



RIVER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

660 West Daley Street ≈ Spring Green, Wisconsin 53588 ≈ Phone: 608-588-2551

345.5

Graduation Requirements

The River Valley Board of Education holds high standards for graduation requirements and feel strongly that all students complete 26 credits before receiving a diploma.

In order for a student to receive an official River Valley High School diploma, the student must have been in attendance in a recognized public or private high school for at least the three consecutive semesters prior to and including the semester of graduation. (This does not include those students who were short credits at the scheduled time of graduation and have subsequently completed current credits.) The student must have successfully completed all credits or other requirements currently in effect. The diploma shall be dated and granted at the end of the school year in which all graduation requirements are met.

- A. The successful completion of 26 credits shall be required for graduation from River Valley High School. Courses taken prior to completion of the eighth grade will not be counted toward graduation credits unless otherwise specified through additional Board policy. The required credits for graduation include the following:

<u>Required Credits</u>	15.5 credits
English	4 credits
Social Studies	3 credits
Science	3 credits
Math	3 credits
Physical Education	1.5 credits (see Policy #345.54- .5 Credit Physical Education Exemption)
Health	.5 credit
Economic and Financial Literacy	.5 credit
State Required Civics Test	minimum passing score of 65 out of 100
<u>Elective Credits</u>	10.5 credits

It is recommended that students earn 3 credits toward graduation by earning 1 credit in the Fine Arts, 1 credit in the Humanities, and 1 credit in Career and Technical Education (CTE). Students that fulfill this additional recommendation will be awarded an additional Laude Point.

- B. The student must have been enrolled in Board-approved activity or alternative education program for each class period of each school day during the high school grades. Examples include, but are not limited to: classroom instruction, independent study programs, cooperative education programs, work study programs, homebound instruction, Youth Options Program courses, **individualized placements at classes and programs at off-site or separate educational settings**, approved alternative education programs, approved program or curriculum modifications for individual students, district-sponsored field trips, community service, and approved co-curricular activities.
- C. Alternative Diploma - River Valley's High School Progress Study Team will review the transcripts of all credit deficient students and will offer the opportunity for credit deficient students to earn high school credits and achieve an Alternative Diploma through successful completion of coursework as determined by Policy #345.5 Rule Alternative Diploma Requirements.
- D. If a student does not meet the requirements of A and B above, the student may appeal to the high school principal to convene a Graduation Review Committee (GRC). The GRC appointed by the high school principal will include, but is not limited to, the department chairperson of each failed subject area, the teacher who taught the student in the failed subject area(s), the high school principal and the guidance counselor. The GRC will review the student's high

school performance including all grades, co-curricular activities, summer school experience, community service, mentoring activities, other assessments, and any other factors deemed to be relevant by the GRC to determine if the student's overall high school performance, ability, and experience warrants graduation.

GRC established accommodations may be made in determining academic performance necessary to meet high school graduation requirements for students with exceptional educational interests, needs, or requirements consistent with state law and established district policies and procedures.

NOTE: Parents or guardians may appeal to the Board of Education the decision to not recommend their student for graduation. Such an appeal must be made by filing a written request to the District Administrator within 15 calendar days of receiving written notice of the decision to not recommend their student for graduation. The Board of Education will hold a closed session hearing within 30 calendar days of the appeal.

The District Administrator shall be responsible for the general supervision and management of this policy. The High School Principal shall determine whether a student has satisfied the criteria in this policy. If a student has satisfied the policy criteria and the requirements of any other District policy applicable to high school graduation, the student may graduate and be awarded a diploma.

The District Administrator shall develop practices and procedures to inform students and parents/guardians of the policy requirements and to inform students and parents/guardians of the academic progress of students.

LEGAL REF: Sections 115.92 Wisconsin Statutes
 118.153
 118.33 (1)(m)
 121.02(1)(p)
 PI 18, Wisconsin Administrative Code

CROSS REF: Policy #345.1 - Grading Systems
 Policy #345.4 - Academic Honors
 Policy #345.51 - Early Graduation
 Policy #345.52 - Graduation Exercises
 Policy #345.53 - High School Equivalency Diplomas
 Policy #345.54 - .5 Credit Physical Education Exemption
 Policy #345.5 Rule - Alternative Diploma Requirements
 State Required Civics Test

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