

**AMEND BOARD REPORT 03-1022-PO02**  
**AMEND BOARD REPORT 00-0726-PO2**  
**AMEND BOARD REPORT 98-0826-PO1**  
**AMEND BOARD REPORT 97-0827-PO2**  
**MINIMUM HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

**THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING:**

Amend Board Report ~~00-0726-PO2~~ 03-1022-PO02 ("Minimum High School Graduation Requirements") to ~~clarify the Community Service Learning Requirements in relation to the number of hours necessary and when these hours must be completed~~ clarify the English, Mathematics and Science Requirements.

**PURPOSE:**

The policy regarding minimum high school graduation requirements increases academic rigor and prepares students for post secondary education and the world of work. The graduation requirements ~~meet or exceed requirements for entry into Illinois public colleges and universities, as stated in Public Act~~

~~This policy is part of the Chicago Public Schools Design for High Schools, which continues to evolve with~~

**POLICY TEXT:**

**CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS MINIMUM HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

**I. ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS (an increase from 20 to 24 required credits)**

A student must earn a minimum total 24 credits in the following areas:

[REDACTED]

- a. Chemistry
- b. Earth and Space Science
- c. Environmental Science

d. Physics

- 3. ~~Earth and Space or Environmental Science (earth science focal area)~~  
~~Chemistry or Physics (physical science focal area)~~

D. Social Science (a continuation of three required credits; newly defined World Studies

history, geography, and social systems) (3.0 credits)

- 1. World Studies
- 2. United States History
- 3. One Elective Other Social Science course

1.

2. High School principals shall designate a special Service Learning Coach to ~~oversee projects, student participation, record keeping and agency involvement.~~

3. Service Learning projects shall be linked to current academic goals and curriculum and shall promote social awareness and career development;
4. A total of forty hours prior to graduation, with a minimum of twenty hours completed by the end of the sophomore year, which includes preparation, action, and reflection, will be required of each student; and
5. Service Learning criteria shall be developed by the Office of High School Programs.

~~B. Participation in Student Advisory of each year of high school as a non-credit program.~~

~~C. Completion of State non-credit requirements (Consumer Education, demonstrated~~

~~knowledge of U.S. and Illinois constitutions) as part of subject area curricula.~~

~~D. Demonstration of mastery in core subject areas (English, Mathematics, Science, Social Science) through exams at end of courses.~~

- E. Students may place out of courses through exams, but shall not receive credit towards graduation for courses not actually taken.
- F. Schools have the option to develop an integrated or thematic equivalent of subject area courses in so far as standards are met.

C. Credit is awarded in Carnegie Units that are equivalent to 120 hours of instructional time.


integrated/thematic courses will be translated into Carnegie Units.

- H. Office of High School Programs shall determine appropriate placement for transfer students and students participating in independent study following an assessment of the individual student's academic progress and completion of relevant coursework. Based on this assessment, the Office of High School Programs may award credit towards fulfillment of the minimum graduation requirements noted in this Policy.

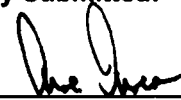
**Approved for Consideration:**

  
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**Barbara J. Eason-Watkins**  
**Chief Education Officer**


**Noted:**

  
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**John Maiorca**  
**Chief Financial Officer**

**Respectfully Submitted:**

  
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**Arne Duncan**  
**Chief Executive Officer**

**Approved as to legal form:** 

  
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**Patrick J. Rocks**  
**General Counsel**