




## OSCEOLA DISTRICT SCHOOLS

Decisions regarding student promotion, and retention and administrative placement are primarily the responsibility of the individual school's professional staff. The final decision in regard to grade placement is the responsibility of the principal.
I. General Procedures for Promotion, Special Assignment, and Administrative Placement, Grades K - Adult
A. Student promotion in the Osceola County schools is based upon an evaluation of each student's achievement in terms of appropriate instructional goals. The determination should reflect teacher judgment based upon the following: successful progress in the county adopted curriculum, progress tests, classroom assignments, daily observation, standardized tests, and other objective data. The primary responsibility for determining each pupil's level of performance and ability to function academically, socially and emotionally at the next grade level is that of the classroom teacher, subject to review and approval of the principal.

## (1) Report Cards:

a. All schools shall use a standard report card appropriate for the level, elementary, middle, or high, as the primary means of reporting student progress. Report cards for Limited English Proficient (LEP) students must be in the primary language of the parent/guardian, whenever feasible. Amended 6/27/00
b. With the approval of the Superintendent and the School Board, schools may develop additional or supplementary instruments, which may be used in conjunction with the standard report card. Amended 7/29/97\& 6/15/99
c. Report cards shall be issued for all students, K-12, at the close of each grading period. A report card will also be issued at the close of the summer school program. Amended 6/30/92
d. Progress Reports may be issued at the end of extended year programs and services, i.e., summer school, Saturday school, before and after school programs. Adopted 6/27/00
e. Adult Education students will be issued a Certificate of Attendance or a Certificate of Program Completion upon request. Amended 6/29/93 \& 6/27/95

## (2) Report Card Grades:

a. Report card grades are to provide the student and the student's parents with an objective evaluation of the student's scholastic achievement, effort and conduct.

The student's academic grades are to reflect academic achievement.

Passing grades on report cards indicate that the student is working within a range acceptable for the grade or subject unless the subject is clearly identified as remedial.

A remedial student making a C or better at grade level for two (2) grading periods shall be considered for placement in the regular classroom.
b. Students and parents are to be advised of the grading criteria employed in the school and in each class at the time of enrollment.

Students who enroll in school or class late shall be allowed to make up the class work. In order to receive full semester credit, a student must be enrolled in any school a minimum of forty-five days.

Schools shall adhere to the following evaluation plan for grading and reporting pupil progress. The same evaluation plan applies to limited English proficient (LEP) pursuant to Section I,M(6). Amended 6/15/99, 6/27/00, \& 6/19/01

Kindergarten - Grade 5<br>$+\quad$ Demonstrates Consistently<br>/ Learning and Developing<br>- Area of Concern

* Working below grade level
\# Modified curriculum.


## Report Cards Grades 1-2

Reading, mathematics, language/writing, science and social studies will be evaluated using the following criteria:

O Outstanding
S Satisfactory
N Needs Improvement
Effective July 1, 2001, Grades 3-5 will be given corresponding letter grades in subject areas of reading, language/writing, science, social studies, and mathematics using the scale below: Amended 6/19/01

| GRADE | PERCENT | DEFINITION |
| :---: | :--- | :--- |
| A | $90-100$ | outstanding <br> progress |
| B | $80-89$ | above average <br> progress |
| C | $70-79$ | adequate <br> progress |
| D | $60-69$ | lowest acceptable <br> progress |
| F | $0-59$ | failure |
| I | 0 | incomplete |

If an "I" (incomplete) is recorded on a report card, the requirements for which the incomplete was assigned must be satisfied within two weeks of the issuance of report cards or the "I" becomes "F". At the teacher's discretion a longer period of time may be allowed for make up work.

For Special Area classes in grades K-5, the following grading scale may be used:

Adopted 6/30/92 \& Amended 6/27/95

| O | - O | Outstanding |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| S | - S | Satisfactory |  |
| N | - N | Needs Improvement |  |
| Effective July 1, 2001, Grades 6-12 - Percent Point |  |  |  |
| Value Def |  | Amended 7/29/97 \& 6/19/01 |  |
| GRADE | Percent | Point Value | Definition |
| A | 90-100 | 4 | outstanding progress |
| B | 80-89 | 3 | above average progress |
| C | 70-79 | 2 | adequate <br> progress |
| D | 60-69 | 1 | lowest acceptable progress |
| F | 0-59 | 0 | failure |
| I | 0 | 0 | incomplete |

If an "I" (incomplete) is recorded on a report card, the requirements for which the incomplete was assigned must be satisfied within two weeks of the issuance of report cards or the "I" becomes "F". At the teacher's discretion a longer period of time may be allowed for make up work.

For Special Area and/or Exploratory classes in grades 6-8, the following grading scale may be used: Adopted 6/30/92

| S | - | Successful Progress |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| N | - | Needs Improvement |
| U | - | Unsuccessful Progress |

c. Grades in conduct are to be assigned independently of academic achievement. Standards for grading in these areas are to be explained to the students.
d. To receive a report card a student shall have been enrolled in school at least $1 / 2$ of the forty-five day grading period as
established by the official school calendar. A grade shall be recorded on the report card for each subject taken. If an elementary student is enrolled for less than one-half ( $1 / 2$ ) of the forty-five day grading period, a report card shall be issued, but a grade is not required. The report card needs to reflect the date of entry and attendance record. If a student withdraws he shall be issued a grade on the withdrawal form as of the date of withdrawal. Amended 7/2/96 \& 6/27/00
e. Students are to receive grades in all courses in which they are enrolled.
f. If the principal of a school feels it is necessary to change a pupil's grade in any subject at the end of a grading period, the principal shall consult with the teacher regarding the necessary change. If the change is made after official notification has been made to the parents, a copy of the principal's reasons shall be placed in the pupil's cumulative folder.

## (3) Notices to Parents and Pupils

a. Parents or adult students are to be notified in writing at any time during a grading period when it is apparent that the student may not pass or is performing unsatisfactorily in any course or grade level. The county Deficiency/Progress Report and/or approved electronic Progress Report form will be used for this notification. Amended 6/15/99 \& 6/27/00
b. Parents are to be advised of their child's performance on all standardized tests administered as part of the countywide testing program.
c. Notices concerning limited English proficient (LEP) students or adult LEP students must be provided in the primary language of the parent/guardian or adult student, whenever feasible. Adopted 6/27/00
B. The Sunshine State Standards (6A-1.09401 State Board Rules) are benchmark standards which describe what students should know and be able to do at four progression levels (grades PreK-2; 3-5; 6-8; 9-12) in the subjects of the arts, health/physical education, foreign languages, language arts, mathematics, science and social studies. Osceola District Schools shall provide appropriate instruction to assist students in the achievement of these standards. The Sunshine State Standards/Grade Level Expectations have been incorporated within the Osceola County Curriculum Frameworks and are on file in the Administrative Center and in use at each school. Adopted 9/17/96, Amended 6/15/99
C. Students in elementary and middle schools, who have diagnosed deficiencies in reading, writing, and/or mathematics or high school students who are being
assigned to level 1 courses in high school must have an Academic Improvement Plan (for LEP students see Section I,M(3)). The Academic Improvement Plan should: $\quad$ Amended 6/30/92, 7/21/98 \& 6/27/00
(1) Clearly identify the specific needs to be remediated,
(2) Clearly identify the success-based intervention strategies to be used, and
(3) Clearly identify the monitoring and reevaluation activities to be employed.
(4) Be placed in the student's permanent record at the close of each year or at the time of student withdrawal. (Beginning with the academic year 20002001). Adopted 6/27/00
D. Principals are to establish procedures by which parents are notified when it has been determined that their child needs improvement at the grade or course in which he or she has been placed. In cooperation with the parents, an Academic Improvement Plan will be written which may include, but is not limited to, an extension of the school year, a special class within the regular school, and/or a remedial program within or outside the school day including Saturday School. (for LEP students see Section I,M(3)). Amended 7/21/98 \&6/27/00
E. Any student who has been previously retained, at the same grade level may, at any time during the next school year be placed in the next higher grade if the principal determines that standards have been met and the student will be able to benefit from instruction at the higher grade. If the placement involves a new school, the assignment will occur at a time agreed upon by both the sending and receiving principal. Amended 6/15/99
F. The principal, upon written authority from the Superintendent, may administratively place a student who has been previously retained.
G. The assignment of a student to a higher grade which results in the student's accelerated promotion should be made on the basis of exceptionally high achievement or evidence that the student will benefit more from the instructional program at the advanced grade level. The assignment should be authorized by the Superintendent. The assignment will occur at the end of a grading period agreed upon by both the sending and receiving principal and the Director of Exceptional Student Education, if an exceptional student is involved. If an LEP student is involved, the LEP committee shall meet to document the student LEP plan change. After agreement has been reached regarding an exceptional student, an Individual Education Plan meeting must be held prior to placement in the new assignment. The long-range academic, social, and emotional effect of the decision shall be considered. The principal has the responsibility for making such an assignment, but a student will not be accelerated without parental consent. Amended 6/30/92 \& 6/27/00

The student's cumulative record, report card, and permanent record must indicate,
"accelerated grade placement" and the name of the principal who made the placement. Amended 6/15/99

Parents shall be notified in writing that their child is receiving an accelerated grade placement to the next higher grade. A copy of this notification shall be placed in the cumulative folder. Notices to parent/guardian of LEP students must be provided in the primary language, whenever feasible. Amended 6/27/00
H. Retention of students shall be limited to one (1) year in kindergarten, one (1) year in the elementary school (1-5) and one year in the middle school unless additional retention is recommended by the principal based on information from a school assessment team (for LEP students see section I,M(4)). An appropriate placement, which differs from the present placement, must be considered for a student who has been retained two or more years.
Amended 7/21/98, 6/15/99, 6/27/00 \& 6/19/01
Students who are retained must receive remediation as addressed in an academic improvement plan and may be recommended for evaluation by appropriate specialists, e.g., psychologist, reading specialist, and other personnel, if such a referral would benefit the students. Amended 7/21/98 \& 6/15/99
I. The grade placement of students transferring from other countries, counties, states or private schools will be determined by the principal of the receiving school based on guidelines established by the Student Services Department. The grade placement of students with a "YES' response on the home language survey shall include a review of the programmatic assessment results. (F.S. 6A-6.0902(3)). Amended 6/27/00
J. Attendance for Promotion K-5 Amended 6/30/92, 6/29/93, 7/2/96 \& 6/27/00
(l) Students, to include LEP students, who miss more than fifteen (15) days per semester will not be promoted except as follows:
a. If medical evidence is presented to the principal from a competent medical authority to excuse absences in excess of fifteen (15) days or fifteen (15) class settings per semester.
b. Extenuating circumstances as determined by the principal based on recommendations of teachers, counselors or Pupil Services workers.
(2) School activities shall not be counted as absences. Assigned work shall be turned in on the day indicated by the teacher.
K. Attendance for Promotion 6-8

Amended 6/30/92, 7/2/96 \& 6/27/00
(1) Students, to include LEP students, who miss more than ten (10) days per semester (2 days per semester during the summer school term) will not be
promoted except as follows:
a. If medical evidence is presented to the principal from a competent medical authority to excuse absences in excess of ten (10) days or ten (10) class settings.
b. Extenuating circumstances as determined by the principal based on recommendations of teachers, counselors or Student Services workers. When appropriate, a student may be referred to the Hospital Homebound program. Amended 6/27/00
(2) School activities shall not be counted as absences. Assigned work shall be turned in on the day indicated by the teacher.
(3) Eighth grade students enrolled in high school courses for credit shall be subject to section I L and III A 9 in those courses only.
L. Attendance for Credit (9-12) Amended 6/30/92, 7/21/98, 6/15/99\& 6/27/00
(1) Students, to include LEP students, who would otherwise receive a passing grade, but who have accumulated absences of more than ten (10) single periods of instruction or five (5) block periods of instruction (1 block unit equals 2 single periods) per semester will not receive credit for the course except as follows:

Attain a passing score ( $70 \%$ or better) on a comprehensive subject level examination to be given within ten (10) teacher workdays of the end of the semester in which the student was enrolled in the class.
(2) Students, to include LEP students, who have accumulated more than 2 days of absences per semester during summer school will not receive credit. Adopted 6/27/00
(3) Students in the summer JumpStart program who have accumulated more than 2 days of absences for the summer session will not receive credit. Adopted 6/19/01
(4) Students, to include LEP students, with excessive absences who fail the comprehensive examination but would receive a passing grade for the semester, may appeal the loss of credit. A district committee will consider the appeal based on documented, conditions.Amended 6/27/00
(5) School activities shall not be counted as absences. Assigned work shall be turned in on the date indicated by the teacher.

## M. Limited English Proficient (LEP) Revised 7/21/98 \& 6/27/00

All students with limited English proficiency (L.E.P.) must be appropriately
identified in order to ensure the provision of appropriate services. Every student identified as L.E.P. shall continue to receive appropriate instruction and funding as specified by the District L.E.P. Plan, State Board Rules and Regulations, and Florida Statutes until such time as the student is reclassified as English proficient. Note: See the School District of Osceola County Limited English Proficient Plan 1999 for full explanation of services and models. Amended 6/27/00
(1) Home language survey (HLS) and identification criteria: Revised 6/27/00
a. A student with all NO responses on the HLS is considered nonlimited English proficient.
b. A student with any YES response is referred for English language proficiency assessment.
c. A student with a YES response to question \#1 only is temporarily placed in non-ESOL classes until English language proficiency assessment is completed.
d. A student with a YES response to question \#2 and/or \#3 is temporarily placed in ESOL classes until English language proficiency assessment is completed.
e. The grade level appropriate Idea Oral Language Proficiency Test will be used to determine oral/aural English ability and is to be administered within 20 days of the student enrollment date, language survey (HLS) and identification criteria:

Students in grades 4-12 found to be fluent English speaking will be given a nationally-normed, standardized reading and writing test, within 20 days of the oral/aural test for further assessment of their English ability.
f. Exceptional students (ESE) with any YES response shall be reviewed by a joint ESE/LEP committee to determine appropriate ESOL assessment and placement.
g. Pre-K students with any YES response are considered LEP until the English language assessment is administered in Kindergarten.

PEEP Pre-K students with any YES response shall be reviewed by a joint ESE/LEP committee to determine ESOL status.
(2) Every limited English proficient student is entitled to equal access to all academic, categorical and federal programs offered by the School District of Osceola County. The amount of time the LEP student is assigned to the program(s) shall be comparable to the time assigned to a non-LEP student
under similar conditions. Changes to the student's LEP plan are documented by the school's LEP committee and maintained in the LEP Portfolio as part of the student permanent record. Adopted 6/27/00
(3) Limited English proficient students are taught by subject area teachers following the corresponding district curriculum. The instructional personnel provide appropriate and individualized instruction to students through the use of ESOL teaching strategies, appropriate instructional materials, curriculum modifications and testing modifications. The ESOL modifications are documented in the teacher's lesson plans as evidence that understandable instruction is being provided. Adopted 6/27/00

Schools with fifteen (15) or more LEP students who speak the same home language must have at least one bilingual teacher assistant or bilingual teacher proficient in English and the home language of the students. The ESOL teacher assistant's (or bilingual teacher's) primary assignment is to offer the LEP students additional help in the basic content areas under the supervision of the basic subject area teacher.Adopted 6/27/00
(4) Limited English proficient students who are unable to demonstrate mastery in academic subject areas as described in the Pupil Progression Plan will be referred to an Academic Improvement Plan/LEP committee. This committee will develop an academic improvement plan for the student in accordance with the following guidelines and procedures: Adopted 6/27/00
a. Establish lack of academic progress in reading, writing, and mathematics using a composite of indicators that includes, but is not limited to: grade level checklist, pre-tests and post-tests, alternative assessment results, previous academic records, diagnostic assessment in the home language, and any other appropriate indicator of academic progress.
b. First AIP/LEP committee meeting develops an academic improvement plan that includes a list of intensive remedial instructional strategies designed to assist the LEP student (NOTE: ESOL modifications are not considered remedial strategies).
c. Second AIP committee meeting, with ESOL representation, is held within 18 weeks to review the effectiveness of the remedial strategies. If the LEP student does not make satisfactory progress, the curriculum may be suspended and intense remedial instruction in math, reading and/or mathematics is provided based on the student's deficiencies.
d. If the LEP student still has not made satisfactory progress after implementing the academic improvement plan for at least 27 weeks, the LEP committee may recommend retention unless
conditions exist such that retention would be more adverse for the student than promotion.
e. The LEP Committee may exempt LEP students from the retention provision. The LEP student may be recommended for promotion based on at least 3 good cause considerations such as educational background, academic ability in home/native language, number of years in the U.S., current academic progress corresponding to the language arts through ESOL manual, acculturation to new culture, home support, age appropriateness, and mobility.

## (5) Retention of LEP students Revised 6/27/00

a. An LEP student can be retained when there is lack of academic progress in grade level concepts and skills as stated in Section $\mathrm{I}, \mathrm{M}(4) \mathrm{a}$.
b. The LEP committee shall meet to document the evidence indicating lack of academic progress and to recommend retention. The parent/guardian shall be invited to attend.
c. The teacher(s) must show extensive documentation of the ESOL strategies used to provide the student with understandable instruction.
d. The reason for retention must not imply the student needs an extra year to learn English or that the under-performance is due to the child’s limited English proficiency.
(6) Guidelines for grading and reporting academic progress of LEP students Revised 6/27/00
a. The course grade and academic progress of LEP students will be based on the results of teacher observation, alternative assessments, and modified tests used to assess the understandable instruction provided through the use of ESOL teaching strategies, appropriate instructional materials, and curriculum modifications.
b. If there is a continued pattern of failure in classroom performance and assessments, the LEP committee shall meet to review the reasons for the student's lack of progress. The reason(s) documented for the academic under-performance of an LEP student cannot imply that he/she needs an extra year to learn English or that it is due to the student's lack of English proficiency.

The following documentation needs to be in the student permanent records:

1. Documentation of the ESOL strategies used by the ESOL language arts and basic content area teacher(s) to provide understandable instruction, including the alternative assessment instruments and test modifications used to evaluate the student's academic progress.
2. The instructional support requested by the teacher(s) to provide additional assistance for the student from the ESOL Compliance Specialist and/or the ESOL/bilingual tutorial services available at the school.
3. The records of parental contacts or attempts made to inform the parent/guardian of the student's underperformance. When applicable, copies of the deficiency reports signed by the student and parent/guardian. Notices to parent/guardian of LEP students must be provided in the home/native language, whenever feasible.
c. The reason for the academic under-performance of an LEP student must not imply that he/she needs an extra year to learn English or that it is due to the student's lack of English proficiency.

## II. Elementary Promotion and Placement

A. A screening program for all kindergarten students will be administered yearly. For LEP students, the screening shall be provided in an understandable manner through modeling or using the primary language, whenever feasible. Results of this screening will identify students who will be considered for further screening and psychological testing to determine if special placement is indicated.
Amended 6/29/93 \& 6/27/00
B. Required Program of Study - Grades K-5

Grades K-5 promotion should be based on successful progress as indicated by report cards, District and State assessments, daily assignments, teacher observation, satisfactory performance in the grade level curriculum, and other data. For LEP students, see section I,M(2,3). Amended 6/15/99 \& 6/27/00
(1) The following areas of study are required for each student, K-5: Language Arts, Mathematics, Science/Health, and Social Studies,
(2) Elementary schools are required to provide instruction in a characterdevelopment program,
(3) Additional courses of studies may include, but shall not be limited to: Amended 6/27/00

Art

## Career Education

## Computers

Conservation of natural resources
Developmental Physical Education
Free Enterprise, Consumer and Economic Education
Foreign Language
Hispanic contributions to the US
History of African Americans
History of the Holocaust
History of the State
Kindness to animals
Library Science
Metric Education
Music
Safety
School Police Liaison Program
Women's contributions to the US

## C. Remediation and Retention Adopted 6/27/00

Students in grades 1-5 who are identified as being considerably or substantially below grade level in reading, writing, mathematics and/or science must receive remediation and may be retained. However, students whose test scores and classroom performance indicate that they are almost at grade level may be promoted with close monitoring or promoted with an AIP.

The following options are available for students who have not met the levels of performance for pupil progression:
(1) Remediate before the beginning of the next school year and promote;
(2) Promote and remediate during the following year with more intensive intervention and remediation strategies identified in the Academic Improvement Plan;
(3) Retain and remediate using an alternative program of instructional delivery.
D. Mandatory Retention Adopted 6/27/00

No student may be assigned to a grade level based solely on age or other factors that constitute social promotion. Adopted 6/19/01

Students in grade 4 who have received remediation for reading in grades $1,2,3$, or 4 AND who score at achievement Level 1 on the grade 4 FCAT tests with performance tasks AND who have a rank below the $25^{\text {th }}$ percentile in the FCAT norm-referenced tests in reading comprehension must be retained. Amended 6/19/01

Students in grades 3 and 5, who score 3 or above on a 6-point scale on a school administered and scored writing assessment will be considered proficient. Adopted 6/19/01

Students who score 3 or above on a 6 point scale on the FCAT writing test at grade 4 will be considered proficient. (For LEP students, see section I,M(5). Adopted 6/19/01

Retention decisions will not be made on a single test score. (For LEP students, see section I,M(5). Adopted 6/19/01

Grade 4 students may be exempted from mandatory retention by the School Board for good cause.

## E. Exemption from Mandatory Retention (Good Cause) in Grade 4. Adopted

 6/27/00The School Board may exempt a student from mandatory retention at grade 4 for good cause. One of the following conditions for exemption from mandatory retention must exist:
(1) Previous Retention - A student who has been retained prior to the current school year and has been in an intensive remedial program in reading, as defined by the Pupil Progression Plan, for two or more years may be exempt. This exemption may take place if it has been determined that the student's academic progress can only occur as a result of promotion to an alternative program of instruction that is significantly different from that which has been availed to the student and this program will be provided to the student.
(2) Recommendation from a Multidisciplinary Team - A student who is currently enrolled in or has been referred to Child Study for placement in an approved special program (LEP, ESE, 504) may be exempt. This recommendation must contain comprehensive documentation from the multidisciplinary team meeting supporting the rationale for the student's exemption.
(3) Academic Performance - When multiple measures demonstrate that state assessment results are not indicative of the student's level of academic performance then the student may be exempt. Multiple measures may include, but are not limited to: Stanford 9, Osceola Writes, and other diagnostic instruments used at the school or District level.

## III. Middle School Promotion and Placement

## A. General Academic Requirements

Middle school students will receive instruction in grades six through eight in the following basic subjects: (For LEP students, see section $\mathrm{I}, \mathrm{M}(2,3)$. Amended 6/15/99 \& 6/27/00
(1) Three years in mathematics.
(2) Three years in communications, which will include experiences in reading, writing, speaking and listening.
(3) Three years of science, which will include instruction in life science, earth science and physical science.
(4) Three years in social studies, which will include the study of the United States and world geography, civics, and Florida history.
(5) The opportunity to enroll in physical education courses, which will be regularly scheduled each year by each school.
(6) A series of experiences will be provided for student development through exposure to courses selected from, but not limited to, the following: Amended 6/29/93

| Agriculture | Health |
| :--- | :--- |
| Art | Technology Education |
| Band | Law |
| Business | Music |
| Career Education | Public Service |
| Consumer Education | Reading |
| Foreign Language | Writing Skills |

(7) One semester of Health or Personal Development shall be required for students at the seventh or eighth grade, unless a middle school principal elects to cover district health performance standards in a science course and the following criteria are met: Amended 6/30/92 \& 6/29/93
a. The science teacher involved is certified in both science and health, and
b. A letter of explanation is sent to the Superintendent prior to the beginning of the school year. The letter must be signed by the principal and the teacher and must ensure that all student performance standards for both the science and the health courses will be met.
(8) In addition to the courses identified above, students must master basic skills in the area of computer literacy. Amended 7/21/98
(9) Students who attend grades seven and eight in Osceola County may elect to take, if offered, high school (dual enrollment) courses at the middle school provided the courses are taught by teachers holding appropriate certification in the subjects offered. The textbook, the district performance standards, and the grading policy shall be the same as for the high school course. These dual enrollment classes must be level II or above as outlined in The Florida Course Code Directory. Dual enrolled students must adhere to high school attendance requirements for receiving credit. In order to receive high school credit, the student must earn a final grade of an "A" or "B". Amended 6/30/92, 6/29/93, 7/21/98 \& 6/15/99 \& 6/19/01

## B. Promotion

## (1) General RequirementsAmended 6/27/00

All students must pass five (5) subjects per grade level including language arts, mathematics, science and social studies. Promotion should be based on standardized test results, daily assignments, teacher observation, teacher made tests, satisfactory attainment of the student performance standards in the curriculum frameworks and other objective information. If the achievement level is not met, the teacher shall utilize deficiency/progress reports to communicate with the parent during the grading period. Notices to parent/guardian of LEP students must be provided in the primary language, whenever feasible.

