

**PLAINFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS****GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

To graduate from the Plainfield Public Schools a student must have earned a minimum **number of credits** and must have met the credit distribution requirement. In addition to required courses, the student must also have satisfactorily met the district's performance standards in **English, social studies, mathematics, science, technology, oral communication, and career planning**. With the implementation of block scheduling, the credit requirements have been set as follows:

	<b>Course Requirements</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>
	English	4	4	4
	Math	3	3	3
	Science	2	3	3
	Social Studies- Including Modern U.S. History (1) and Civics (0.5)	3	3	3
	Physical Education	1	1	1
	Health Education	.5	.5	.5
	Technology	.5	.5	.5
	Music/Art/ Applied Studies	1.0	2.	2.
	Transitions (will be offered to Juniors beginning 2008 school year)			.5
	Senior Capstone			.5
	Electives	8	7	7
<b>Total Number of Credits</b>		<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>

All students must also have satisfactorily met the district's performance standards as follows:

- A. English Performance Standard
  - B. Social Studies Performance Standard
  - C. Mathematics Performance Standard
  - D. Science Performance Standard
  - E. Technology Performance Standard
  - F. Oral Communication Performance Standard
  - G. Career Planning Performance Standard
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**I. The Performance Standards**

- A. English Performance Standard: The student will read a piece of literature and demonstrate comprehension through initial understanding, interpretation, connection, and critical stance. The response will be edited for standard English conventions.
- B. Social Studies Performance Standard: The student will read three pieces of authentic nonfiction material on a current controversial issue. The student will interpret and/or explain the text and connect the text to outside knowledge. The student will elaborate on the text and make judgment about the text's quality and themes. The student will then form an opinion on the controversial issue, and write a persuasive response that is focused, organized, and elaborated.
- C. Mathematics Performance Standard: The student must complete multi-step problems that require mathematical operations, using fractions, decimals, percents and conceptual understanding in number and quantity, measurement and geometry, probability and statistics, discrete mathematics, and algebra and functions. The student must be able to explain answers in writing, graphically, or through algebraic representation.
- D. Science Performance Standard: The student must be able to explain scientific concepts and apply the concepts to realistic problems. The student must solve a problem using scientific reasoning and experimentation.
- E. Technology Performance Standard: The student must employ technology to solve a problem. The student must find information, interpret it to determine relevance and accuracy, manipulate data, and communicate information appropriately to specific audiences.
- F. Oral Communication Performance Standard: The student must prepare and deliver an oral presentation that will show clear purpose, logical organization, and knowledge of the subject matter. The student must respond appropriately to the audience, and show both positive verbal and non-verbal communication.
- G. Career Planning Performance Standard: The student must demonstrate career application skills by successfully developing an interest inventory, researching a career, completing an employment application, participating in a mock interview, and compiling a resume. The student will develop postgraduate plans based upon interest, aptitude, school activities, workplace activities, and related connecting activities.

**II. Exemptions**

- A. Transfers: If a student transfers into Plainfield High School after the completion of the CAPT testing period of their academic junior year, he/she may be exempted from Plainfield's performance standards requirement for graduation, upon review and recommendation by a Performance Standards Review Committee.
- B. Special Needs: Students with special needs may be exempt from district performance standards for graduation if so determined by the Planning and Placement Team (P.P.T.).

**PLAINFIELD HIGH SCHOOL  
PERFORMANCE GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

**Implementation Procedures**

**III. Notification**

- A. Students and parents will receive written notification of the performance graduation requirements in the student handbook at the beginning of each school year. Students will receive additional notification during orientation assemblies.
- B. Teachers will be notified by the Guidance Department of all juniors and seniors who have not met graduation performance requirements. Teachers will be notified of the CAPT retest results.
- C. Students in grade 9 will be given a CAPT practice assessment and parents will be notified of their child's score.
- D. Parents will be notified of their child's 10<sup>th</sup> grade CAPT results.
- E. Parents of 11<sup>th</sup> grade students will be notified that their child has not met one or more performance requirements by the end of the junior year.
- F. Parents of 12<sup>th</sup> grade students who have not met the performance standard will be notified after each assessment.

**IV. Administration Of Performance Task Assessments**

- A. All students will actively participate in the administration of the Connecticut Aptitude Performance Test (CAPT) during their sophomore year. A student achieving a score in bands three, four, or five in the related section of the CAPT will successfully meet the performance standard.

<u>District Performance Standards</u>	<u>Related CAPT Sections</u>
English	Response To Literature & Editing and Revising
Social Studies	Interdisciplinary Writing & Reading For Information
Mathematics	Mathematics
Science	Science

Any student not meeting any of the four performance standards on the CAPT or related performance task assessment will be required to take the related sections on the CAPT in their junior year.

**B. English, Social Studies, Mathematics, Science:**

Teachers will administer the performance task assessments at least four times over the course of a student's junior and senior years during regular class periods. It will be used as a classroom assignment for all students. It will be graded by the classroom teacher and counted as part of the student's work for the marking period. These assessments will be completed by the end of the third marking period.

**C. Oral Communication, Technology, Career Planning:** Teachers will provide opportunities throughout the course of four years for students to complete required performance tasks in oral communication, technology, and career planning.

**V. Opportunities To Meet Requirements**

- A. Students will have at least four opportunities over the course of their junior and senior year to complete any performance standard in English, social studies, mathematics, and science.,.
- B. Students will have the opportunity over the course of their four years of high school to complete the oral communication, technology, and career planning performance standards.
- C. Students who have not satisfactorily demonstrated the district's performance standard in social studies, mathematics, or science will be required to take a social studies, mathematics, or science course in their senior year. The student must meet the social studies, mathematics, or science performance assessment in the course to fulfill the graduation requirement.

**VII. Recording**

Successful completion of the graduation requirements will be recorded in the student's file.

**VIII. Appeals**

- A. A student may appeal the score of the performance task if he believes the score is incorrect. The student must submit the request for an appeal to the principal within 10 school days of receiving the score. A student must submit a statement, using the scoring rubric, to demonstrate why the score is incorrect. If the appeal

is accepted by the principal, the paper will be submitted to an anonymous independent assessor. The independent assessor will be selected by the District Curriculum Coordinator or his/her designee.

The outcome of the independent review will be sent to the principal. The principal will communicate the result of the independent review to the student and parents.

- B. A student may appeal the score of the performance task in writing to the Superintendent within 10 school days of receiving the score if the student believes the process described in these regulations was not followed. The Superintendent will review the case to assure that all regulations were followed. If the Superintendent finds that the regulations were not followed, the Superintendent will order a reassessment of the original performance task or order a new performance task and assessment.

#### **IX. Options If Requirements are Not Met**

Seniors who are not eligible for graduation with their class due to failure to meet the district graduation requirement, as per policy, in one or more subjects as described above, may select one of the following options:

- A. Return in September as a fifth year student.
- B. If eligible, enroll in summer school program, pre-approved by PHS administration, and pass the performance requirement to earn full course credit.
- C. Make arrangements for re-testing to meet the performance standard.

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