

MESSALONSKEE SCHOOL DISTRICT (MSAD#47)

File: IKF

**GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
(BEGINNING 2006-2007)**

Beginning with the 2006-2007 school year, students will be required to meet the content standards of the system of learning results in order to receive a high school diploma. The new requirements will be phased in over the course of four years, with full implementation of the content standards in the 2009-2010 school year.

In addition to the requirements for specific school years listed below, all students must meet the following requirements to receive a high school diploma.

Students Graduating in 2006-2007 (entering ninth grade in 2003-2004 or otherwise intending to graduate in 2006-2007)

In order to receive a high school diploma, students are required to meet the content standards of the system of learning results according to the local assessment system for English Language Arts and Mathematics and also successfully complete a total of 23 one-year course equivalents (credits) as follows:

- A. English Language Arts – Meet the content standards of the system of learning results and four (4) credits.
- B. Social Studies (inclusive of American History/Government) – four (4) credits
- C. Mathematics – Meet the content standards of the system of learning results and three (3) credits and pass the Algebra 1 final. Failure to pass the Algebra 1 final results in a required fourth credit in mathematics.
- D. Science – inclusive of no less than one year of laboratory study – three (3) credits
- E. Fine Arts (which may include arts, music, forensics or drama) – one (1) credit
- F. Physical Education – 1.5 credits
- G. Health – ½ credit
- H. The remaining credits may be selected by the student on the basis of his or her interests, abilities and plans following graduation.

In addition to meeting the learning results content standards and credit requirements, students must:

- Demonstrate proficiency in the use of computers according to the school unit's standards. [Note: This requirement is eliminated in the next section when the content standards for science and technology are implemented.]
- Successfully complete a curriculum research project (CRP).

Students Graduating in 2007-2008 or 2008-2009 (entering 9th grade in 2004-2005 or 2005-2006 or otherwise intending to graduate in 2007-2008 or 2008-2009)

In order to receive a high school diploma, students are required to meet the content standards of the system of learning results according to the local assessment system in English Language Arts, Social Studies, Mathematics, Science and Technology, and Health and Physical Education, and must also successfully complete a total of 23 one-year course equivalents (credits) as follows:

- A. English Language Arts – Meet the content standards of the system of learning results and four (4) credits.
- B. Social Studies (inclusive of American History/Government) – Meet the content standards of the system of learning results and four (4) credits.
- C. Mathematics – Meet the content standards of the system of learning results and three (3) credits and pass the Algebra 1 final. Failure to pass the Algebra 1 final results in a required fourth year of mathematics.
- D. Science and Technology (inclusive of at least one year of laboratory study) – Meet the content standards of the system of learning results and three (3) credits.
- E. Fine Arts (which may include arts, music, forensics or drama) – one (1) credit
- F. Health and Physical Education – Meet the content standards of the system of learning results and 1-1/2 credits (Physical Education) and ½ credit (Health)
- G. The remaining credits may be selected by the student on the basis of his or her interests, abilities and plans following graduation.
- H. Successfully complete a curriculum research project (CRP).

Students Graduating in 2009-2010 (entering 9th grade in 2006-2007 or otherwise intending to graduate in 2009-2010)

In order to receive a high school diploma, students are required to meet the content standards of the system of learning results according to the local assessment system in all content areas of the system of learning results, and must also successfully complete a total of 23 one-year course equivalents (credits) as follows:

- A. English Language Arts – Meet the content standards of the system of learning results and four (4) credits.
- B. Social Studies (inclusive of one year of American History/Government) – Meet the content standards of the system of learning results and two (2) credits.
- C. Mathematics – Meet the content standards of the system of learning results and three (3) credits.
- D. Science and Technology (inclusive of at least one year of laboratory study) – Meet the content standards of the system of learning results and two (2) credits.
- E. Health and Physical Education – Meet the content standards of the system of learning results and 1-1/2 credits.
- F. Successfully complete a curriculum research project (CRP).

Contingent upon funding of Essential Programs and Services, curriculum must include content areas of career preparation, modern and classical languages, and visual and performing arts “for all students” beginning in September 2006.

- G. Visual and Performing Arts – Meet the content standards of the system of learning results and one (1) credit.

- H. Career Preparation – Meet the content standards of the system of learning results.
- I. Modern and Classical Languages – Meet the content standards of the system of learning results.
- J. The remaining credits may be selected by the student on the basis of his or her interests, abilities and plans following graduation.

Cross References: IKF-R – Graduation Guidelines
ILA – Tests and Assessment
Attendance Policy

Legal References: 20-A M.R.S.A. § 4722, 6202-A
Ch. 125, 127, 131 (Maine Department of Education Rules)
Commissioner’s Informational Letter #25 – 11/15/02

Date of Adoption: October 1, 2003

**MESSALONSKEE HIGH SCHOOL
REQUEST FOR ALTERNATIVE GRADUATION PLAN**

STUDENT NAME: _____

DATE: _____

TYPE OF PLAN REQUESTING:

1. Early Graduation: _____
2. Concurrent high school senior year/collegiate freshman year: _____
3. Other: (Please explain.)

Reason for Request and Intended Plan: (A separate page may be submitted and attached.)

Conditions of Approval:

Counselor Signature: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Parent: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Principal: _____ Date: _____