

Alternate Route to Graduation Narrative

Following is a verbal description of the attached flowchart which displays an alternate graduation mechanism for students who have not achieved a proficiency score on the Idaho Standards Achievement Tests (ISATs). The flowchart also displays the Regular Route to Graduation for all high school students who are not described below in the **Description of the Alternate Route to Graduation**.

This plan was approved by the Cascade Board of School Trustees meeting on June 13, 2007. It will be implemented beginning with the 2007-2008 school year. This plan will be updated every year to ensure validity, reliability, and alignment with the state standards.

**Description of the Alternate Route to Graduation:**

Students who are 1) enrolled in a special education program and have an Individual Education Plan (IEP), 2) enrolled in a Limited English Proficient (LEP) program for three academic years or less, or 3) enrolled in the fall semester of the senior year are eligible to appeal to the Cascade Board of School Trustees for approval to follow this Alternate Route to Graduation.

This mechanism is designed to include four (4) components which will equal a total of 400 points earned by the student.

**Component #1**

- The student will pass a minimum of 45 credits in coursework for a total of 100 points.

**Component #2**

Reading Proficiency

- The student will pass the Reading ISAT for a total of 100 points.
- If the student has not passed the Reading ISAT the student will enroll in and pass the PLATO or IDLA program at the 10<sup>th</sup> grade proficiency level. The student will pass one of these programs and will earn 100 points.
- If the student has an IEP and is unable to pass the Reading ISAT and/or the PLATO or IDLA program at the 10<sup>th</sup> grade proficiency level an Alternate Assessment will be developed as outlined in the student's IEP. The student will be determined proficient in Reading if the IEP goal is met. The student will then earn 100 points.
- Reading Proficiency is highly valued by the Cascade School District #422. It is imperative that all students perform at the proficient level in reading before receiving a high school diploma.

### Math Proficiency

- The student will pass the Math ISAT at the proficiency level and will earn a total of 100 points or at the basic level and will earn a total of 50 points.
- If the student has not passed the Math ISAT the student will enroll in and pass the PLATO or IDLA programs at the 10<sup>th</sup> grade proficiency level. The student will pass one of these programs and will earn 100 points for completion.
- If the student has an IEP and is unable to pass the Math ISAT and/or the PLATO or IDLA programs at the 10<sup>th</sup> grade proficiency level an Alternate Assessment will be developed as outlined in the student's IEP. The student will be determined proficient in Math if the IEP goal is met. The student will earn 100 points for completion.

### Language Proficiency

- The student will pass the Language ISAT at the proficiency level and will earn a total of 100 points or at the basic level and will earn total of 50 points.
- If the student has not passed the Language ISAT the student will enroll in and pass the PLATO or IDLA program at the 10<sup>th</sup> grade proficiency level. The student will pass one of these programs and will earn 100 points for completion.
- If the student has an IEP and is unable to pass the Language ISAT and/or the PLATO or IDLA programs at the 10<sup>th</sup> grade proficiency level an Alternate Assessment will be developed as outlined in the student's IEP. The student will be determined proficient in Language if the IEP goal is met. The student will earn 100 points for completion.

### Total points for Component #2

- Students must earn a minimum of 200 points in Component #2, the ISAT component.

### Component #3

#### Grade Point Average

- Students would earn the number of points indicated based on their accumulated grade point average (GPA) for a maximum of 100 points.
  - 3.5 – 4.0 = 100 points
  - 3.0 – 3.49 = 90 points
  - 2.5 – 2.99 = 80 points
  - 2.0 – 2.49 = 70 points
  - 1.5 – 1.99 = 60 points
  - Below 1.5 = 0 points

### Component #4

It may not be necessary for a student to use the elements of Component #4 for total point acquisition. Use of Component #4 is not required to attain the minimum 400 points required for a high school diploma on the Alternate Route to Graduation.

### Senior Project

- Students would develop a special project in the senior year which would be approved by the school board during the appeal process for a maximum of 100 points.
  - A = 100 points
  - B = 90 points
  - C = 80 points
  - D = 70 points

### Performance Measures

- Work/Community Based Learning – Students would present a schedule of work/community based activities in which the student would be learning and/or applying specific skills to the school board for approval. Each student would keep a portfolio of the skill development and would present this information to the staff member who is tracking the student's performance. This portfolio would be worth a maximum of 100 points.
- Community Service – Students would present a schedule of community service activities to the school board for approval. Each student would keep a portfolio of the service contributions and would present this information to the staff member who is tracking the student's performance. This portfolio would be worth a maximum of 50 points.
- Work Experience – Students would present a work schedule to the school board for approval. Each student would report in writing the work responsibilities, time schedules, time off, etc. directly to the staff member who is tracking the student's performance. This record keeping data would be worth a maximum of 50 points.

### Total Points for Component #4

- Students may earn a maximum of 100 points in Component #4, the Senior Project and/or Performance Measures.
- Students may do a Senior Project and/or Performance Measures to accomplish the point total for Component #4. (i.e. A combination of these tasks may be completed to earn the final point total.)

### **Total Points for Alternate Route to Graduation**

Students will earn a minimum of 400 points to be awarded a high school diploma.

- Component #1 = 100 points
- Component #2 = 200 points maximum
- Component #3 = 100 points maximum
- Component #4 = 100 points maximum

### **Description of the Regular Route to Graduation:**

The Regular Route to Graduation is comprised of completing Component #1 by passing at least 45 course credits and completing Component #2 by passing all of the ISAT's at the 10<sup>th</sup> grade proficiency level. It is expected that all students will follow the regular route to high school graduation except those students who are 1) enrolled in a special education program and have an Individual Education Plan (IEP, 2) enrolled in a Limited English Proficient (LEP) program for three academic years or less, or 3) enrolled in the fall semester of the senior year and who have passed a minimum of 45 course credits and who have not passed one or more of their ISATs.

### Policy History:

Adopted on: 7/15/09

Revised on: