



RIVER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

660 West Daley Street

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Spring Green, Wisconsin 53588

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Phone: 608-588-2551

345.5

Graduation Requirements

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. For the Classes of 2025, 2026, 2027, and 2028, the successful completion of 26 credits shall be required for graduation from River Valley High School. Starting with the Class of 2029, 27 credits shall be required for graduation. 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:

		Class of 2025	Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028	Class of 2029
Required Credits		15.5	15.5	16	16	16
English		4	4	4	4	4
Social Studies		3	Civics class will be offered starting in 2025-26, but not required	Civics class required for .5 credit	Civics class required for .5 credit	Civics class required for .5 credit
Science		3	3	3	3	3
Math		3	3	3	3	3
Physical Education	See Policy #345.54 - .5 Credit Physical Education Exemption	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
Health		.5	.5	.5	.5	.5
Economic and Financial Literacy		.5	.5	.5	.5	.5
State Required Civics Test	Minimum passing score of 65 out of 100	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required
Elective Credits		10.5	10.5	10	10	11
TOTAL		26	26	26	26	27

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, Start College Now classes, Early College Credit program, 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

APPROVED:	March 11, 1982
REVISED:	August 14, 1986
APPROVED:	April 13, 1989
REVISED:	June 13, 1991
APPROVED:	July 11, 1991
REVISED:	February 13, 1992
APPROVED:	March 12, 1992
REVISED:	July 8, 1993
APPROVED:	August 12, 1993
REVISED:	June 8, 1995
APPROVED:	July 13, 1995
REVISED:	June 11, 1998
APPROVED:	June 25, 1998
REVISED:	March 22, 2001
APPROVED:	April 19, 2001
REVISED:	January 8, 2004
APPROVED:	January 22, 2004
REVISED:	September 13, 2012
APPROVED:	October 25, 2012
REVISED:	January 9, 2014
APPROVED:	February 13, 2014
REVISED:	December 10, 2015
APPROVED:	January 14, 2016
REVISED:	September 14, 2017
APPROVED:	October 12, 2017
REVISED:	April 12, 2018
APPROVED:	May 10, 2018
REVISED:	June 11, 2020
APPROVED:	July 9, 2020
REVISED:	June 9, 2022
APPROVED:	August 11, 2022
REVISED:	November 14, 2024
APPROVED:	December 12, 2024