

# GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

**Regular Diploma-** Awarded to students who have earned the prescribed 28 credits and have a satisfactory record of attendance and discipline.

Core Subjects	Number of Credits
English	4 (English I, II, III, IV)
Mathematics	4 (Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, one higher level math)
Science	3 (Biology, Chemistry or Physics, one additional lab science)
World History or Geography	1
US History	1
US Government	1/2 credit
Economics	1/2 credit
Physical Education and Health	1.5 (Lifetime Wellness and one additional ½ credit)*
Personal Finance	1/2 credit
<b>Elective Focus</b>	3 credits**
<b>University Admissions</b>	Students must complete two units of the same world language and one unit of fine/performing arts in order to meet college/university admission requirements.***
<b>Total</b>	<b>28****</b>

\*The additional ½ credit in Physical Education may be met by completing a Physical Education course (in addition to Lifetime Wellness) or by substituting a documented and equivalent time (minimum of 65 hours) of physical activity in SCHOOL SPONSORED activities such as marching band, NJROTC, cheerleading, dance, interscholastic athletics and other areas pre-approved by the local board of education.

\*\*The elective focus may be CTE (3 courses in the same CTE program area), Business Education, Science and Math, Humanities, Fine Arts, NJROTC, Advanced Placement, Dual Enrollment, Human Services, Physical Fitness or Community Education Cluster. Courses taken as part of the core subject requirement may not be used to fulfill the elective focus requirement.

\*\*\*Students not planning to attend university may waive the two units of world language and one unit of fine/performing arts to expand and enhance their elective focus.

\*\*\*\*Total credits required for graduation is 4 credits less than the potential number available in the master schedule of the student's school (or schools) during the four school years following the student's entry into ninth grade.

**Special Education Diploma** – To be awarded at the end of their fourth year of high school to students with disabilities who have (1) not met the requirements for a high school diploma, (2) have satisfactorily completed an individualized education program, and (3) have satisfactory records of attendance and conduct. Students who obtain the special education diploma may continue to work towards the high school diploma through the end of the school year in which they turn twenty-two years old.

**Honors Diploma** – Students who score at or above all of the subject area readiness benchmarks on the ACT or equivalent score on the SAT will graduate with honors. The ACT benchmarks are: ACT English – 18, ACT Math – 22, ACT Reading – 21, ACT Science Reasoning – 24

**Graduating With Distinction** – Students will be recognized as graduating with "distinction" by attaining a B (3.0) average and completing at least one of the following:

- ✓ Earn a nationally recognized industry certification
- ✓ Participate in at least one of the Governor's Schools
- ✓ Participate in one of the state's All State musical organizations
- ✓ Be selected as a National Merit Finalist or Semi-Finalist
- ✓ Attain a score of 31 or higher composite score on the ACT
- ✓ Attain a score of 3 or higher on at least two advanced placement exams
- ✓ Earn 12 or more semester hours or transcribed postsecondary credits

## Student Planning Guide

<b><u>Core Courses</u></b>	<b><u>Credit Earned</u></b>	<b><u>Enrolled</u></b>
English I	_____	_____
English II	_____	_____
English III	_____	_____
English IV	_____	_____
Algebra I	_____	_____
Geometry	_____	_____
Algebra II	_____	_____
4 <sup>th</sup> /Higher Math	_____	_____
Biology	_____	_____
Chemistry or Physics	_____	_____
Additional Lab Science	_____	_____
World History or Geography	_____	_____
US History	_____	_____
US Government	_____	_____
Economics	_____	_____
Lifetime Wellness	_____	_____
Additional Phys. Educ. or documented physical activity (1/2 credit)	_____	_____
Personal Finance (1/2 credit)	_____	_____

### **Elective Focus (Select one focus area- 3 credits)**

*Business Education	_____	_____
*Career and Technical Educ.	_____	_____
*Science and Math	_____	_____
*Humanities	_____	_____
*Fine Arts	_____	_____
*Advanced Placement	_____	_____
*Dual Enrollment Courses	_____	_____
*ROTC	_____	_____
*Physical Fitness	_____	_____
*Human Services	_____	_____
*Community Education Cluster	_____	_____

**University Admissions Requirements** (for students intending to enroll in a college or university after high school graduation. Students not intending to enroll in a college or university are not required to take these classes but must then expand their elective focus.)

World Language 1	_____	_____
World Language 2	_____	_____
Fine/Performing Art	_____	_____

### **Unspecified Elective Credits**

(approximately 6-9 credits)

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**CREDITS REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION = 28**