CHAPTER 4 REGULATIONS

UPDATES:

Dr. Keith Floyd, Director of C & I
Mrs. Kimberly Bast, Asst. Director of C & I

Spring-Ford Area School District
Board Meeting
(6/23/14)
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.
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
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.
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 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)
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.
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.
Effectively 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.
Beginning in 2016-17, the performance level demonstrated, not the score, for each Keystone Exam and PSSA Exam, will be on the transcript.
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 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