

**Instruction**

**Graduation Requirements**

Graduation from our public school implies (1) that students have satisfactorily completed the prescribed courses of study for the several grade levels in accordance with their respective abilities to achieve, (2) that they have satisfactorily passed any examinations, satisfactorily demonstrated the district's performance standards, and participated statewide mastery examinations, established by the faculty and approved by the Canton Board of Education, and (3) that they have fulfilled the legally mandated number and distribution of credits. Graduation shall not be held until 180 days and 900 hours of actual school work are completed.

The Canton Board of Education, in establishing a graduation date, may establish for any school year a firm graduation date for students in grade twelve which is no earlier than the one-hundred-eighty-fifth day in the Canton Board of Education's adopted school calendar. After April first in any school year the Canton Board of Education may establish a firm graduation date for the school year which, at the time of such establishment provides for at least 180 days of school.

The Principal shall submit to the Canton Board of Education through the Superintendent his/her detailed requirements and standards to agree with the goals of our schools as adopted by the Canton Board of Education. It is expected that the faculty will apply measures of achievement to provide evidence that each student has progressed far enough toward school goals to warrant graduation according to the terms of paragraph #1 above.

The Canton Board of Education, in recognition of its responsibility for the education of all youths in the school system, including those who do not successfully complete the assessment criteria listed above, and those who drop out of school, shall make available to all the school district's youths a course of study or alternative programs for meeting standards that will enable them to acquire a high school or vocational school diploma.

The Canton Board of Education shall award a high school diploma to any World War II veteran or veteran of the Korean Hostilities requesting such diploma who left high school for military service as defined in the statutes.

**Promotion and Graduation**

A diploma can be earned by accumulating at least twenty-four (24) credits in a four-year period. This includes fulfilling all state and local requirements as outlined here. Students will be promoted or retained subject to these requirements.

To Grade	Number of Earned Credits Needed
10	5
11	12
12	17

(Graduation Minimum of 24 Credits), changing to 25 credits with the class of 2021. Students who transfer to Canton High School following their sophomore year may be allowed to graduate with less than the number of required credits provided that they were meeting the promotion requirements at the school they were attending in grades 9 and 10. However, the students must meet the graduation requirements specified by Connecticut General Statutes and the course and credit requirements for grades 11 and 12 at Canton High School.

## Required Programs

The Connecticut General Assembly has prescribed certain requirements which all state high school graduates must fulfill. These requirements have been further defined and acted upon by the Canton Board of Education. A summary of requirements follows:

<b>Subject Area</b>	<b>Class of 2017</b>
<b>English</b>	4
<b>Mathematics</b>	3
<b>Science</b>	3
<b>Health &amp; Wellness/P.E</b>	1
<b>Social Studies</b>	3
<b>Vocational/Fine Arts</b>	1
<b>World Language</b>	
<b>Capstone</b>	
<b>Electives</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>24</b>

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Subject Area	2018	2019	2020	2021 and beyond
English	4	4	4	4
Mathematics	4	4	4	4
Science	3	3	3	3
Health & Wellness/P.E.	1	1	1	1.5
Social Studies	3	3	3	3
Fine Arts & Vocational Education	1	1	1	0
Capstone		1	1	1
Electives	8	7	5	See Below
World Language			2	2
STEM Elective			0	1
Humanities Elective			0	1
Fine Arts			0	1
Career & Life Skills (Economics and Finance)			0	1.5 .5
Other Electives				1.5
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>

All students will be required to take a minimum of six classes each semester (for seniors, the minimum is five). Externships, teaching assistantships, independent study, and online courses are above and beyond the minimum requirements.

(2) end of the school year examinations for the following courses:

- (A) Algebra I,
- (B) Geometry,
- (C) Biology,
- (D) American History, and
- (E) Grade Ten (10) English.

In addition, also beginning with the graduating class of 2020, the Canton Board of Education will provide adequate student support and remedial services for students beginning in grade seven (7) (2014-2015 school year). Such student support and remedial services shall provide alternate means for a student to complete any of the high school graduation requirements, previously listed, or end of the school year examinations, if such student is unable to satisfactorily complete any of the required courses or exams. Such student support and remedial services shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) allowing students to retake courses in summer school or through an on-line course;
- (2) allowing students to enroll in a class offered at a constituent unit of the state system of higher education, allowing students who received a failing score, as determined by the Commissioner of Education, on an end of the school year exam to take an alternate form of the exam; and
- (3) allowing those students whose individualized education plans state that such students are eligible for an alternate assessment to demonstrate competency on any of the five core courses through success on such alternate assessment.

The Canton Board of Education shall grant a student credit towards meeting high school graduation requirements for (1) completing a world-language course provided by a non-profit organization and (2) passing a subject area proficiency test identified and approved by the Commissioner of Education. Up to four (4) credits for a private non-profit world language course shall be granted if the student achieves a passing grade on a test prescribed by the Commissioner of Education. In other subject areas, credit shall be granted, based upon successful passage of the subject area proficiency tests prescribed or identified and approved by the Commissioner of Education,\* regardless of the number of hours spent by the student in a public school classroom learning the subject matter.

The fulfillment of the mandated two (2) credit world language requirement, beginning with the class of 2020 can include the successful completion of a world language course in grades six (6), seven (7), or eight (8) or an online course successfully completed.

Successful completion of Algebra I in Middle School can also be awarded high school credit.

<b>SUBJECT</b>	2020 (current 7th)	2021 and Beyond
Spanish I		1 credit
Spanish A		.5 credit
Spanish B	1 credit	.5 credit
Spanish II	1 credit	1 credit
Algebra I	1 credit	1 credit

All credits earned toward meeting any of the graduation requirements through the successful completion of online courses must fulfill the requirements established in policy #6172.6, "Interactive Distance Learning."

Beginning July 1, 2012, the Canton Board of Education shall create a student success plan for each enrolled student, beginning in grade six. Such plan shall include a student's career and academic choices in grades six (6) to twelve (12) inclusive.

\* The Commissioner, per statute, must prescribe or identify and approve the examinations within available appropriations.

*Note: On or after July 1, 2014, the SDE shall commence development or approval of the end of the school year examinations.*

(cf. [5121](#) - Examination/Grading/Rating)

(cf. [6111](#) - School Calendar)

(cf. [6146.2](#) - Statewide Proficiency/Mastery Examinations)

(cf. [6172.6](#) - Interactive Distance Learning)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

[10-14n](#) Statewide mastery examination. Conditions for reexamination. Limitation on use of test results.

[10-16\(l\)](#) Graduation exercises. (As amended by PA 96-108, An Act Concerning Student Use of Telecommunication Devices and the Establishment of Graduation Dates)

[10-221a](#) High school graduation requirements. (As amended by P.A. 00-124, An Act Concerning High School Diplomas and Veterans of World War II, P.A. 00-156, An Act Requiring A Civics Course for High School Graduation, P.A. 08-138, An Act Concerning High School Credit for Private World Language Courses and Other Subject Areas, P.A. 10-111,

An Act Concerning Education Reform in Connecticut and P.A. 11-135, An Act Concerning Implementation Dates for Secondary School Reform.

[10-233\(a\)](#) Promotion and graduation policies. (as amended by PA 01-166)

Policy adopted: May 22, 2012

Policy revised: June 9, 2015

Policy revised: December 13, 2016

Policy revised: June 12, 2018

CANTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Canton, Connecticut