation Requirement

As required by Wisconsin state statute, any student graduating from a Wisconsin high school must take a civics test comprised of 100 questions that are identical to the 100 questions that may be asked of an individual during the process of applying for U.S. citizenship by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services and the pupil must correctly answers at least 60 of those questions. Students with IEPs must complete the test, but do not have to pass it in order to graduate. Students identified as LEP may take the test in their language of choice. A student may retake the civics test described until the pupil obtains the passing score required. The civics exam must be taken during the high school years. Each district may determine the format of the civics exam and when during the school year to administer the test. This requirement shall become effective beginning with the class of 2017.

Graduation requirements shall be modified by the high school principal upon recommendations of the individual education program (IEP) team for students with exceptional educational needs, student assistance team (SAT) and/or virtual education review team for regular education students. Youth options courses cannot be substituted for the required core graduation credits. Virtual education credits must be approved by the virtual education review team. Subject to evaluation by the high school principal, transfer credits from other high schools, vocational-technical colleges and accredited correspondence schools may be applied to meeting requirements. The high school principal is authorized to grant credits in appropriate subject areas for experience gained as a foreign exchange student. At the discretion of the high school principal, specific course requirements may be waived or modified, but the total credit requirements shall be met.

Adults twenty-one years (21) of age and older may be granted diplomas of graduation from Menomonie High School provided they meet requirements for the current graduating class.

Subject to evaluation by the high school principal, credits from other high schools, vocational-technical colleges, and accredited correspondence schools may be applied to meeting requirements.

This policy will be implemented in accordance with Federal and State laws which prohibit discrimination in graduation requirements on the basis of sex, race, religion, national origin, ancestry,

creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability. Discrimination complaints shall be processed in accordance with established procedure.

#### Mid-Year Graduation

Any student planning to graduate mid-term MUST make his or her intentions known, in writing, to the high school principal prior to May 1 of the year preceding his/her graduation (junior year). **In the event of extenuating circumstances as determined by the district, the May 1 deadline may be waived by the high school principal.** Having chosen to graduate at mid-year, it shall be understood that this includes severing not only academic ties, but also co-curricular and extracurricular activities. The student may, however, participate in the graduation ceremonies of his or her class.

#### Commencement Participation

Seniors who are unquestionably ineligible for graduation at the beginning of their senior year or at the end of the first semester of their senior year will be advised that they will not be permitted to participate in commencement activities. To be eligible for commencement participation, seniors must have accumulated all required credits as referenced in graduation requirements by the time of graduation. Exceptions may be made to the credit requirements for commencement participation by the administration for extraordinary circumstances such as long-term illness or serious accident.

#### Voluntary Community Service

All students who meet the graduation requirements and have performed a minimum of 75 hours of community service in a school-approved community service program will have an endorsement placed on their official transcript and diploma. The community service endorsement will be given without high school credit being granted.

LEGAL REF.: Sections 115.787 Wisconsin Statutes

115.915  
118.13  
118.15(1)  
118.153  
118.30  
118.33  
118.33(1m)(a)1  
118.33(1m)(a)2  
118.33(1m)(a)3  
118.33(1m)(a)4  
118.33(1m)(b)  
118.35  
118.52(3)(d)2  
118.55  
120.12(17)  
120.13(37)  
120.44(2)  
121.02(1)(p)

PI 13, Wisconsin Administrative Code  
PI 18  
PI 40

CROSS REF.: 343.3, Virtual Education

APPROVED: May 10, 1999

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January 12, 2009  
September 14, 2009  
August 8, 2011  
September 10, 2012  
November 9, 2015

/s/Tammy Schneider  
Clerk