Beginning with the 1999-2000 school year, students will be retained in the same grade if: (For LEP students, see section I,M(4)(d)): Amended 6/27/00
(a) As sixth grade students, they fail to receive five (5) grade points, out of a possible sixteen (16) in each academic subject areas.
(b) As seventh grade students, they fail to earn five (5) grade points, out of a possible sixteen (16), in each academic subject area.
(c) As eighth grade students, they fail to earn six (6) grade points, out of a possible sixteen (16), in each academic subject area
(d) Students not meeting the above criteria for promotion may earn promotion by successfully completing a summer remediation or testing program as provided at their school. Students who are not successful with the provided opportunity are to be retained. Amended 7/2/96 \& 6/15/99
(2) Remediation Programs Amended 7/21/98, 6/15/99 \& 6/27/00

Students who do not successfully master all of the materials necessary for promotion will be provided an Academic Improvement Plan. (For LEP students, see section I,M(4)). Amended 6/30/92, 7/2/96 \& 6/15/99

Beginning with the 1999-2000 school year, graduating eighth grade students whose test scores fall in the bottom quartile or who have been identified as needing assistance in one or more areas of mathematics, reading, writing, and/or study skills will be required to complete an intensive summer program at the high school designed to provide students with skills needed to be successful in high school. Upon successful completion of the summer program students will receive 1.5 elective high school credits. Students who fail to master needed skills in the summer
school will continue in the program during the fall semester.
Parents of students who have been retained or identified as needing remediation may contract with state certified teachers or enroll students in an approved remedial program to teach individual students in lieu of attendance in a remedial school program. However, if the parent chooses this option, he or she must notify the child's school principal in writing within fifteen (15) days after the AIP conference. Such students will be required to pass a school-approved exam. Amended 7/2/96

## (3) Retention and Acceleration Amended 6/15/99, 6/27/00 \& 6/19/01

No student may be assigned to a grade level based solely on age or other factors that constitute social promotion.

An appropriate placement, which differs from the present placement, must be considered for a student who has been retained two or more years.

Students classified as retained after the summer programs will be eligible for such placement. Recommendation for placement is to be determined on an individual basis considering:
a. Teacher recommendations
b. Parent recommendations
c. Test scores - FCAT with performance tasks - Stanford nine, FCAT norm - referenced test
d. Child study assessment.
e. LEP committee recommendation for LEP students.

Eighth ( $\left.8^{\text {th }}\right)$ grade students who are placed in the ninth grade will be enrolled in a mandatory remediation program.

Eighth ( $\left.8^{\text {th }}\right)$ grade students promoted to the ninth $\left(9^{\text {th }}\right)$ grade may take courses during the regular summer school for acceleration.

## IV. High School Grade Classification and Graduation Requirements

To graduate from high school a student must, meet all the requirements of this plan, demonstrate mastery of the Student Performance Standards (229.565, F.S) and meet all requirements established by the Florida Department of Education and the School Board of Osceola County.

Seniors participating in high school graduation ceremonies shall have completed all requirements for graduation as set forth in this Pupil Progression Plan. Seniors
receiving a Certificate of Completion or a Special Certificate of Completion will also be eligible to participate in the ceremonies. Amended 6/28/94

Graduation ceremonies will be scheduled at the end of the regular academic year and at the close of the second summer session each year.

Students enrolled in a District K-12 dropout prevention program and earning a GED equivalency diploma may participate in the graduation ceremony of the high school in their attendance zone. Amended 7/23/91

Beginning with the 1999-2000 school year, incoming ninth grade students who fail to master needed skills in the summer school program will continue in the program during the fall semester. Adopted 6/27/00

## A. Grade Classification

A student, including an LEP student, will be placed in accordance with the number of credits earned by the beginning of the school year. Amended 6/27/00
(1) A student must have earned 5 credits ( 6 credits, 4 X 4 schedule) and have a 2.0 G.P.A. to be classified as a sophomore. Amended 6/15/99 \& 6/27/00
(2) A student must have earned 11 credits (14 credits, 4X4 schedule) and have a 2.0 G.P.A to be classified as a junior. Amended 6/15/99, 6/27/00 \& 6/27/00
(3) A student must have earned 18 credits (22 credits, 4X4 schedule) and have a 2.0 G.P.A to be classified as a senior. Amended 6/15/99 \& 6/27/00
(4) Students who transfer into Osceola County from public schools shall be classified according to their grade placement at the school from which they transfer. Thereafter they will follow classification as set up by Osceola County except for those students who transfer as seniors.
(5) In order to receive a diploma from an Osceola County high school, all students who attend school in Florida as ninth or tenth graders will be required to earn one half credit in Life Management Skills and beginning with the 1999-2000 ninth grade class, one credit in physical education, which will include one-half credit in Personal Fitness.
Amended 7/23/91, 7/21/98 \& 6/19/01
(6) All transfer students will be expected to attempt to earn a minimum of three (3) credits per semester in the year of their transfer; however, no requirement for specific course work will be retroactive except as stated above.

The requirements of the School Board shall not be retroactive for transfer
students provided the student has met all requirements of the school, school district or state from which he/she is transferring (6A-1.095) Adopted 6/30/92 \& Amended 6/27/95

Students will be limited to the transfer of no more than four high school credits earned prior to entry into the ninth grade. Such credits must have been earned at the seventh and eighth grade levels and follow Pupil Progression Plan rule III A(9). Adopted 6/30/92 \& Amended 6/27/95 \& 7/21/98
(7) Students may be promoted to the next grade at the end of the first semester of a school year provided they have earned the following number of credits and have maintained a 2.0 G.P.A.: Adopted 7/23/91, Amended 6/15/99 \& 6/27/00

| Sophomore - 8 credits | (10 credits, 4X4 schedule) |
| :--- | :--- |
| Junior - | 14 credits |
| Senior - | 21 credits |

(8) Seniors who have earned 24 credits ( 30 credits, 4 X 4 schedule) by the end of the first semester in a given school year may pursue one of the following options:
Adopted 7/23/91
a. Graduate at the end of the first semester. (Students will receive their diplomas and be permitted to participate in graduation ceremonies at the end of the second semester.)
b. Participate in the dual enrollment program at Valencia Community College or at TECO, if they qualify. Amended 6/27/00
c. Remain at the high school to pursue advanced academic and/or vocational studies.
B. $\quad$ Requirements for Graduation Amended 6/30/92 \& 7/29/97
(1) Credits needed for graduation- 24

NOTE: Enhanced credit requirements are in place for those students who attend high schools in which the 4 -year (not including summer school) credit earning potential is greater. Guidelines are available at individual-high schools. Adopted 6/15/99, Amended 6/19/01

The courses listed below shall include the requirements of Sections 233.061 and 232.246, Florida Statutes. (For LEP students see Section I,M(2,3)). The 24 credits shall be distributed as follows: Amended 6/27/00

Language ArtsFour (4) credits

| Mathematics | Three (3) credits Amended 8/6/96 <br> Algebra 1 or Equivalent or <br> a higher level mathematics |
| :--- | :--- |
|  | course |
| [Effective for incoming $9^{\text {th }}$ |  |
| graders 1996-97 and thereafter] |  |

Science Three (3) credits:
Two of which must include laboratory components

Social Studies
Three (3) credits
World History (l)
American History (1)
American Govt. (1/2)
Economics (1/2)

One credit (to include one half (1/2) credit of Personal Fitness) Effective for incoming $9^{\text {th }}$ graders 1999-2000 and thereafter.
Amended 7/21/98 \& 1/16/01

Shall be deemed $9^{\text {th }}$ and $10^{\text {th }}$ grade courses.
Participation in an interscholastic sport, at the junior varsity, or varsity level for two full seasons, shall satisfy the one credit requirement for Physical Education if the student passes a competency test on personal fitness with a score of "C" or better; however, participation may not be used to satisfy the credit requirement. Students must still satisfy the 24credit requirement for graduation; but will not be required to meet the one (1) credit requirement in physical education. The Physical Education credit cannot be required of ninth grade students. Adopted 7/29/97, Amended 7/21/98

Life Management Skills/ Health One-half (1/2) credit
Shall be deemed $9^{\text {th }}$ and $10^{\text {th }}$ grade courses.

Practical Arts/Performing
Fine Arts One (l) credit

In order to meet this requirement, students may earn:
One credit in Practical Arts Vocational Education or Exploratory Vocational Education:

## OR

One credit in Performing Fine Arts:

## OR

One-half (1/2) credit each in Practical Arts, Vocational Education or Exploratory Vocational Education and Performing Fine Arts.

Practical arts may be fulfilled by any secondary or eligible postsecondary course in the Vocational Section or by substituting one of the basic Computer Education Courses or Journalism II, III or IV on a curriculum equivalency basis.

No more than one (l) credit in Exploratory Vocational courses may be used for credit toward high school graduation.

Electives: Eight and one-half (8 1/2) credits Amended 7/21/98 \& 6/27/00

Beginning with the 1996-97 school year, incoming $9^{\text {th }}$ grade students will be required a grade point average of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale for twenty-four (24) credits used to meet the state graduation requirements. Amended 8/6/96

All students must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale as required by Florida Statutes 232.246(1). Parents of students who have cumulative grade point averages less than 0.5 above the required graduation level shall be notified that the student is at risk of not meeting the graduation requirements. This notification shall be in the form provided in the District approved reporting procedures. Adopted 7/29/97, Amended 6/19/01

Each student is entitled to "... 13 consecutive years of instruction, beginning with kindergarten, ..."

Students entering the ninth (9th) grade in 1999-2000 must pass the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test. Students who were ninth (9th) graders prior to 1999-2000 must either pass the High School Competency Test (HSCT) or achieve a passing score on the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test, which exempts the student from the High School Competency Test. Amended 6/15/99 \& 6/27/00
(2) A student may not enroll in Level I courses unless the assessment of the
student indicates that a more rigorous course of study would be inappropriate, in which case, a written assessment of the need must be included in the student's individual education plan or in a student performance plan signed by the principal, the guidance counselor, and the parent. Adopted 7/29/97
(3) For those students at each grade level in grades 9 through 12 who have attained a cumulative grade point average at or below the minimum required for graduation, the following options will be made available. The programs offered include provisions for assisting students at or below the required cumulative grade point average to achieve the required cumulative grade point average for promotion or for graduation. Adopted 7/29/97, Amended 6/27/00 \& 6/19/01
a. Students who have completed more than $81 / 2$ elective credits (9 for students entering prior to 1998-99) may choose to have the lowest elective grades of those courses in excess of the 24 credits required for graduation dropped before the computation of their final GPA. Adopted 7/29/97, Amended 6/27/00 \& 6/19/01
b. Students entering ninth $\left(9^{\text {th }}\right)$ grade prior to 2000-2001 who earn any grade other than an "A" may retake the course to improve their skills, grade, and G.P.A. Students entering ninth $\left(9^{\text {th }}\right)$ grade in 2000-2001 and thereafter who earn grade of "D" or "F" may retake the course to improve their skills, grade, and GPA. The "D" or "F" grade may be replaced with a grade of "C" or higher. The highest grade earned will be used to calculate the cumulative grade point average. Credit toward graduation can only be awarded once. $\quad$ Adopted 7/29/97 \& 1/16/01
c. Students who have not attained the required grade point average are eligible to attend summer school in an attempt to raise the cumulative grade point average. Adopted 7/29/97
(4) Eighth (8) grade students may enroll in an approved course designated as a $9^{\text {th }}-12^{\text {th }}$ grade course by the current course code directory, and will be classified as a high school student for the period of time involved. Students earning credit through such high school courses will be credited with meeting the requirements designated in the district Pupil Progression Plan as required for promotion for the appropriate pre-ninth grade course(s). In order to receive high school credit, the student must earn a final grade of an "A" or "B". Amended 7/29/97 \& 6/27/00
(5) Students entering the ninth $\left(9^{\text {th }}\right)$ grade prior to 2000-2001 who earn any grade other than an "A" may retake the course to improve their skills, grade, and G.P.A. Students entering the ninth ( $\left.9^{\text {th }}\right)$ grade in 2000-2001 and thereafter who earn a grade of "D" or "F" may retake the course and replace the "D" or " $F$ " grade with a grade of " $C$ " or higher. The highest
grade earned will be used in calculating the grade point average. Credit toward graduation can only be awarded once.
Amended 7/23/91, 7/29/97, 6/27/00 \& 1/16/01
(6) All high schools will utilize a Pacer Scale for honors courses as a means to determine senior class rank and valedictorian/salutatorian selections. These determinations will be made at the end of the eighth semester and will include all high school courses taken. Pacer Points will be assigned based upon the Grading Scale adopted by the School Board. High schools will assign the Pacer Points to dual enrollment college courses and to all level 3 courses as defined in the Course Code Directory except level 3 courses in physical education. Pacer Points will not be used when determining the 2.0 grade point average required for graduation, or the final grade point average. Adopted 7/29/97, Amended 6/15/99, 6/27/00 \& 6/19/01

## C. Curriculum Frameworks-Grades 9-12 Basic and Adult Education

A curriculum framework is a broad guideline which directs district personnel by providing specific instructional plans for a given subject or area of study and is consistent with the Course Code Directory. Curriculum frameworks are contained in the publication "Curriculum Frameworks for Grades 9-12, Adult Basic Program". This publication is on file at each high school and the district office.

