



# Tri-Valley School District 49-6



## Policy IKF: Graduation Requirements/Early Graduation

The Board desires that its standards for graduation meets or exceeds the minimum standards of the South Dakota Department of Education.

Under the Administrative rules of South Dakota all students in grades 9 through 12 must have a Personal Learning Plan. The Personal Learning Plan must document a minimum of 22 units of credit for graduation. Tri-Valley requires 24 credits for graduation.

### **HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS (base diploma)**

The following courses, according to the South Dakota Administrative Rules, will be required for students graduating during the 2020-21 school year and beyond:

<b>High School Graduation Requirements</b>		
<b>4 Units- Language Arts</b>	Must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writing</li> <li>• Speech or Debate</li> <li>• Literature (must include .5 unit of Am.Lit.)</li> </ul>	(1 Unit) (.5 Unit) (1 Unit)
<b>3 Units- Mathematics</b>	Must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Algebra I</li> </ul>	(1 Unit)
<b>3 Units- Science*</b>	Must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biology</li> </ul>	(1 Unit)
<b>3 Units- Social Studies</b>	Must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• U.S. History</li> <li>• U.S. Government</li> </ul>	(1 Unit) (.5 Unit)
<b>1 Unit</b>	<b>Any combination</b> of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approved Career and Technical Education</li> <li>• Capstone Experience</li> <li>• World Language</li> </ul>	
<b>1 Unit</b>	<b>Fine Arts</b>	
<b>.5 Unit</b>	<b>Personal Finance or Economics</b>	
<b>.5 Unit</b>	<b>Physical Education</b>	
<b>.5 Unit</b>	<b>Health or Health Integration</b>	
<b>5.5 Units</b>	<b>Electives</b>	
<i>* A state-approved advanced computer science course may be substituted for one unit of science, but may not replace Biology.</i>		

### **ADVANCED ENDORSEMENTS**

In addition to the base requirements for the High School Diploma, students may earn advanced endorsements that are in alignment with the student's personal learning plan.

Advanced endorsements outline specific coursework within the base diploma requirements to denote specific emphases. Students may earn one or more of three advanced endorsements:

**Advanced Endorsement:** Indicates a student has pursued coursework consistent with entrance requirement for postsecondary education at a university.

**Advanced Career Endorsement:** Indicates a student has career experience in a concentrated area, based on academic and/or workplace experience and a related credential.

**Advanced Honors Endorsement:** Indicates a student has pursued advanced rigorous, academic coursework consistent with South Dakota law requirements for opportunity scholarship eligibility.

<b>Advanced Endorsement Requirements</b>		
<b>4 Units- Language Arts</b>	Must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writing</li> <li>• Speech or Debate</li> <li>• Literature (must include .5 unit of Am.Lit.)</li> </ul>	(1 Unit) (.5 Unit) (1 Unit)
<b>3 Units- Mathematics</b>	Must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Algebra I</li> <li>• Geometry</li> <li>• Algebra II</li> </ul>	(1 Unit) (1 Unit) (1 Unit)
<b>3 Units- Science</b>	Must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biology</li> <li>• Laboratory Sciences</li> </ul>	(1 Unit) (2 Units)
<b>3 Units- Social Studies</b>	Must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• U.S. History</li> <li>• U.S. Government</li> </ul>	(1 Unit) (.5 Unit)
<b>1 Unit</b>	<b>Any combination</b> of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approved Career and Technical Education</li> <li>• Capstone Experience</li> <li>• World Language</li> </ul>	
<b>1 Unit</b>	<b>Fine Arts</b>	
<b>.5 Unit</b>	<b>Personal Finance or Economics</b>	
<b>.5 Unit</b>	<b>Physical Education</b>	

