



NEBO SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

SECTION: I - Instruction
POLICY TITLE: Core Curriculum and Graduation Requirements
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1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to outline the minimum core curriculum and high school graduation requirements for Nebo School District secondary schools.

2. COURSE STANDARDS

The State Board of Education establishes minimum course description standards and objectives for each course in the required general core curriculum. Course descriptions for other required and elective courses are developed cooperatively by local school districts and the Utah State Office of Education. The descriptions should contain and stress mastery criteria for the courses rather than completion of predetermined time allotments for subjects. Implementation and assessment procedures for approved courses are the responsibility of the Nebo District Curriculum Committee and the professional staff of individual schools. Proposed new courses at a school must first be approved by the school Curriculum Review Committee and then by the District Curriculum Committee.

3. CHARACTER EDUCATION

- 3.1 The teaching of positive character habits shall be incorporated into the curriculum at all appropriate levels. That instruction will include honesty, temperance, morality, courtesy, and obedience to law. Students shall be taught to value the rights and freedoms embodied in the founding documents, including the Declaration of Independence and the Constitutions of the United States and of the State of Utah, and to assume the commensurate personal and societal responsibilities which assure the perpetuation of those freedoms. Students shall also be taught the essentials and benefits of the free enterprise system, respect for parents and home, and the dignity and necessity of honest labor and other skills, habits, and qualities of character which will promote an upright and desirable citizenry and better prepare students for a richer, happier life.

- 3.2 Instruction shall also include a focus on the harmful effects of alcohol, tobacco and controlled substances (UCA 53A-13-102).
- 3.3 As part of the Nebo District Character Education program, all district employees will teach and demonstrate a commitment to the principles of caring, honesty, respect, trust, responsibility and family.

4. MIDDLE LEVEL REQUIREMENTS

- 4.1 Students in grades seven and eight should earn a minimum of 12 units of credit to be properly prepared for instruction in grades 9-12. Courses required in grades 7-8 are:

<u>Subject Areas</u>	<u>Units of Credit Required</u>
Language Arts	2.0
Mathematics	2.0
Science	1.5
Social Studies	1.5
Fine Arts	1.0
(May include visual arts, music, dance or theater)	
Physical Education	1.0
Health Education	.5
Technology, Life and Careers	1.0
Library Media Skills: Integrated into Subject Areas	

- 4.2 State Board approved Criterion Referenced Tests (CRTs) shall be used to assess student mastery in reading, language arts, mathematics, science in grades 7 and 8, and effectiveness of written expression. State Board approved norm referenced tests shall be given to all students in grade 8.

5. HIGH SCHOOL REQUIRMENTS

- 5.1 The Board requires that students in grades 9-12 earn the following minimum credits for graduation:

Payson High School	27 credits (26 effective for the class of 2008-2009)
Springville High School	26 credits
Spanish Fork High School	25 credits (26 effective for the class of 2008-2009)
Landmark High School	24 credits

- 5.2 The required credits include the following:

<u>Subject Areas</u>	<u>Units of Credit Required</u>
Language Arts	4.0
(Must include English 9, 10, and 11. The fourth credit may be any other language arts course including foreign language.)	
Mathematics	2.0
(Must include Elementary Algebra or Applied Mathematics I and Geometry or Applied Mathematics II or any advanced mathematics courses in sequence beyond those courses.) (Requirement will increase to 3.0 for graduating class of 2011)	

Science **2.0**
(The two units of credit must come from two of the four science areas: earth science, biological science, chemistry or physics) **Requirement will increase to 3.0 for graduating class of 2011)**

Information Technology **1.0**
(Must include Computer Technology)

Social Studies **2.5**
(Includes Geography for Life, World Civilizations, U.S. History, and U.S. Government and Citizenship)

Fine Arts **1.5**
(May include visual arts, music, dance, or theater)

Physical Education **1.5**
(Includes Participation Skills, Fitness for Life, and one other optional physical education class. With school approval, a student may earn a maximum of .5 credit for participation on a school sponsored athletic team or other school organization which involves a significant amount of physical activity)

Health Education **.5**

Applied Technology Education **1.0**
(May include courses from the areas of agriculture, business, family and consumer sciences, health science and technology, information technology, marketing, technology education, trade and technical education.)

General Financial Literacy **.5 (Required for the Class of 2008)**

Library Media Skills
(Integrated into Subject Areas)

Technology Core
(Integrated into Subject Areas)

5.3 State Board approved Criterion Referenced Tests (CRTs) will be used to assess student mastery of the curriculum in reading, language arts through grade 11, mathematics, science, and effectiveness of written expression. State Board approved norm referenced tests will be administered to all students in the eleventh grade. Nebo School District high school students shall also participate in the Utah Basic Skills Competency Test as required under State Board Rule R277-705.

5.4 In accordance with State Board Rule R277-7005, Nebo School District offers differentiated diplomas to secondary school students and adults as follows:

5.4.1 a high school diploma indicating on the diploma that a student successfully completed all state and district course requirements for graduation and passed all subtests of the UBSCT.

5.4.2 a high school diploma indicating on the diploma that a student did not receive a passing score on all UBSCT subtests. In order to receive this diploma, the student shall have:

5.4.2.1 met all state and district course requirements for graduation; and

EXHIBITS

None

REFERENCES

Utah Code Ann., §53A-1-401(3)

Utah Code Ann., §53A-13-101

Utah Code Ann., §53A-13-102

Utah Code Ann., §53A-1-6-6(1)

Utah Code Ann., §53A-13-104

Utah Code Ann., §53A-17a-120

Utah Administrative Code R277-700

Utah Administrative Code R277-702

Utah Administrative Code R277-705

Nebo District Policy #KLD, Parent/Patron Appeal of School Level Decision

Nebo District Policy #JDH, Secondary Attendance

Nebo District Policy #IKFA, Participation in Graduation Exercises

FORMS

None