The above frameworks include the Exceptional Student Education Courses and the Vocational Courses.

## D. Student Performance Standards

Student Performance Standards have been developed cooperatively with district personnel for the intended outcomes specified in each curriculum and are also on file at each high school and the district office.

Students must show mastery of the performance standards before credit for course is awarded. Upon successful completion of the course, with at least seventy per cent (70\%) proficiency, students will have demonstrated mastery. Student mastery will be assessed through the use of teacher observation, classroom assignments and examinations (for LEP students see Section I,M(3)). Students must also meet the attendance requirement as set forth in section 6.2.1.E or F of School Board Rules. Amended 7/21/98 \& 6/27/00

## E. Home Instruction

As provided by Florida Statute 232.02(1) parents may choose to place their children in a home instruction program in lieu of public school. The requirements of the law will be monitored through the office of Student Services.

Revised 7/23/91, Amended 7/21/98 \& 6/27/00
(1) Florida Statute, section 232.0201 states that it is the responsibility of the parent to provide a written evaluation of the home-schooled student's progress. With respect to the awarding of high school credit, the Superintendent agrees to the following stipulations:
Revised 9/17/96, Amended 7/21/98
a. The student must present to the school principal a listing of the specific courses for which credit is requested. Credits earned through institutions affiliated with the following accrediting agencies will be accepted at face value as long as those courses can be aligned with the Florida Course Code Directory:

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
The Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools
The New England Association of Colleges and Schools
The North Central Association of Colleges and Schools
The Northwest Association of Colleges and Schools
The Western Association of Colleges and Schools
Such affiliation must be validated through appropriate documentation, which will remain on file in the Office of Student Services.
b. Credits earned from a non-accredited institution may be granted under the following conditions: Revised 7/21/98

1. Courses can be aligned with the Florida Course Code Directory.
2. Student must produce a portfolio for the course in which student is requesting credit which has been reviewed by a Florida certified teacher in that subject area.
3. The student must pass a comprehensive subject level examination with a minimum score of $70 \%$.

In cases where there is no corresponding subject level examination, the student must pass an appropriate high school level final examination with a minimum score of $70 \%$. The final examination must be prepared by a Florida certified teacher currently employed by the Osceola School Board and teaching said course at the high school level.

It will be the responsibility of the student's parents or guardians to procure, schedule, and locate qualified teachers to conduct evaluations for home-schooled courses for which credit is requested.

Examinations for the purpose of earning credit may be attempted two (2) times. Failure to pass an examination for a second time will require the student to enroll in his home zoned school and complete the course for which credit was requested.

A student enrolling in an Osceola County high school from home education cannot transfer earned credits in excess of the number of credits that student could normally earn per year in the student's home-zoned school.

The School District of Osceola County is not authorized to provide regular high school diplomas to students who complete a high school course of study as a home education student. In order to earn a regular high school diploma from the District, the student must be enrolled as a full-time student for the entire semester prior to the expected date of graduation and have successfully completed all other graduation requirements as outlined in school Board policy.
c. Students who request credit according to the above stipulations shall be classified according to age/grade appropriate placement. Any courses requested for credit must align with the graduation requirements and be contained within the maximum number of credits allowable under the District adopted Pupil Progression Plan. Adopted 9/17/96
(2) Students who expect to earn Summer School credit in a home instruction program must be registered with the Superintendent by the end of the first grading period (second week) of summer school.
(3) Home education students may participate in dual enrollment, vocational dual enrollment and early admission. Credit by examination is available through approved correspondence courses. The home education student is responsible for his/her instructional materials and transportation unless provided for otherwise. The enrollment shall be in accordance with the guidelines established by the Community Colleges and State Universities. Adopted 7/2/96
(4) Home education students are eligible to participate in interscholastic extracurricular student activities. Guidelines for participation will be established pursuant to 232.425 , F.S. and will be made available to home
education students choosing to participate in interscholastic extracurricular activities. Adopted 7/2/96
(5) Students who are participating in a home instruction program in accordance with Florida Statutes, section 232.02(1)(4), may be admitted to the public school on a part-time basis. Adopted 9/17/96
a. Students in home education who wish to attend public school must meet the same registration requirements as full-time students, and enroll for and attend at least one (1) regularly scheduled class period at the zoned school. Such students must register prior to the start of the semester they will attend. Full-time students will be given priority in course registration. Home-schooled students who are excluded from a class/course at their zoned school due to space limitations may attend another school if space in that class/course is available. Adopted 9/17/96, Amended 6/19/01
b. The Board is not responsible for the transportation of students in a home education program to or from the school. The school principal will establish the time and place for arrival and departure of home education students. Students who attend school on a parttime basis are subject to all applicable rules and regulations pertaining to full-time students. Adopted 9/17/96
(6) Students who wish to participate in the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) may do so under the following conditions: Adopted 6/19/01
a. Home education students may take the FCAT only at the school for which they are zoned.
b. Home education students must abide by all rules of the Student Code of Conduct while on any Osceola County school campus. Failure to do so will result in the removal of the student from the campus and loss of testing privileges.
c. Home instruction parents must notify the appropriate school(s) of their intention to participate in testing at least (2) weeks in advance of the scheduled assessment.

## F. Cumulative Grade Point Average

All students will be required to maintain an overall grade-point average of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale. Amended 7/2/96, 9/17/96, 7/21/98, 6/27/00, \& 6/19/01

Auth: 230.23 (6) (a) (b) Imple: 232.246
G. Challenger Learning Center - Grade Levels 9-12 Amended 6/30/92

This is a program specifically designed for school dropouts, in order to provide them with a vehicle to complete a high school program; or in some instances, to assist those students into reentering a regular high school setting, once they have completed some credit requirements. (For LEP students, see Section I,M(2). Amended 6/27/00

A total of 24 credits must be earned for graduation. These credits are described in section IV B.

This is a competency-based program with students demonstrating mastery of the student performance standards. Elective credits for related work experience (OJT) in this program are earned on the same basis as in the regular day-school vocational programs.

Only students who have been withdrawn from school for a minimum of nine school weeks are eligible for placement in this program. Exceptions to this placement may be approved, based on extenuating circumstances, by a threemember committee of administrators and/or placement by the Superintendent or School Board. A cooperative effort between the Instructional Department and Student Services will provide the guidance and scheduling for student placement and follow-up. Students must agree to attend a minimum of 15 hours per week of classroom instruction during the regular school year. Amended 6/27/00 \& 6/19/01

Students must:
(l) Earn twenty-four credits as stated above with a 1.5 G.P.A., for those courses taken before 1996-97, Amended 6/15/99
(2) Maintain a grade point average of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale for all courses taken beginning with the 1996-97 school year and thereafter. Adopted 9/17/96, Amended 6/15/99 \& 6/19/01
(3) Pass all necessary parts of the High School Competency Test or reach the score on the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test that will exempt the student. Amended 6/15/99

An articulation meeting will be arranged for the students wishing to re-enter the regular high school program. Amended 6/19/01

Although this program is designed to provide students with a non-traditional school setting in order to meet individual needs, the school district Code of Student Conduct is in effect and School Board Rules governing student conduct will be followed.

## V. Types of Diplomas

Students in Osceola County Schools may earn the following types of diplomas: Amended 6/15/99 \& 6/27/00
(1) Regular
(2) Regular - GED Exit Option
(3) Special
(4) Certificate of Completion
(5) Special Certificate of Completion
(6) Adult High School Diploma
(7) College Ready Diploma
(8) Florida High School Diploma (G.E.D.)
(9) Adult Special High School Diploma Adopted 9/17/96
A. A Regular Diploma shall be issued to students who meet the conditions set forth in this Pupil Progression Plan section IV, except for those students who successfully enroll in and complete the GED Exit Option Program. This must include passing the High School Competency Test (HSCT) or achieving an acceptable score on the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test. Amended 7/23/91 \& 6/27/00
B. A Regular Diploma-GED Exit Option shall be issued to students who meet the conditions set forth in the Pupil Progression Plan. Adopted 6/27/00
(1) Requirements

To meet the requirements for a regular high school diploma under the GED Exit Option, a student shall meet the program eligibility criteria and be enrolled in a Dropout Program, Teenage Parent, Department of Juvenile Justice or Second Chance School Program; currently be enrolled in a high school or alternative program; be a minimum of 16 years of age;
demonstrate a 9.0 or above reading level as measured by a state-approved assessment instrument, pass the HSCT or FCAT or demonstrate successful completion by the end of the programmatic year; and shall not be eligible to graduate before the date of the class with whom a student enters kindergarten.
(2) Attendance

Meet attendance requirement
(3) Curriculum

Students must be enrolled in a minimum of six courses throughout the academic year. The courses must include the following:
a. Applied Communications
b. Economics/American Government
c. Algebra, Algebra 1a or Applied Math 1.
d. Any combination of a secondary or postsecondary technology or a vocational course of study, career preparation or on-the-job training

Students must complete the prescribed program in order to obtain a regular high school diploma through the GED Exit Option Program as well as complete a career portfolio. All students obtaining a regular diploma under the GED Exit Option must successfully pass the GED Test and the HSCT. A grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 or above must be maintained in the coursework taken through the GED Exit Option Program.

## C. Special Diploma

1. Option I Amended $7 / 23 / 91,6 / 28 / 94 \& 7 / 21 / 98$

A Special Diploma shall be awarded to properly classified Educable Mentally Handicapped, Trainable Mentally Handicapped, Profoundly, Mentally Handicapped, Hearing Impaired, Specific Learning Disabled, Emotionally Handicapped, Physically Handicapped whose ability to communicate orally or in writing is seriously impaired. Students must also master the Revised Performance Standards according to assigned State performance levels.

These performance standards must be documented by the exceptional student teacher starting when the student is initially placed into an exceptional Student Education program and progressing through
graduation from high school. Specific grade levels for completion are given to designate when the child should master the appropriate competency. Amended 7/21/98

The Revised Student Performance Standards for Exceptional Students Tracking Form should be used for students that will be graduating from high school. Any exceptional student excluding Visually Impaired who has acquired appropriate credit for a regular high school diploma, but did not pass the High School Competency Test can be issued an Option I special diplomas. Amended 7/21/98

Beginning with the 2000-2001 ninth (9th) grade class, a student must demonstrate competency in the Sunshine State Standards at the expected levels of functionality as identified by the IEP team. Adopted 6/27/00

## 2. Option II Adopted $7 / 21 / 98$

A Special Diploma Option II shall be awarded to any exceptional student, excluding visually impaired, who demonstrates mastery of specified employment and community competencies. The student may graduate with more or less than four years of attendance in grades $9-12$. This student must satisfactorily complete the equivalent of eleven credits as specified and be employed full-time at least 25 hours per week in a community based job for a minimum of one semester unless the student is placed in supported competitive employment. In such cases the student must be employed for the equivalent of one semester. The student's Individual Education Plan and training plan shall be developed to identify job specific competencies.

