



CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF NEW BRITAIN

Board Policy Statement

6146.21 – Revised Special Graduation Requirements for the Class of 2020

Approved on May 16, 2016 | Revised on May 4, 2020

Due to the closing of the school buildings and the challenges related to shifting to on-line instruction, the administration is recommending a change in graduation requirements, for the Class of 2020 only, to the current Connecticut State Department of Education requirements as outlined below. The inability of students to directly and personally access their teachers and other support staff in school creates challenges that impact all students. These challenges have disproportionately impacted our most vulnerable students and families. This impact will potentially influence some students' ability to graduate. Adjusting the graduation requirements, for this year only, is appropriate in trying to reduce the long term impact of the current school closure on this year's seniors.

I. Credit Distribution Requirements

The Board Of Education credit requirements meet state regulations:

English	Four (4) credits
Mathematics	Three (3) credits
Science	Two (2) credits
Social Studies	Three (3) credits including .5 in Civics and American Government
Physical Education	One (1) credit
Fine Arts	One (1) credit
Electives	6 credits
Total	20 credits

Students are assigned to grades 9-12 based on the number of credits earned. Students need to earn five credits to progress to grade 10, 10 credits to progress to grade 11, and 15 credits to progress to grade 12. Graduation eligibility of students classified as seniors (grade 12) can be found in the Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-221 and the New Britain High School Student Handbook.

II. Connecticut Seal of Biliteracy

Commencing with the graduating class of 2018, and for each graduating class thereafter, the Board of Education, utilizing criteria established by the State Board of Education, may/shall affix the "Connecticut State Seal of Biliteracy" to a diploma awarded to a student who has achieved a high level of proficiency in English and one or more foreign languages. "Foreign language" means a world language other than English and includes American Sign Language and any other language spoken by a federally recognized Native American tribe. The Board of Education shall include on such student's transcript a designation that the student received the "Connecticut Seal of Biliteracy."

Legal References/Citations

- 10-16 (1) Graduation Exercises (as amended by Public Act 96-26, An Act Concerning Graduation Requirements and Readmission and Placement of Older Students and Public Act 96-108, an act concerning student use of telecommunication devices and the establishment of graduation dates) 10-221a High School Graduation Requirements (as amended by Public Act 00-156, an act requiring a Civics course for high school graduation)
- 10-221a High School Graduation Requirements (as amended by Public Act 01-166, an act concerning high school graduation and the Connecticut Academic Performance Test)
- Public Act 11-135 An Act requiring each local Board of Education to create a student success plan for each student enrolled in a public school, beginning in grade six.
- The Connecticut Plan