

# Fern Ridge School District 28J

Code: **IKF**

Adopted: 6/10/02

Readopted: 5/23/05; 6/26/06; 5/14/07;  
4/28/08; 1/26/09; 12/07/09;  
5/17/10; 6/20/11; 1/23/12

Orig. Code(s): 7339

## Graduation Requirements

**Elmira High School Diploma:** The Board will establish graduation requirements for the awarding of an Elmira High School diploma which meet or exceed the criteria of this policy. The Board will also establish minimum credit requirements for the awarding of an alternative certificate. Class of 2012, 13, 14 students must complete a minimum 24½ credits inclusive of three credits of mathematics and four credits of English. Students receiving their diploma in 2015 must complete a minimum of 24 credits, inclusive of three credits of science, three credits in either arts, applied arts or a second language, six credits of electives and a portfolio of essential skills. Students who receive their diploma in 2014 must complete their minimum of math credits at the Algebra I level or higher.

A student may satisfy graduation requirements in less than four years. The district will award a diploma to a student fulfilling graduation requirements in less than four years upon the student's request and, if required, if the student's parent or guardian or by the student if they are 18 years of age or older or emancipated.

The district will ensure that students have onsite access to the appropriate resources to achieve a diploma, modified diploma, extended diploma or alternative certificate at each high school. The district will provide age appropriate and developmentally appropriate literacy instruction to all students until graduation.

Students and their parents will be notified yearly, via the student handbook, of graduation and diploma requirements. The Elmira High School Principal has the responsibility to inform parents and/or guardians of their student's graduation credit status. Counseling will be provided throughout the high school matriculation period so that a student and their parents/guardians are made aware of deficiencies or possible deficiencies and are offered assistance in pre-approved remedies to meet graduation requirements when available.

The district may award a modified diploma or extended diploma to a student only upon the written consent of the student's parent or guardian. The district shall receive the written consent during the school year in which the modified diploma or extended diploma is awarded. A student who is emancipated or has reached the age of 18 at the time the modified diploma or extended diploma is awarded may sign the consent.

**FRSD Modified Diploma:** A modified diploma will be awarded to students who have met specific requirements established by the State Board of Education and have demonstrated an inability to meet the full set of Elmira High School academic standards even with reasonable modifications and accommodations. To be eligible for a modified diploma a student must have a documented history of an inability to maintain grade level achievement due to significant learning and instructional barriers or a documented history of a medical condition that creates a barrier to achievement.

**Extended Diploma:** An extended diploma will be awarded to students who have demonstrated the inability to meet the full set of academic content standards for a diploma while receiving modifications and accommodations. To be eligible for an extended diploma, a student must, while in grade nine through completion of high school, complete 12 credits which may not include more than six credits in a self-contained special education classroom and will include two credits of mathematics, two credits of English, two credits of science, three credits of history geography, economics or civics, one credit of health, one credit of physical education, and one credit of the arts or a second language. A student must have documented history of an inability to maintain grade level achievement due to significant learning and instructional barriers or have a documented history of a medical condition that creates a barrier to achievements and participate in an alternate assessment beginning no later than grade six and lasting for two or more assessment cycles or have a serious illness or injury that occurs after grade eight, that changes the student's ability to participate in grade level activities and that results in the student participating in alternate assessments.

**FRSD Alternative Certificate:** Alternative certificates will be awarded to a student who does not satisfy the requirements for an Elmira High School diploma or modified diploma if the student meets the District's minimum credit requirements. Alternative certificates will be awarded based on individual student's needs and achievement. A student who receives a modified diploma, extended diploma or FRSD Alternative Certificate will have the option of participating in a high school graduation ceremony with the student's class.

The district will award to students with disabilities a document certifying successful completion of program requirements. No document issued to student with disabilities educated in full or in part in a special education program shall indicate that the document is issued by such a program. When a student who has an individualized education program ("IEP") completes high school, the district will give the student an individualized summary of performance.

Eligible students with disabilities are entitled to a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE") until the age of 21, even if they have earned a modified diploma, FRSD Alternative Certificate, certificate of attendance or completion or a General Education Development document. The continuance of services for students with a modified diplomas, extended diploma or alternative certificate is contingent on the IEP team determining the student's continued eligibility and special education services are needed.

The district will review graduation requirements biennially or yearly should ODE publish or modify graduation requirements in conjunction with the secondary school improvement plan. Graduation requirements may be revised to address student benchmark performance.