The student must also be at least sixteen (16) years of age to be considered for this option and shall be at least eighteen (18) years of age to graduate.

Option 2 does not require mastery of the Sunshine State Standards. Amended 6/27/00
D. A Certificate of Completion shall be issued to all students who acquire appropriate credits for a high school diploma, but do not pass the High School Competency Test. Amended 7/23/91
E. A Special Certificate of Completion shall be issued to an eligible exceptional education student who meets the requirements for his exceptionality, but is unable to meet the appropriate special state minimum requirements.
F. Adult High School Diploma

Amended 7/23/91 \& 7/29/97
Adult students completing all established credit requirements receive a Regular Adult High School Diploma. Amended 6/27/00
G. College Ready Diploma Adopted 6/15/99

Students who meet the following requirements will be awarded a differentiated college-ready diploma:
(1) Complete the requirements for a standard high school diploma as prescribed by s.232.246. Among courses taken to fulfill the 24 -academiccredit requirement, a student must take high school courses adopted by the Board of Regents and recommended by the State Board of Community Colleges as college-preparatory academic courses.
(2) Take the postsecondary common placement test prescribed in s.240.117, or an equivalent test identified by the State Board of Education, before graduation and score at or above the established statewide passing score in each test area.
(3) A college-ready diploma entitles a student to admission without placement testing to a public postsecondary education program for a period of two (2) years after earning the college-ready diploma.
H. Florida High School Diploma Amended 7/23/91

Students or residents who are eighteen (18) years old or older and students who have met all requirements for graduation except the attainment of a 2.0 cumulative grade point average may apply to take the GED exam.
Amended 9/17/96 \& 7/29/97

## I. Adult Special Diploma Adopted 9/17/96

Any adult student who is twenty-one (21) or older and classified as educable mentally handicapped, trainable mentally handicapped, profoundly mentally handicapped, hearing impaired, deaf, specific learning disabled, physically impaired, visually impaired, blind, autistic or emotionally handicapped may be awarded an adult special diploma if all requirements are met.

## VI. Credits Applicable Toward Graduation

## A. Early Admission for Advanced Studies

Students who meet the prerequisites of an early admission and advanced studies program may be permitted to enroll as a full-time post secondary student during their senior year in high school. Such programs shall meet the following conditions:
(1) Approval of the program by the School Board shall be obtained before the end of the first month of the final year of high school or before the end of the first semester if entry is expected during the second semester of the final year of high school.
(2) The student shall be accepted by a state accredited post-secondary school or university after completion of three (3) full senior high school years, and a minimum of eighteen (18) credits is earned.
(3) The student shall maintain at least an overall "C" average.
(4) Any senior enrolled in college courses full-time may re-enter a high school within the district as a full-time student at the end of the high school semester.
(4) Any credit earned at the accredited post secondary level may be substituted for a required high school credit in the same discipline. Successful completion of a 3-hour college course will equal $1 / 2$ high school credit.

## B. Dual Enrollment

(1) A student may enroll in one or more classes at the college level or in an accredited vocational school while still attending high school. Credit may be earned toward graduation as stated in section VI A (3).

Auth: Rule 6A-10.0241, FAC
(2) The request of a student to participate in this program must be in writing.

The signature of the guidance director and the principal shall constitute approval. (For LEP students, see Section I,M(2). Amended 6/27/00

## (3) Dual Enrollment VCC

The School Board of Osceola County and Valencia Community college shall co-sponsor appropriate college courses in high schools during the normal class hours when requested by the principal. Students enrolled in co-sponsored classes shall earn both high school credit from the Osceola County School Board and college credit from Valencia Community College if they meet at least the minimum requirements for satisfactory completion of such classes. In order to receive VCC credit in cosponsored classes, high school students will be required to make application to VCC and complete the registration process.
No fees shall be assessed for high school students enrolled in these cosponsored courses. Students who enroll in co-sponsored classes shall have either:
a. completed the tenth grade with a high school grade point average of 3.0 or above, or

Amended 7/23/91
b. be in an exceptional student education program with an Individual Education Plan which indicates the ability for advanced studies
(i.e. "gifted program").
(4) Students seeking dual enrollment in mathematics, English or vocational classes shall present evidence of successful completion of the relevant section of the entry level examination for placement given by the school, college or university at which the student is seeking enrollment.

## C. Co-Enrollment Amended 3/3/92

A high school student who is at least sixteen (16) years of age may enroll in the Community High School Co-enrollment Program for English, mathematics, science, or social studies credit (for LEP students, see Section $I, M(2)$ ). Permission to enroll in this program must be obtained in advance from the principal or designee. A Co-enrollment Contract (FC-370-311) must be completed, signed by the student, parent, guidance director, and principal. A Coenrollment Registration Form (FC-370-1710) must be completed by all students. A maximum of 0.5 credits may be earned per semester. A maximum of three (3) credits may be earned in this program. Amended 6/27/95, 7/29/97, 7/21/98 \& 6/27/00

Classes will be established according to enrollment standards set by Community High School.

## D. Course Modification

High School students who meet the district's requirements for an approved dropout prevention program, an honors accelerated credit program, or a vocational/technical program may be enrolled in modified courses to earn additional credits. (For LEP students, see Section I,M(2)). Amended 7/2/96 \& 6/27/00

## E. Summer School for Grades 9-12

High school students may attend summer school for grade forgiveness, remediation, and when provided accelerated credit (For LEP students, see Section I,M(2)). Amended 6/27/00

## F. College Course Credit

Any passing grades received in courses from a college may be accepted toward requirements for graduation from Osceola County. Three (3) college semester hours shall be considered equivalent to one-half (1/2) high school credit.

## G. Credit from Correspondence

Credit from Correspondence from a university will be acceptable so long as the course code number of the course taken corresponds to acceptable high school course code numbers. It shall be the responsibility of the student to provide verification of successful completion from the university to the high school.

## H Community Service Credit Adopted 6/29/93, Amended 6/15/99

To earn one-half elective credit for the completion of non-paid voluntary community or school service work a student must:
(1) Complete a minimum of 75 hours of non-paid, volunteer service with a non-profit organization in the Central Florida Area.
(2) Document the volunteer hours on appropriate form.
(3) Obtain signature from a non-family member of the non-profit organization.
(4) Receive special principal approval for volunteer activities conducted outside the Central Florida Area.

Credit may not be earned for service provided as a result of court action.
I. Course Substitutions. Amended 6/29/93 \& 6/15/99

A course which has been used to substitute in one subject area may not be used to substitute for any other subject area.
(1) Upon completion of the JROTC program (Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard) students may substitute on a curriculum equivalency basis one JROTC credit to satisfy a graduation requirement as outlined in the Florida Course Code Directory.
(2) Section 236.081(1)(n), Florida Statutes, requires district school boards to provide for vocational program substitutions not to exceed two credits in each of the non-elective subject areas of English, mathematics, and science according to the guidelines listed in the Florida Course Code Directory. The vocational program that is substituted for a non-elective academic course will be funded at the level appropriate for the vocational program. Vocational course substitution will be allowed as provided in the Course Code Directory.
(3) Participation in an interscholastic sport at the junior varsity or varsity level for two full seasons shall satisfy the one credit physical education requirement if the student makes a "C" or better on a competency test on personal fitness developed by the Florida Department of Education. This
is a waiver of the course requirement only; the student must still earn 24 credits to graduate. Credit will not be awarded for participation in interscholastic sports.

## J. Cooperative Education <br> Revised 6/30/92

## (1) Definition

High school credit may be earned by vocational students using the cooperative education method of instruction. Cooperative education involves paid, supervised, concurrent employment that is directly related to the student's in-school training. The cooperative education method is available for junior and senior students. At-risk high school students in any grade may be enrolled in Work Experience. All cooperative education job sites must be approved by the coordinator; students shall not be employed by members of the immediate family.

Cooperative education is not a program but a method of instruction used in several vocational programs. Students who complete a vocational program using the cooperative method are coded on the final class reports as completers of the vocational program.
(2) Types of Programs

There are several programs offering the cooperative method of instruction: Agribusiness Cooperative Education for students employed in agriculture occupations and enrolled in an Agribusiness vocational program, Business Cooperative Education for students employed in office occupations and enrolled in a Business Education vocational program, Cooperative Health Occupations Education for students employed in health occupations and enrolled in a Health Occupations vocational program, Marketing Education for students employed in marketing occupations and enrolled in a Marketing Education vocational program, and Industrial Cooperative Education for students in industrial occupations and enrolled in an Industrial Education vocational program. If a specialized program is available and a student qualifies for the specialized program, the student should be enrolled in the cooperative education course for that specialized program. If a specialized program is not available or if the specialized program does not have a vacancy, the student should enroll in Diversified Career Technology (DCT) program. DCT provides opportunities for selective placement based on the student's occupational objectives and the development of occupational competencies. Amended 6/15/99

Junior and senior students may be released from school one or two periods for cooperative education that is supervised, on-the-job training (OJT), but they must be enrolled in one or more related courses in the particular vocational program area during the school day. Seniors who have met all other graduation requirements may be released for additional periods.
(3) Hours Worked

Students released from school must work an average of eight (8) hours per week for each school period they are released. A student must work 144 hours during the semester to earn one-half ( $1 / 2$ ) credit or 288 hours during the semester to earn one (1) credit toward high school graduation requirements.
(4) Forms Required
a. Application/Agreement

Prior to enrollment in the program, the student must complete a cooperative education application, which must be signed by the student and the parent or guardian.
b. Agreement

An agreement must be signed by the student, parent or guardian, coordinator, and employer. If the student changes jobs, a new agreement must be signed by each of the parties. The original copy of the signed agreement must be in the student's file for program review.
c. Time Sheets

For every month the student is enrolled in cooperative education, a time sheet signed by the student and employer must be on file. The time sheet must list the day and time worked and monies earned. This time sheet must be in the student's file for program review.
d. Evaluation

An evaluation completed by the employer must be on file for each student every grading period. The original must be in the student's file for program review. A copy of the evaluation should be given to the student and the employer. The cooperative education program curriculum frameworks outline the specific skills that must be evaluated.

## e. Training Plans

A training plan must be prepared for each cooperative education student. The training plan, which must list the competencies to be mastered in the classroom and those competencies to be mastered on the job, must be signed by the employer, the student, and the coordinator. As a student masters the listed competencies, mastery must be reflected in the student's file for program review.
f. Visitation Record

Each cooperative education student must be visited at his or her work site at least once per grading period by the coordinator. A record of these visits must be maintained.
(5) Absences

Any cooperative education student who is absent from school for any part of the school day may not report to work that day without the prior approval of the coordinator.
(6) Grades

The grades the student earns for the classroom and OJT are assigned by the coordinator.
(7) Periods of Unemployment
a. A student who is new to the program may have up to ten days to secure appropriate employment. If the new student is still not employed in an appropriate training site after ten days, he or she may be removed from the cooperative phase and enrolled in suitable classes. An unemployed student is not permitted to leave school early without the coordinator's approval.
b. Students who wish to change jobs during the school year should coordinate any job changes with the coordinator.
c. Any student who loses his or her job through no fault of his or her own may have ten days to secure another suitable training site. If the student is unable to find employment after ten days, he or she may be reassigned on campus. These situations will be handled on an individual basis with the coordinator and school officials. An unemployed student should not be permitted to leave school early without the coordinator's approval.
d. Any student who is released with cause (shoplifting, for example) may not be released from school for OJT. Appropriate disciplinary action may be taken, up to and including no credit for the cooperative education program and removal from the program at the end of the semester.

## K. Awarding Credit and Grades

(1) A student shall complete a semester's work in order to be promoted or to receive credit for the semester's work. Students who complete the semester's work, except taking the final examinations, may at the discretion of the principal, arrange to take the examination prior to the opening of the next succeeding school year.

Work or credit earned from a non-accredited school or school from outside Osceola County shall be accepted toward graduation upon validation. Validation of credit may be made by the student's successful completion of a standardized test in the subject.
(2) Grading and Reporting Amended 7/29/97

Schools shall follow the following state adopted grading system plan for grading and reporting pupil progress (for LEP students, see Section I,M(6)). Amended 6/27/00

Students and parents are to be advised of the grading criteria employed in the school and in each class at the beginning of the grading period.

