

CHAPTER 4 REGULATIONS UPDATES:

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Spring-Ford
Area School
District

Board
Meeting

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CHAPTER 4 REGULATIONS

- Chapter 4 Regulations for Academic Standards and Assessment
- The State Board of Education's revisions to its **Chapter 4 Regulations for Academic Standards and Assessment** were made final and became effective as of **Saturday, March 1, 2014** when they were published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*.

PENNSYLVANIA CORE STANDARDS

- Common Core & PA Common Core are now the *PA Core Standards*
- ELA & Math are based up the National CCSS
- Apply to school districts, charter and cyber charter schools, area vocational technical schools (AVTS) and Intermediate Units
- Do not apply to private, religious or homeschooled students

PA CORE - CLARIFICATIONS

- **The state will not require school entities to utilize a statewide curriculum or statewide reading lists**
- **Rather, SFASD has revised our curriculum documents to reflect the new standards.**

ELIMINATION OF STATE-PRESCRIBED STRATEGIC PLAN

- The requirement for districts to complete state-prescribed strategic planning every six years is removed.
- However, when a district's current strategic plan is expired it will have to complete plans as currently required under other regulations in these areas: teacher induction, student services, gifted education, professional development, and special education and pre-kindergarten if the school offers it. The district has been working on this and is due Fall 2014.
- A 28- day public comment period is required prior to school board adoption for the remaining six required plans.

KEYSTONE EXAMS

- Keystone Exams will be utilized in five content areas for graduation purposes: Literature, Algebra I, Biology, Composition*, and Civics and Government*.
- Keystone Exams in Literature, Algebra I, and Biology will serve a dual purpose as both graduation requirements and for state accountability as required under federal law
- Keystone Exams will be a stand-alone requirement for graduation

**4 days after going into law the Civics & Govt. Exam and English Composition exams were placed on indefinite hold (pending future funding)*

SUPPLEMENTAL INSTRUCTION & PROJECT-BASED ASSESSMENTS

Supplemental instruction

- Students who did not score proficient on a Keystone Exam must participate in supplemental instruction prior to re-taking the Keystone/module.
- The school must continue providing supplemental instruction either until the student demonstrates proficiency in the subject area or until the student begins participating in a project-based assessment.

SUPPLEMENTAL INSTRUCTION & PROJECT-BASED ASSESSMENTS (CONT.)

Project-Based Assessment

- Students not able to demonstrate proficiency on an exam or whose parents opted them out of taking a Keystone Exam (based upon religious reasons) will participate in a project-based assessment.
- The project-based assessment will be administered by schools and scored by statewide panels.
- Successful completion of the project will satisfy the requirements for graduation.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Effective with the graduating Class of 2017

- Graduation requirements include the following:
 - 1) Course completion and grades;
 - 2) Demonstration of proficiency as determined by the school district in each of the state academic standards not assessed by a state assessment; and
 - 3) Require proficiency in Algebra I, Biology and Literature Keystone Exams or project-based assessment if applicable
- The regulations eliminates the requirement for students to complete a culminating project in order to graduate, beginning with the Class of 2017.

STUDENT TRANSCRIPTS

- Beginning in 2016-17, the performance level demonstrated, *not* the score, for each Keystone Exam and PSSA Exam, will be on the transcript.

SCHOOL BOARD APPROVAL/ PUBLIC NOTIFICATION OF GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

- **School boards are required to adopt new high school graduation requirements if they are not aligned with the regulations.**
- **Our graduation requirements are aligned with the state requirements; only minor adjustments need to be made to the District Policy governing graduation requirements.**
- **The Policy Committee has begun discussion and will finalize the policy adjustments in Fall 2014.**

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

