

Instruction

Graduation Requirements

The School Board determines high school graduation requirements that will provide each student ample opportunity to achieve the purpose for which the School District exists and that meet the minimum graduation requirements contained in State law. Unless otherwise exempted, each student must successfully accomplish the following in order to graduate from high school:

1. Complete all courses as provided in The School Code, 105 ILCS 5/27-22.
2. Complete all minimum requirements for graduation as specified by Illinois State Board of Education rule, 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.440.
3. Complete all District course requirements.

Upon recommendation of the superintendent, the School Board shall set the minimum graduation requirements for Sparta High School. The requirements are a part of the student handbook which is approved annually by the board.

4. Pass an examination on patriotism and principles of representative government, proper use of the flag, methods of voting, and the Pledge of Allegiance.
5. Take the Prairie State Achievement Examination, unless the student: (a) is exempt according to 105 ILCS 5/2-3.64, or (b) during the 2004-05 school year, meets ISBE's requirements for seniors who did not take the PSAE as juniors and were unable to participate in the retake.

The Superintendent or designee is responsible for: (1) maintaining a description of all course offerings that comply with the above graduation requirements, (2) notifying students and their parents/guardians of graduation requirements; (3) developing the criteria for determining when a student accomplishes number 5 as well as a method for recording that fact in the student's school record, and (4) taking all other actions to implement this policy.

Early Graduation

If through an expanded and enriched program, a student earns the required academic credits for graduation in less than four years he/she may be excused from school at the end of the seventh semester with approval of the parents, high school administration, and the School Board provided that the student's attendance record is no less than 95% and he/she has a GPA of 3.00 or better for seven (7) semesters. In the event that an exception is granted at the end of a student's sixth semester, the class rank would be calculated with the class in which he/she began high school.

Certificate of Completion

A student with a disability who has an individualized education program prescribing special education, transition planning, transition services, or related services beyond the student's 4 years of high school, qualifies for a certificate of completion after the student has completed 4 years of high school. The student is encouraged to participate in the graduation ceremony of his or her high school graduation class. The Superintendent or designee shall provide timely written notice of this requirement to children with disabilities and their parents/guardians.

Veterans of World War II or the Korean Conflict

Upon application, an honorably discharged veteran of World War II or the Korean Conflict will be awarded a diploma, provided that he or she: (1) resided within an area currently within the District at the time he or she left high school, (2) left high school before graduating in order to serve in the U.S. Armed Forces, and (3) has not received a high school diploma or GED (high school equivalency).

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/2-3.64, 5/22-27, 5/27-3, and 5/27-22.
23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.440.

CROSS REF.: 6:30 (Organization of Instruction), 6:320 (Credit for Proficiency), 7:50 (School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools)

ADOPTED: March 19, 2007