The following grading scale is effective as of July 1, 2001 Adopted 6/19/01
GRADE Amended 6/27/00

| $\frac{\text { Grade }}{\text { Value }}$ | Percent | Point Value | Definition | Pacer <br> Point |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| A | 90-100 | 4 | outstanding progress | 5 |
| B | 80-89 | 3 | above average | 4 |
| C | 70-79 | 2 | adequate progress | 3 |
| D | 60-69 | 1 | lowest acceptable progress | 1 |
| F | 0-59 | 0 | failure | 0 |
| I | 0 | 0 | incomplete | 0 |

(3) Grades will be awarded at the end of each grading period. These grades will reflect all work assigned and achieved during that grading period. Credit may be awarded at the end of a grading period (nine weeks or semester). Amended 6/30/92 \& Amended 6/27/95
(4) Final grades may be awarded on a semester or yearly basis in high schools or on a yearly basis in middle and elementary schools. Amended 6/27/95
(5) When two nine weeks are used to determine a final grade, each nine weeks shall count $50 \%$ of the final grade. The total shall be divided by two (2).

When a semester exam is given, each of the nine weeks grades shall count $40 \%$ and the exam grade shall count $20 \%$ of the final grade, and the total shall be divided by five (5). Amended 6/30/92 \& 7/2/96
(6) In grades 3-5, report card evaluation should reflect student growth during the grading period as indicated by objective test data, teacher observation and portfolio information.

In grades 6-8, the grade point values of the grading period and exam grade are averaged to determine the final grade. If the quotient result is 1.5 or higher, the grade shall be rounded to the next highest letter. Rounding of grades less than 1.0 shall be left to the discretion of the instructor. In determining final grades, a zero shall be assigned for no work or dishonest work and may rank as -1 on the grade point scale upon the approval by the principal. Grades in high school dual enrollment classes taught in grades 7 and 8 must be determined following the high school academic policy. Amended 6/30/92 \& 6/27/00
(7) In grades 9-12, a numerical average is determined by the teacher, at the end of each nine (9) week grading period and the corresponding letter grade (as determined by the grading scale above) is recorded on the report card. If a semester exam is given, the numerical exam score is also converted to the corresponding letter grade as determined by the above grading scale. To determine the final grade, the numerical grades are average together, as outlined two paragraphs above, and numerical average will be converted to the corresponding letter grade from the grading scale, and reported on the report card. Amended 7/2/96
(8) If an "I" (incomplete) is recorded on a report card, the requirements for which the incomplete was assigned must be satisfied within two weeks of the issuance of the report cards or the "I" becomes an "F". At the teacher's discretion a longer period of time may be allowed for make up work. Amended 7/23/91 \& 6/27/00

## VII. Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program, Florida Academic Scholars Certificate, Florida Merit Scholars Award, \& Florida Gold Seal Vocational Endorsement Revised 6/29/93 \& Amended 7/29/97 \& 7/21/98

A. Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program provides for tuition and fee reimbursement for undergraduate studies at a public or private university, community college or vocational/technical school. The three scholarship awards within the Bright Futures Scholarship Program are the Florida Academic Scholars Award, Florida Merit Scholars Award, and Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars Award. Each has specific criteria that must be met. However, to be eligible for an initial award from any of the three types of scholarships, a student (to include an LEP student) must: Amended 6/15/99
(1) Complete a Bright Futures Scholarship Program Student Authorization Form by spring graduation.
(2) Be a Florida resident.
(3) Earn a Florida standard high school diploma or its equivalent.
(4) Be accepted by and enrolled in an eligible Florida public or independent postsecondary education institution.
(5) Enroll in a postsecondary institution in Florida for at least six semester credit hours or the equivalent.
(6) Not to have been found guilty of, or pled nolo contendere to, a felony charge.
(7) Use the award within three years of graduation.
B. The Florida Academic Scholars Award is designed to encourage and to recognize outstanding performance and academic achievement by high school students. (240.4025, F.S.) In order to qualify for the Florida Academic Scholars Award, a student must:
(1) Meet the general eligibility requirements for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program.
(2) Achieve a 3.5 unweighted grade point average on a 4.0 scale, or its equivalent, in high school courses that are adopted by the Board of Regents and recommended by the State Board of Community Colleges as college-preparatory courses.
(3) Attain at least a combined score of 1270 on the Scholastic Aptitude Test or 28 on the American College Test.
(4) Have attended a home education program according to s. 232.02(4) during
grades 11 and 12, and have attained at least the above test scores.
(5) Have been awarded an International Baccalaureate Diploma from the International Baccalaureate Office; or
(6) Have been recognized by the merit or achievement programs of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation as a scholar or finalist.
(7) Must complete a program of community service work, as approved by the district school board which shall include a minimum of 75 hours of service work and require the student to identify a social problem, and address, evaluate, and reflect upon the problem through papers or other methods of presentation.
(8) Maintain the equivalent of a 3.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale for all postsecondary education work attempted and the student remains eligible to renew the Florida Academic Scholars Award. One opportunity for reinstatement of this award will be given if the grade point average falls below the 3.0 requirement.
C. To be eligible for Florida Merit Scholars Award the student must:
(1) Meet the general eligibility requirements for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program.
(2) Achieve an unweighted grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 , or the equivalent, in high school courses that are adopted by the Board of Regents and recommended by the State Board of Community Colleges as college-preparatory academic courses.
(3) Has attained a combined score of 970 on the SAT or a score of 20 on the ACT.
(4) Maintain the equivalent of a 2.75 grade point average on a 4.0 scale for all postsecondary education work attempted and the student remains eligible to renew the Florida Merit Scholars Award. The student will receive one opportunity to reinstate the award if the grade point average falls below a 2.75.
D. The Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars Award recognizes and awards academic achievement and vocational preparation by high school students.

High school students may participate in this program in accordance with Florida Statute 232.2467 and State Board Rule 6A-1.092. In order for a student to qualify for the Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars Award students must meet the general eligibility requirements of the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program along with the following criteria:
(1) Complete three vocational credits in a sequential program of studies

## or

Complete a vocational job preparatory program consisting of two credits plus one credit of on-the-job training or one credit of Guided Workplace Learning (8300430) or the one credit course Business Ownership (8812000). Amended 7/2/96
or
An equivalent dual enrollment course/program; Adopted 7/29/97
(2) From a weighted GPA (based on the Statewide Scholarship Weighting System) using the core 15 credits required for graduation or for 1998 \& 1999 Seniors, earn a 3.0 unweighted GPA using the minimum of 3 sequential vocational credits.
(3) Earn an unweighted grade point average of at least 3.5 in courses comprising the vocational program;
(4) Beginning with the year 2000 graduates, earn the following required credits:

4- English
3- Mathematics
3 - Natural Science
3 - Social Science (American History, World History, American Government, and Economics
1 - Practical Art or 1 Performing Art or $1 / 2$ credit in each
1/2- Life Management Skills
1/2- Personal Fitness
A minimum of three sequential Vocational Job-Prep or Technological Education
(5) Must obtain the minimum test scores as follows:
(a) SAT: Verbal 420, Math 440 or
(b) ACT: Reading 16, English 16, Math 16 or
(c) CPT: Reading 83, Sentence 83, Algebra 72.

## VIII. Exceptional Education Students

## A. Elementary Schools <br> Exceptionalities include: Educable Mentally Handicapped, Trainable Mentally Handicapped, Profoundly Mentally Handicapped, Speech and/or Language Impaired Deaf or Hard of Hearing, Visually Impaired, Physically Impaired, Emotionally Handicapped, Specific Learning Disabled, Gifted, Homebound or Hospitalized, Dual Sensory Impaired, Autistic, PreKindergarten Students with Developmental Delays, PreKindergarten Students with Established Conditions (for potential LEP students, see Section I,M(1)f). <br> Amended 7/23/91, 7/21/98 \& 6/27/00

(1) Curriculum

The curriculum for the elementary school Varying Exceptionalities, Emotionally Handicapped (EH), and Educable Mentally Handicapped shall be a regular education curriculum that follows the Florida Sunshine State Standards with appropriate modifications. Direct Instruction, Reading Mastery, Precision Teaching and Whole Language are the instructional approaches to be utilized to enhance curriculum acquisition. Moderately and severely disabled students (Trainable Mentally Handicapped, Profoundly Mentally Handicapped) will use a curriculum appropriate for the developmental level of the students.
Adopted 6/30/92 \& Amended 6/27/95, 7/21/98 \& 6/27/00
(2) Promotion

Students enrolled in exceptional student programs shall be promoted on the basis of the acquisition of skills in accordance with the student's Individual Education Plan and the mastery of Revised Performance Standards for each exceptionality. The Revised Performance Standards for the assigned exceptionality will be used to document the progress of the student by the exceptional education teacher. Documentation of standards must start when the student is initially placed into an exceptional student education program._Amended 6/28/94, 6/27/95 \& 7/21/98

Mastery of the standards shall be determined by the teacher utilizing the evaluation modes specified in the Individual Education Plan.
(3) Retention

Students who do not meet promotion requirements may be administratively placed in the next grade level by the principal. When a student is being considered for administrative placement which involves attendance at another school (for example, from elementary to middle school or middle school to high school) such placements shall be made
only at the beginning of the school year. Exceptions to this rule may be made if the sending and receiving principals agree that an administrative placement during the school year is in the best interest of the student and when approved by the Superintendent.

Retention of exceptional students shall be limited to one year in the elementary school grades unless otherwise determined by a Quality Individual Education Planning (IEP) team. Amended 7/21/98
(4) Attendance

All exceptional students will follow regular education attendance procedures. Elementary students enrolled in the Gifted pullout program are classified in attendance and should not be counted as absent. Classroom assignments are given by the Gifted teacher. Students should not be required to make-up the work missed in the regular class.

## B. Middle Schools

Exceptionalities include: Educable Mentally Handicapped, Trainable Mentally Handicapped, Profoundly Mentally Handicapped, Speech and/or Language Impaired, Deaf or Hard of Hearing, Visually Impaired, Physically Impaired, Emotionally Handicapped, Specific Learning Disabled, Gifted, Homebound or Hospitalized, Dual Sensory Impaired, Autistic (for potential LEP students, see Section I,M(1)(f). Amended 7/23/91, 7/21/98 \& 6/27/00

## (1) Curriculum

The curricular approach for middle school Varying Exceptionalities, Emotionally Handicapped (EH), and Educable Mentally Handicapped shall be a regular education curriculum that follows the Florida Sunshine State Standards with appropriate modifications. Direct Instruction (Corrective Reading), Precision Teaching and the Kansas Learning Strategies model are the instructional approaches to be utilized to enhance curriculum acquisition. Moderately and severely disabled students will use a curriculum appropriate for the developmental level of the student. Adopted 6/30/92 \& Amended 6/27/95, 7/21/98 \& 6/27/00

## (2) Promotion

Students enrolled in exceptional student programs shall be promoted on the basis of the acquisition of skills in accordance with the student's Individual Education Plan and the mastery of Revised Performance Standards for each exceptionality. The Revised Performance Standards for the assigned exceptionality will be used to document the progress of the student by the exceptional education teacher. Documentation of standards must start when the student is initially placed into an exceptional student education program._Amended 6/28/94, 6/27/95 \& 7/21/98

Mastery of the standards shall be determined by the teacher utilizing the evaluation modes specified in the Individual Education Plan.
(3) Retention

Students who do not meet promotion requirements may be administratively placed in the next grade level by the principal. When a student is being considered for administrative placement which involves attendance at another school (for example, from elementary to middle school or middle school to high school) such placements shall be made only at the beginning of the school year. Exceptions to this rule may be made if the sending and receiving principals agree that an administrative placement during the school year is in the best interest of the student and when approved by the Superintendent.

Retention of exceptional students shall be limited to one year in the middle school grades unless otherwise determined by a Quality Individual Educational Planning (IEP) team. Amended 7/21/98
(4) Attendance

All exceptional students will follow regular education attendance procedures. Amended 7/21/98

## C. High School Graduation Requirements

Modifications to basic and vocational courses as provided by SBR 6A-6.0312 are allowable for all exceptional students to meet the requirements for a regular or special diploma as follows (for potential LEP students, see Section I,M(1)(f):
Amended 6/27/00
(1) Modifications to basic courses shall not include modifications to the curriculum frameworks or student performance standards. When modifying vocational courses, the particular outcomes and student performance standards which a student must master to earn credit must be specified on the student's Individual Education Plan. Amended 7/21/98

Modifications may include any of the following:
(a) The instructional time may be increased or decreased.
(b) Instructional methodology may be varied.
(c) Special communications systems may be used by the teacher or student.
(d) Classroom and district test administration procedures and other evaluation procedures may be modified to accommodate the student's handicap.

