EDUCATIONAL POLICIES OF POLICY: IKF-R

REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT NO 10 APPROVED: 8/13/18

**Graduation Requirements -- Regulations**

THE AWARDING OF A PROFICIENCY-BASED DIPLOMA -- TRADITIONAL

RSU10’s high school educational curriculum is designed to enable students to satisfy graduation requirements in four years through a sequence of learning experiences\* (courses) providing opportunities to gain and demonstrate proficiency in all of the content areas of the Learning Results and in the cross-content Guiding Principles of the Maine Learning Results.

Students following a traditional pathway must be enrolled in the equivalent of five full-year learning experiences/courses or integrated equivalents in each of their high school years.

1. MULTIPLE PATHWAYS TO THE AWARDING OF A PROFICIENCY-BASED DIPLOMA

Students may opt to pursue a high school diploma through additional pathways including:

Early college/dual enrollment courses

Career and technical education programming

Online/virtual learning

Apprenticeships, internships, and/or field work

Community service

Exchange programs

Independent study

Alternative education/”At Risk” programming

Adult education

Each pathway must provide a quality learning experience comparable in rigor to RSU10’s own educational experience (course) offerings.

In order to pursue one or more of the multiple pathways, a student must have a

Personal Learning Plan in place by the end of sophomore year and reviewed at the

end of junior year detailing how the pathway will provide exposure to the content

standards of the Learning Results and how the student will demonstrate proficiency in meeting the standards. The personal learning plan must be coordinated with the student

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and parent/guardian, and approved by the school counselor and principal (or designee).

Multiple Pathways to Career and College Ready

Students in RSU 10 will be considered College and Career Ready if they meet **one** of the following pathways:

**Pathway A:**

Minimum ACT Score (English - 18, Math - 22, Reading - 22 and Science - 23)

Or

Minimum SAT Score (Evidenced-Based Reading and Writing - 480 and Math - 530)

**Pathway B:**

Minimum 3.0 GPA

1 Academic Indicator

2 Career Indicators

**Pathway C:**

Minimum 2.5 GPA

Algebra II (4, 3, or 2.5)

1 Additional Academic Indicator

2 Career Indicators

**Pathway D:**

Minimum 2.5 GPA

Indication of College Acceptance or Enlisted in the Military

2 Career Indicators

Academic Indicators

* Advanced Placement Exam (3+)
* Advanced Placement Course (4, 3, or 2.5)
* Dual Credit Course (A, B, or C)
* Algebra II Proficiency (4, 3, or 2.5)
* International Baccalaureate Exam (4+)
* College Developmental/Remedial English and/or Math Course (4, 3, or 2.5)
* Minimum SAT Score
* Minimum ACT Score

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Career Indicators

* 90% Attendance
* 25 Hours of Community Service
* Workplace Learning Experience
* Industry Credential
* Two or More Organized Co-Curricular Activities
* Military Service (Including JROTC)

II. ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS APPLICABLE TO THE AWARDING OF A DIPLOMA FROM AN RSU 10 HIGH SCHOOL

1. Students Receiving Special Education Services

Students who achieve proficiency in the content standards of the Maine Learning Results and Guiding Principles, as specified in the goals and objectives of their Individualized Education Plans (IEP) will be awarded diplomas.

1. Transfer Students

For students who transfer to an RSU 10 high school from another state or from an educational program that is not required to be aligned with the content standards of the system of Maine Learning Results, the RSU10 high school principal or designee shall determine the value of the student’s prior educational experience toward meeting graduation requirements.

1. Home-Schooled Students

For home-schooled students wishing to receive a diploma from an RSU10 high school, the principal or designee shall determine the value of the student’s prior educational experience toward meeting graduation requirements. A

home-schooled student must have attended an RSU 10 high school for a minimum of two semesters in order to receive an RSU 10 high school diploma.

1. Delayed Awarding of Diplomas

A student who leaves an RSU 10 high school to attend an accredited,

degree-granting institution of higher education may upon satisfactory completion of the freshmen year be awarded a high school diploma, provided that the student has notified the principal at the time of early admission.

1. Early Awarding of Diplomas

A student who has met the State’s and Board’s diploma requirements in fewer than four years of high school may be awarded a diploma.

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1. Extended Study

Students are eligible for extended years of study to complete the requirements of a diploma if they have not reached the age of 20 at the start of the school year. Students eligible for extended years of study may be referred to adult education or other resources suitable to young learners. Extended study for students with disabilities shall be specified in the student’s Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

1. Certificate of Completion

The Board may provide a certificate of completion to a student who leaves school having completed four years attendance as a full-time high school student and who has engaged in the required experiences (courses) but has not met Maine Learning Results proficiency standards that may be mandated by the State.

1. Participation in Graduation Ceremony

A student must complete all Board requirements for a high school diploma or certificate of completion in order to participate in graduation exercises.

1. Honors and Awards at Graduation

In order to be eligible for honors or awards based wholly or in part on academic achievement (e.g. valedictorian, salutatorian, class speaker, “Top 10”), a student must have been enrolled full time at the RSU10 high school for a full year prior to graduation. Students who do not meet this enrollment requirement will not be “ranked” for the purpose of determining eligibility for graduation honors, awards, or scholarships.

(Note: “Honors” at graduation is a different issue than “honor roll” or “class rank,” which may have different eligibility requirements and may be addressed in other board policies.)

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