.5 Unit	Health or Health Integration	
5.5 Units	Electives	

Advanced Career Endorsement Requirements		
4 Units- Language Arts	Must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writing</li> <li>• Speech or Debate</li> <li>• Literature (must include .5 unit of Am. Lit.)</li> </ul>	(1 Unit) (.5 Unit) (1 Unit)
3 Units- Mathematics	Must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Algebra I</li> </ul>	(1 Unit)
3 Units- Science*	Must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biology</li> </ul>	(1 Unit)
3 Units- Social Studies	Must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• U.S. History</li> <li>• U.S. Government</li> </ul>	(1 Unit) (.5 Unit)
2 Units	<b>Any combination</b> of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approved Career and Technical Education units from the same career cluster</li> <li>OR</li> <li>• Capstone Experience</li> </ul>	
<b>Attainment</b>	An industry-recognized credential or National Career Readiness Certificate of Silver or higher	
1 Unit	<b>Fine Arts</b>	
.5 Unit	<b>Personal Finance or Economics</b>	
.5 Unit	<b>Physical Education</b>	
.5 Unit	<b>Health or Health Integration</b>	
4.5 Units	<b>Electives</b>	
* A state-approved advanced computer science course may be substituted for one unit of science, but may not replace Biology.		

Advanced Honors Endorsement Requirements		
All high school coursework completed with a "C" or higher		
4 Units- Language Arts	Must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writing</li> </ul>	(1.5 Units)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Speech or Debate</li> <li>• Literature (must include .5 unit of Am. Lit.)</li> <li>• Language Arts electives</li> </ul>	(.5 Unit) (1.5 Units) (.5 Unit)
<b>4 Units- Mathematics</b>	Must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Algebra I</li> <li>• Geometry</li> <li>• Algebra II</li> <li>• Advanced Mathematics</li> </ul>	(1 Unit) (1 Units) (1 Unit) (1 Unit)
<b>4 Units- Science</b>	Must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biology</li> <li>• Any Physical Science</li> <li>• Chemistry or Physics</li> <li>• Science electives</li> </ul>	(1 Unit) (1 Unit) (1 Unit) (1 Unit)
<b>3 Units- Social Studies</b>	Must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• U.S. History</li> <li>• U.S. Government</li> <li>• World History</li> <li>• Geography</li> <li>• Social Studies electives</li> </ul>	(1 Unit) (.5 Unit) (.5 Unit) (.5 Unit) (.5 Unit)
<b>2 Units</b>	<b>Any combination</b> of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approved Career and Technical Education OR</li> <li>• Modern or Classical Language (including American Sign Language); units must be in the same language</li> </ul>	
<b>1 Unit</b>	<b>Fine Arts</b>	
<b>.5 Unit</b>	<b>Personal Finance or Economics</b>	
<b>.5 Unit</b>	<b>Physical Education</b>	
<b>.5 Unit</b>	<b>Health or Health Integration</b>	
<b>2.5 Units</b>	<b>Electives</b>	

Academic core content credit may be earned by completing an approved career and technical education course. Approval to offer credit must be obtained through an application process with the Department of Education.

Students may be granted up to one credit in Fine Arts for participation in extracurricular activities. A maximum of  $\frac{1}{4}$  credit may be granted for each extracurricular activity each school year. Documentation of the alignment of the activity with SD Department of Education-approved fine arts content standards must first be made.

The Board may waive one or more graduation requirement for senior students who

transfer from another state, who have met the standards in the state, and who are unable to meet the graduation requirements set by the state board because of time and scheduling constraints but not due to course failure.

Any advanced endorsement earned must be listed on the high school transcript.

Students who are unable to meet the graduation requirements will not be permitted to participate in graduation exercises.

### **EARLY GRADUATION**

Students who will meet the graduation requirements by the end of their first semester senior year or final semester of the junior year must submit a letter of application to the Principal not later than the end of the first semester of the junior year. This letter must be signed by the student's parents and have the approval of the guidance counselor, at least one classroom teacher and the Principal. The student may be graduated early at the discretion of the Board.

Reviewed: 8/8/22

Board Approved: 9/12/22