## (2) Regular Diploma

## (a) Requirements

To meet the requirements for a regular high school diploma, an exceptional student shall take academic courses in the mainstream in accordance with the student's Individual Education Plan. Students who are classified as Deaf or Hard of Hearing, or Emotionally Handicapped may complete any basic or vocational course applicable to a regular diploma if the course is taught by the exceptional student teacher and if the course content, standards, and student outcome and other requirements are equivalent to that of the regular education course. Exceptional students may have regular academic course modifications as outlined in VIII C-2. Amended 7/23/91, 7/21/98 \& 6/27/00

Any students classified as Educable Mentally Handicapped, Trainable Mentally Handicapped, Profoundly Mentally Handicapped, Deaf or Hard of Hearing, Specific Learning Disabled, Physically Impaired, Visually Impaired, Autistic or Emotionally Handicapped may be awarded a regular diploma if they meet the requirements established in School Board Rule, Appendix B, Pupil Progression Plan, Section IV B. Amended 6/27/95, 8/6/96, 7/21/98 \& 6/27/00
(b) Attendance

Meet attendance requirements.
(c) Curriculum

The curricular approach for high school Varying Exceptionalities, Emotionally Handicapped or Severely Emotionally Disturbed and Educable Mentally Handicapped shall be a regular education curriculum that follows the Florida Sunshine State Standards with appropriate modifications. The Kansas Learning Strategies model, Direct Instruction and Precision Teaching are the instructional approaches to be utilized to enhance curriculum acquisition. Adopted 7/21/97

## (3) Special Diploma Option I

Revised 7/23/91 \& Amended 6/27/9, 7/21/98, \& 6/27/00

## (a) Requirements

Any student classified as Educable Mentally Handicapped, Trainable Mentally Handicapped, Profoundly Mentally Handicapped, Deaf or Hard of Hearing, Specific Learning Disabled, Physically Impaired, Autistic or Emotionally Handicapped may be awarded a special diploma if the following requirements are met:

1. Complete course requirements as outlined below

| Language Arts - | Three (3) credits |
| :--- | :--- |
| Mathematics - | Three (3) credits |
| Social Studies - | Two (2) credits |
| Science - | One (1) credit |
| Physical Education - | One (1) credit |
| Life Management Skills - | One Half (1/2) credit |
| Employability Skills - | One Half (1/2) credit |

Electives (Vocational, practical arts, OJT, etc.) - Eleven (11) credits

Total: 22 Credits (11 required, 11 elective)
2. Students must have a 2.0 Grade Point Average (GPA) to be eligible for a special diploma.
3. Attendance

Meet attendance requirements.
4 Beginning with the 2000-2001 ninth (9th) grade class, a student must demonstrate competency in the Sunshine State Standards at the expected levels of functionality as identified by the IEP team.

5 Any exceptional student excluding Visually Impaired who has acquired appropriate credits for a regular high school diploma but did not pass the High School Competency Test
(b) Curriculum

The curricular approach for high school exceptional students shall follow the Florida Sunshine State Standards for Special Diploma Option 1. Moderately and severely disabled students will use a curriculum appropriate to the developmental level of the student.

Note: Visually Impaired students are not eligible for a special diploma at this time. Amended 6/27/95

Auth: 6A-1.095, FAC

## (4) Special Diploma Option 2

(a) Requirements

In accordance with Rule 6A-1.0996, FAC, exceptional students who demonstrate mastery of specified employment and community competencies may graduate with more or less than four years of attendance in grades 9-12. Amended 6/27/95 \& 7/21/98

1. Complete the course requirements as outlined below

| Language Arts - | Two (2) credits |
| :--- | ---: |
| Mathematics - | Two (2) credits |
| Electives (Vocational, <br> $\quad$ Practical Arts, OJT, etc.) - |  |

Total: 11 Credits (4 required, 7 elective)
This can be modified only by specific permission from the Director of Exceptional Student Education.
2. The student shall satisfactorily demonstrate employment and community based competencies while employed fulltime at least 25 hours per week in a community based job for a minimum of one semester, unless the student is placed in supported competitive employment. In this case, the student must be employed for at least 20 hours per week, for the equivalent of one semester.
3. The student shall be at least sixteen (16) years of age to be considered for this option, and shall be at least eighteen (18) years of age to graduate.
4. The student's individual education plan shall include a transition plan containing annual goals and short-term objectives related to the employment and community competencies. Amended 6/27/95
5. A training plan shall be developed and signed by the student, parent, teacher, and employer. The plan shall identify the job specific employment and related community competencies, the criteria for determining and certifying mastery of the competencies, the work schedule and the minimum number of hours to be worked per week, a description of the supervision to be provided by the school district staff, and any special considerations. Amended 6/27/95
(b) Curriculum Amended 7/21/98

All exceptional education students will also be monitored on the Revised Performance Standards for Exceptional Students.

The Revised Performance Standard Tracking Form should be used for students to evaluate the student's progress each year. Mastery of the standards shall be determined by each teacher utilizing the evaluation modes specified in the Individual Education Plan. Mastery is not required for students who meet the criteria for Special Diploma Option 2. Amended 6/27/95
(c) Student must have a 2.0 Grade Point Average (GPA) to be eligible for a special diploma.
(d) Attendance

Meet attendance requirements.
(e) Option 2 does not require mastery of the Sunshine State Standards. Adopted 6/27/00

## (5) Certificate of Completion Adopted 6/27/95

Any exceptional student who has acquired appropriate credits for a high school diploma, but did not pass the High School Competency Test, shall be issued a Certificate of Completion.
(6) Special Certificate of Completion Amended 6/27/95, 7/21/98 \& 6/27/00

Any Educable Mentally Handicapped, Trainable Mentally Handicapped, Profoundly Mentally Handicapped, Deaf or Hard of Hearing, Autistic, Specific Learning Disabled, or Physically Impaired student whose ability to communicate orally or in writing is seriously impaired, or Emotionally Handicapped student who meets all graduation requirements for his exceptionality, but is unable to meet appropriate special minimum standards, shall be awarded a special certificate of completion.

## (7) Changing Diploma Options Adopted 6/27/95

To ensure that students may select and move between the Special Diploma options, and between courses of study leading to Standard and Special Diplomas, credits and performance standards will be reviewed and student course schedules will be developed to meet the requirements of the option selected.
(8) Transfers

Any exceptional student transferring into the Osceola School District and determined eligible for a special diploma shall be eligible to graduate based upon the requirements of the school district from which he or she is transferring.
(9) Extended School Year Services Adopted 6/27/00

The determination of Extended School Year (ESY) services is a decision of the Individual Educational Planning team and should be provided for the student if the skills learned during the school year will be significantly jeopardized through regression without them.
(10) Alternative Assessment Requirements Adopted 6/27/00

Students who are excluded from the state assessment program must be assessed with an alternate assessment procedure to be determined by the IEP team. Exclusion may be permitted only when ALL of the following criteria are met:
(a) The student's demonstrated cognitive ability prevents the student from completing required coursework and achieving the Sunshine State Standards even with appropriate and allowable course accommodations.
(b) The student requires extensive direct instruction to accomplish the application and transfer of skills and competencies needed for domestic, community living, leisure, and vocational activities.
(c) The student's inability to complete the required coursework is not
due to excessive or extended absences or the result of social, cultural, or economic differences.
(d) If high school age, the student is unable to complete the regular diploma program even with allowable course accommodations and adaptations.

## IX. Drop-Out Prevention and Retention Program

The individual Drop-Out Prevention programs are designed to meet the needs of high risk students and offer them special opportunities to earn credit towards graduation or promotion (for LEP students, see Section I,M(2). Amended 6/19/01

## X. Placement and Promotion in the High School Vocational Program Adopted 6/30/92

## A. Program Descriptions Revised 7/2/96

All Osceola County District public high school vocational programs follow the Florida Department of Education frameworks and student performance standards. Copies of these frameworks and student performance standards are available for review in the office of the Director of the Technical and Adult Department. Any vocational course from a vocational program listed below may be taken to satisfy the $1 / 2$ credit practical arts graduation requirement (for LEP students, see Section I,M(2)).

## (1) Agribusiness and Natural Resources Education

(a) Students are encouraged to start any agriculture program in the ninth grade by enrolling in Fundamentals of Agriscience; however, students may enroll in any grade. Depending on a student's interest and program availability, high school students may enroll in Landscape Operations, Environmental Horticulture, Animal Science, or Agritechnology. Tech Prep students are eligible for three (3) semester hours of credit at Valencia Community College. Amended 9/17/96
(b) Graduating students who successfully complete any of the agriculture programs are program completers. Junior and seniors are eligible for Agriculture Cooperative Education. To be eligible for Agriculture Cooperative Education, a student must be currently enrolled in a job preparatory agriculture program.
(c) Future Farmers of America is the approved vocational student organization (VSO) for agriculture students. Middle school students are eligible for membership.

## (2) Business Technology Education

(a) Business Technology Education programs listed in the Florida Course Code Directory are provided for Osceola County business technology students. The programs are designed to allow students with varying occupational interests to complete programs ranging from two (2) to six (6) credits. Tech Prep students are eligible for up to six (6) semester hours of credit at Valencia Community College.
(b) Business Systems Technology 1 and Business Systems Technology 2 comprise a sequential two-credit core for completers in all the business technology education programs. Computer and Business Skills (8200330) along with Keyboarding and Business Skills (8200320) is equivalent to Business Systems and Technology 1 (8209020). Students should complete Keyboarding and Business Skills before enrolling in computer and Business skills. Amended 6/15/99
(c) High School (dual enrollment) credit is available to middle school students in Business Technology Education programs. Students who successfully complete one or more credits in Business Keyboarding (8200110), Computer Applications in Business 1 (8200220), Computer Applications in Business 2 (8200210) and/or Business Systems and Technology I (8209020) are eligible. Amended 6/15/99
(d) An option available to juniors and seniors in business technology education is Business Cooperative Education (BCE), which combines related classroom instruction with supervised on-the-job training (OJT) in a business or office occupation. OJT hours will vary. OJT students perform tasks outlined in their individual job training plan, which is signed, by the BCE coordinator, the employer, and the student. Any business technology education course may be used for BCE classroom instruction. The objective of BCE OJT is to reinforce and complement related in-school instruction in the business education job preparatory programs.
(e) Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), the approved secondary vocational student organization, is an integral part of the curriculum for all secondary business technology education programs. Middle school students are eligible for membership.
(3) Diversified Education
(a) Students are encouraged to start this vocational program in the eleventh grade by enrolling in Diversified Career Technology

Principles and DCT On-the-Job Training (OJT); however, seniors may enroll in Diversified Career Technology Principles and DCT OJT. As a part of this program, students learn selected occupational competencies through employment-related instruction in school and concurrent, paid, supervised on-the-job training. Second year students enroll in Diversified Career Technology Applications and DCT OJT. Seniors who successfully complete Diversified Career Technology Applications and DCT OJT are program completers. Amended 6/15/99
(b) Part of the DCT curriculum is met through participation in Cooperative Education Clubs of Florida (CECF). This approved VSO is an integral part of the curriculum.