The district will issue a high school diploma, upon request, to a person who served in the Armed Forces<sup>1</sup>, as specified in Oregon law, if the person was discharged or released under honorable conditions and has received either a General Educational Development, a post-secondary degree or has received a minimum score on the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery.

### **Essential Skills**

The district will allow English Language Learner (ELL) students to demonstrate proficiency in the Essential Skills of Apply Mathematics, in a variety of settings, in the student's language of origin for those students who by the end of their 11th grade year are:

1. On track to meet all other graduation requirements; and
2. Unable to demonstrate proficiency in the Essential Skills in English.

The district will allow ELL students to demonstrate proficiency in Essential Skills other than Apply Mathematics, in a variety of settings, in the student's language of origin for those students who by the end of their 11th grade year:

1. Are on track to meet all other graduation requirements;
2. Are unable to demonstrate proficiency in the Essential Skills in English;
3. Have been enrolled in a U.S. school for five years or less; and
4. Receives at least a level 3 (Intermediate) on the English Language Proficiency Assessment (ELPA).

The district will develop procedures to provide assessment options as described in the Test Administration Manual, in the ELL student's language of origin for those ELL students who meet the criteria above, and will develop procedures to ensure that locally scored assessment options administered in an ELL student's language of origin are scored by a qualified rater.

The district may award a modified diploma or extended diploma to a student only upon the written consent of the student's parent or guardian. The district shall receive the written consent during the school year in which the modified diploma or extended diploma is awarded. A student who is emancipated or has

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<sup>1</sup>The policy applies to any person who:

1. Served in the Armed Forces of the U.S. Navy at any time during:
  - a. World War I;
  - b. World War II;
  - c. The Korean Conflict; or
  - d. The Vietnam War;
2. Served in the Armed Forces of the U.S. and was physically present in:
  - a. Operation Urgent Fury (Grenada);
  - b. Operation Just Cause (Panama);
  - c. Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm (Persian Gulf War);
  - d. Operation Restore Hope (Somalia);
  - e. Operation Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan); or
  - f. Operation Iraq Freedom (Iraq);
3. Served in the Armed Forces of the U.S. in an area designated as a combat zone by the President of the U.S.

reached the age of 18 at the time the modified diploma or extended diploma is awarded may sign the consent.

A student shall have the opportunity to satisfy the requirements for a modified diploma, extended diploma or alternative certificate in either four years after starting the ninth grade, or until the student reaches the age of 21, if the student is entitled to a public education until the age of 21 under state or federal law.

A student may satisfy the requirements for a modified diploma, extended diploma or alternative certificate in less than four years but not less than three years. In order to satisfy the requirements for a modified diploma, extended diploma or alternative certificate in less than four years, the student's parent or guardian or a student who is emancipated or has reached the age of 18 must provide written consent which clearly states the parent, guardian or student is waiving the fourth year and/or years until the student reaches the age of 21. A copy of the consent will be forwarded to the district superintendent who will annually report to the Superintendent of Public Instruction the number of such consents.

A student who receives a modified diploma, extended diploma or alternative certificate shall have access to individually designed instructional hours, hours of transition services and hours of other services that equals at least the total number of instructional hours that is required to be provided to students who are attending a public high school, unless reduced by the IEP team.

### **Essential Skills Appeal**

The district will follow Board policy KL - Public Complaints in the event of an appeal for the denial of a diploma based on the Essential Skills graduation requirement. The district will retain student work samples and student performance data to ensure that sufficient evidence is available in the event of an appeal.

END OF POLICY

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#### **Legal Reference(s):**

[ORS 329.095](#)  
[ORS 329.451](#)  
[ORS 332.107](#)  
[ORS 332.114](#)  
[ORS 338.115](#)  
[ORS 339.115](#)  
[ORS 339.505](#)  
[ORS 343.295](#)

[OAR 581-021-0071](#)  
[OAR 581-022-0615](#)  
[OAR 581-022-0617](#)  
[OAR 581-022-1130](#)  
[OAR 581-022-1131](#)  
[OAR 581-022-1133](#)  
[OAR 581-022-1134](#)

[OAR 581-002-1135](#)  
[OAR 581-022-1210](#)  
[OAR 581-022-1215](#)  
[OAR 581-022-1350](#)

TEST ADMINISTRATION MANUAL, APPENDIX L-REQUIREMENTS FOR ASSESSMENT OF ESSENTIAL SKILLS.

#### **Cross Reference(s):**

IKFA - Early Graduation