

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The Board desires that its standards for graduation meet or exceed the minimum standards of the Ohio Department of Education as well as State law and, further, that our high school compares favorably with other high schools in the state that are recognized for excellence.

The requirements **to participate in the graduation ceremony and receive a diploma for graduation** from high school are as follows.

<u>Minimum</u>		Ohio Core	
English Language Arts	4 units	English Language Arts	4 units
Social Studies, including one-half unit of American History and one-half unit of American Government	3 units	Social Studies, including one-half unit of American History and one-half unit of American Government	3 units
Science, including one unit each in Physical Science and Biology	3 units	Science, with inquiry-based lab experience, including one unit each in Physical Science and Life Sciences and one unit in Chemistry, Physics or other physical science, Advanced Biology or other life science, Astronomy, Physical Geology or other earth or space science	3 units
Mathematics	3 units (4 units 2014 and beyond)	Math, including one unit of Algebra II or its equivalent	4 units
Health	1/2 unit	Health	1/2 unit
Physical Education	1/2 unit	Physical Education	1/2 unit
Business Technology	1/2 unit		
Course			
Fine Arts, including music	1 unit (until 2014)		
Electives*	<u>5 units</u>	Electives**	<u>5 units</u>
Total	21 units	Total	20 units

The Ohio Core requirements for graduation also include:

1. student electives\*\* of any one or combination of the following: foreign language, fine arts (two semesters in any of grades 7-12), business, career-technical education, family and consumer sciences, technology, agricultural education or additional English language arts, math, science or social studies courses not otherwise required under the Ohio Core;
2. units earned in social studies shall be integrated with economics and financial literacy and
3. passing all state-required examinations.

### **Student Ambassador Program**

**As a requirement for graduation, students must execute community services as described in the “Norton High School Student Ambassador Program”.**

### **Summer School**

Summer school credits are accepted toward graduation, provided that administrative approval has been given prior to registration for the course.

### **Educational Options**

High school credit is awarded to students who successfully complete Board-approved educational options that count toward the graduation requirements and subject area requirements.

### **Postsecondary Enrollment Options**

Credit is awarded for courses successfully completed at an accredited postsecondary institution. High school credit awarded for a course successfully completed under this section of the Ohio Revised Code counts toward the graduation requirements and subject area requirements of the District. If a course comparable to the course successfully completed is offered by the District, then comparable credit for the completed equivalent course is awarded. If no comparable course is offered, the District grants to the student an appropriate number of credits in a similar subject area.

### **Correspondence Courses**

High school courses offered through correspondence courses are accepted for credit toward graduation only when they meet the following criteria.

1. Credits earned in correspondence schools directly affiliated with state universities are evaluated by the school administration for students who wish to qualify for graduation from high school.

2. Credits earned from correspondence schools not directly affiliated with an accredited college or university may not be applied toward graduation.
3. Credits earned from schools that have been established primarily for correspondence study, rather than an institution primarily for residence study, are not accepted toward graduation.

#### Coursework Prior to Ninth Grade

Student work successfully completed prior to the ninth grade is applied towards graduation credit if the course is taught by a teacher holding a license valid for teaching high school and is designated by the Board as meeting the high school curriculum requirements and is preapproved by the Superintendent/designee.

#### Physical Education Exemption

A student who, during high school, has participated in interscholastic athletics, marching band or cheerleading for at least two full seasons is not required to complete any physical education courses as a condition to graduate. However, the student is required to complete one-half unit, consisting of at least 60 hours of instruction, in another course of study