## (4) Health Science Education Amended 9/17/96

(a) Students may enroll in the health science vocational job preparatory Health Careers program in grades 11 or 12. Ninth and tenth grade students may enroll in Medical Skills and Services which is also open to students in grades 11 and 12. Medical Skills and Service is usually a yearlong course. Tech Prep students are eligible for up to six (6) semester hours of credit at Valencia Community College.
(b) Eleventh grade students should enroll in Health Careers for two periods a day; as seniors they should enroll in one period of Health Science Education course plus up to two additional periods of Health Science Education Cooperative Education - On-the-Job Training (OJT). Any student who first enters the Health Careers Program as a senior should enroll for three periods a day to be a program completer and achieve certification in one of several entry-level health careers. Students completing the nursing assistant competencies will be eligible to sit for the state exam.
(c) Health Science Education Cooperative Education. OJT is available to those Health Occupations Education students who are concurrently enrolled in a Health Science Education Program and have the instructor's approval.
(d) Health Science Education Students Association. The approved vocational student organization for health occupations students is an integral part of the curriculum.
(5) Family and Consumer Sciences
(a) A variety of Family and Consumer Sciences courses is offered and may be taken as elective credit or to fulfill the practical arts requirements. No more than three (3) credits in Practical Arts

Family and Consumer Sciences may be granted toward high school graduation requirements. Completers of the Early Childhood program are eligible for three or four semester hours of credit at Valencia Community College.
(b) Future Homemakers Association/Home Economics Related Occupations (FHA/HERO), the approved vocational student organization, is an integral part of the curriculum for all Family and Consumer Sciences programs. FHA/HERO is also available for middle school students.
(6) Industrial Education
(a) Students are encouraged to start Industrial Education (IE) programs in the tenth grade by enrolling in Level 1 for one period. Second year students enroll in Levels 2 and 3 for two periods; third year students enroll in Levels 4, 5 , and 6 for up to three periods. Cosmetology, an eight-credit program, requires summer enrollment to complete. Tech Prep students are eligible for three semester hours of credit at Valencia Community College.
(b) Students may also begin any IE program in their junior or senior year and complete the program at Mid Florida Tech or Technical Educational Center of Osceola.
(c) Freshmen may enroll in IE classes.
(d) An option available to juniors and seniors in IE is Industrial Cooperative Education (ICE), which combines related classroom instruction with supervised on-the-job training (OJT).
(e) Vocational Industrial Clubs of America (VICA) is the approved vocational student organization for IE students.

## (7) Marketing Education

(a) It is preferred that students start this vocational program in the tenth grade by enrolling in Marketing Essentials. Eleventh grade students may be enrolled in Application and OJT for up to two periods per day. The job must be directly related to the student's career choice in the marketing field. Twelfth grade students enroll in Marketing Management and Marketing Education OJT. Tech Prep students are eligible for up to three semester hours of credit at Valencia Community College. The Academy of Travel and Tourism students are eligible for up to fourteen semester hours of credit in dual enrollment at Valencia Community College. Amended 9/17/96
(b) Part of the marketing education curriculum is met through participation in Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA). This approved vocational student organization is an integral part of the program.
(8) Public Service Education
(a) The Paraprofessional Teacher Aide program is available to juniors and seniors only. A student may earn a maximum of three credits in this program. One day a week the student must report to the Public Service teacher who coordinates the program. There are specific student performance standards that must be taught and evaluated in order for the student to earn credit in the class. Four days a week the student reports to his or her particular assignment. The coordinator will visit the student on the site at least once per grading period. Amended 6/15/99
(b) Criminal Justice Operations, and Principles of Public Service are taught by the School Resource Officer (SRO) at each high school. Tech Prep students are eligible for up to six semester hours of credit at Valencia Community College. Amended 9/17/96 \& 6/15/99
(c) The Florida Association of Public Service Students (FLAPSS) is the approved vocational student organization for Public Service students. Adopted 6/29/93

## (9) Technology Education

Technology Education classes are offered at Osceola middle schools and may be offered at the high schools. Amended 6/15/99

## B. Definition of a Completer

In order to be classified as a vocational program completer, a student must complete all student performance standards and should earn the required number of credits. If a student has mastered all student performance standards, he/she is a completer even if he/she has not completed the courses. Osceola County student may complete their programs in high school or continue with an articulated postsecondary program at a vocational postsecondary center. All vocational completers are included in the district's annual follow-up student survey after they graduate from high school. Amended 7/2/96

## XI. Technical Education Center of Osceola County (TECO) and Community High School

A. Placement and Promotion of Secondary Students at the Technical Education Center of Osceola (TECO) Amended 7/29/97

Under certain conditions, secondary students may be placed at the Technical Education Center of Osceola (TECO) as their high school site (for LEP students, see Section I,M(2)). Adopted 6/30/92 \& Amended 6/27/00
(1) Dual Enrollment/Co-Enrollment at TECO: Students will have the opportunity to attend TECO as a second school vocational placement for part of the school day provided the following conditions exist:
(a) The student is at least 16 .
(b) The vocational program is not offered at the zoned high school.
(c) The student exhibits the maturity to handle the adult setting.

Students must provide their own transportation.
Placement at TECO will occur only at the beginning of a semester; students will remain for the entire semester.

All final exams in the vocational program will be comprehensive.
(2) High School Program: TECO may offer a comprehensive grade ten (10) through grade twelve (12) program in accordance with sections I through VI above. Adopted 6/15/99
(3) Exceptional Students Education students: ESE special diploma seeking students participate in a program at TECO based on the recommendation of the staffing committee. Placement at TECO will occur only at the beginning of a semester; students will remain for the entire semester. Placement at the center must be reflected in the student's IEP. Amended 6/27/95 \& 7/29/97

## B. Placement in Postsecondary Adult and Vocational Institutions

(1) Technical Education Center of Osceola

501 Simpson Road
Kissimmee, FL 34744
(2) Community High School

705 Simpson Road
Kissimmee, FL 34744
(3) Enrollment Eligibility Amended 6/27/95 \& 7/29/97

Both schools accept for enrollment those adults 16 years of age or older, regardless of race, religion, handicap or national origin, and:
(a) Request, but do not require a social security number;
(b) Require proof of residency such as a Florida Driver License, Florida I.D., voter registration card, Declaration of Domicile, or a sworn statement and notarized affidavit, which is obtained from the center, if none of the previous is available;
(c) Require test prerequisites for some programs.

All vocational programs have state-mandated mathematics and reading achievement standards. Achievement of these standards must be documented prior to a student's program completion.
(4) Transfer Students Amended 7/29/97

Transfer students from other institutions are accepted. These students are placed in vocational or adult programs based on (1) results of written and/or performance tests or evaluations of transcripts or (2) in compliance with articulation agreements.

## C. Types of Programs offered at TECO Amended 6/27/95

TECO offers a variety of vocational programs. All programs are based on Florida Department of Education frameworks and student performance standards. All programs have an advisory council that makes recommendations to the center's administration regarding the curriculum, facilities, equipment, etc. Amended 7/2/96

## (1) Adult Supplementary Vocational Education

Programs will be offered to enable persons who are or have been employed in a specific occupation to upgrade their competencies, to maintain stability, and to advance in or re-enter the specific occupation in which the person was employed or is currently employed. Fee structure will be based on state or course requirements.
(2) Adult Vocational Preparatory Program

Programs providing instruction in competencies that are realistic in terms of actual or anticipated opportunities for employment which are suited to individual needs, interests and abilities to (l) prepare persons for effective entry level performance in skilled and technical level occupations; (2) enable persons who are or have been employed in an occupational field or as a homemaker to upgrade competencies to maintain stability, advance or re-enter employment.
(3) Completion

Completion is based on mastery of all competencies identified by the state
curriculum frameworks and student performance standards. In addition, prior to program completion, students must meet minimum reading and mathematics achievement requirements determined by the Florida Department of Education.
(4) Job Placement

While no school can guarantee placement, TECO has a professional staff to assist currently enrolled students and graduates in securing employment related to the training provided. Follow-up studies are conducted annually to verify placement. In order to be in compliance with Florida Statutes, each vocational program must have 70 percent of its graduates successfully placed.

## D. Community High School Programs:

(1) Adult Literacy, Grade Levels 0-3.9, - a program providing individualized basic reading and writing skills;
(2) ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages), Levels I-III;
(3) Adult Basic Education, Grade Levels 4-8.9;
(4) GED Preparation, Grade Levels 9-11.9 with preparation for GED testing in the five areas of writing, social studies, science, literature and the arts, and mathematics.

The minimum age for testing is 18 .
The State and National fee schedule is applied.
GED candidates are post-tested and, upon recommendation of the instructor, scheduled for the GED examination.

Any student who is 16 or 17 years of age must meet with a counselor and a parent or guardian to review the special petition process, complete the Special Exception Petition (FC-370-0619), and review requirements such as mandatory attendance.

Amended 7/29/97
All students are advised to complete the Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE) and the Practice GED Test. Under the following extraordinary circumstances, students may take the GED Test before reaching the age of 18: Amended 7/29/97
(a) Court-ordered;
(b) Economically disadvantaged (must meet federal income guidelines);
(c) Previously or currently enrolled in an Alternative Program;
(d) Pregnancy;
(e) Teen Parent;
(f) Medical, mental or physical condition interfering with regular school attendance;
(g) Home School validation;
(h) Incarcerated; or
(i) Probationers Education Growth Program client.

## E. Other Postsecondary Programs

(1) Adult High School Completion Program - Levels 9-12 Revised 6/27/95

Graduation requirements of 24 credits, which must include:
4 English (sequenced composition and literature)
3 Math
1 World History with AVC
1 American History
1/2 Economics
1/2 American Government
3 Science (1 Physical with lab, 1 Biological with lab, and 1 elective)

1/2 Personal Fitness
1/2 Life Management Skills
1/2 Practical Arts Fine Arts
1/2 Computer Literacy
Credits, based on Carnegie units, earned in grades 9-12 in high school will be accepted. Remedial courses not to exceed two (2) credits may be counted in the Elective area. Credits will be awarded students who have
attended at least $80 \%$ of the regularly scheduled classes and demonstrated mastery of the minimum student performance standards.
Anyone entering the Adult High School Completion Program must successfully complete two (2) credits even though they may transfer in all required credits. Excluded from the two-credit requirement are those students meeting requirements set forth in SBR 6A-5.

The HSCT must be passed in order to receive an Adult High School Diploma. Amended 6/29/93
(2) Adult Special Diploma Adopted 7/2/96

Any adult student who is twenty-one (21) or older and classified as educable mentally handicapped, trainable mentally handicapped, profoundly mentally handicapped, hearing impaired, deaf, specific learning disabled, physically impaired, visually impaired, blind, autistic or emotionally handicapped may be awarded an adult special diploma if the following requirements are met:
(a) Complete course requirements as outlined below:

## Option 1

| Language Arts * | Three (3) credits |
| :--- | :--- |
| Mathematics * | Three (3) credits |
| Social Studies * | Two (2) credits |
| Science * | One (1) credit |
| Life Management Skills | One Half $1 / 2$ credit |
| Employability Skills | One Half $1 / 2$ credit |
| Electives (vocational, <br> practical arts, OJT, etc.) | Twelve (12) credits |

Note: Courses listed in Section 4 of the Florida Department of Education Course Code Directory for Exceptional Student Education Senior High and Adult which are identified as Comprehensive should be used to meet credit requirements for Adult Special Diploma in the areas of Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies and Science.

## Option 2

Adult exceptional students who demonstrate mastery of specified
employment and community competencies may graduate by meeting the following requirements:

1. The student shall satisfactorily complete the equivalent of eleven (11) credits, which must include two credits in Mathematics and two credits in Language Arts. Amended 7/29/97
2. The student shall satisfactorily demonstrate employment and community-based competencies while employed fulltime or at least 25 hours per week in a community-based job for a minimum of one semester ( 18 weeks), unless the student is placed in supported competitive employment. In this case, the student must be employed at least twenty (20) hours per week for the equivalent of one semester.
3. The student's Adult Individual Education Plan (AIEP) shall include annual goals and short-term objectives related to employment and community competencies.
4. A training plan shall be developed and signed by the student, teacher and employer. The plan shall identify the job-specific and related community competencies, the criteria for determining and certifying mastery of the competencies, the work schedule and the minimum number of hours to be worked per week, a description of the supervision to be provided by the school district staff, and any special considerations.
(b) Student must have a 2.0 GPA to be eligible for an Adult Special Diploma. Amended 7/29/97
(c) Student must meet adult attendance requirements as listed in the Postsecondary Code of Student Conduct.
(d) The ESE courses with "Comprehensive" in the title should be used to schedule adult students for classes to meet the Adult Special Diploma requirements in Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies. These course code numbers may be repeated for multiple credits. The portion of each comprehensive course to be covered must be reflected in the student's AIEP and must be different for each credit. The comprehensive numbers allow flexibility to meet the individual needs of the students.
(3) Fee-Based Courses Amended 7/29/97

Courses requested by the community for personal development or enjoyment, which require a fee based on state-mandated instructional costs.
(4) Other Educational Activities Kindergarten Through Adult

Other educational activities will be offered at times most appropriate to meet the needs of the community.
(5) Calendar Amended 6/29/93 \& 7/27/97

Postsecondary schools operate twelve (12) months per year based on a Board approved calendar.

