

Mukilteo School District No. 6

Resolution No. 4/2016-17

Temporary Waiver from High School Graduation Requirements

A RESOLUTION of the Board of Directors of Mukilteo School District No. 6, Snohomish County, State of Washington, requesting temporary waiver from the Career and College Ready Graduation Requirements for the graduating classes of 2019 and 2020.

WHEREAS, the Washington State Legislature passed E2SSB 6552 increasing the number of credits required for high school graduation to 24 for the Class of 2019;

WHEREAS, the Washington State Legislature and State Board of Education provide a procedure for school districts to request a waiver and delay implementation of the 24-credit requirement;

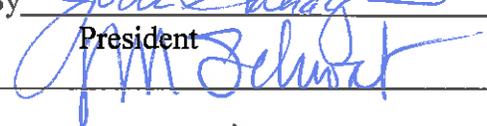
WHEREAS, the Mukilteo School District has researched the needs of its students and determined that additional time is required to fully implement the necessary support systems and resources to assist all of its students in earning 24 credits;

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Mukilteo School District is requesting a temporary waiver for the reasons set forth in The Washington State Board of Education Application for a Temporary Waiver from High School Graduation Requirements Under Chapter 217, Laws of 2014;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Directors of the Mukilteo School District in accordance with RCW 28A.230.090(1)(d)(ii); that the District is requesting a temporary waiver from the Career and College Ready Graduation Requirements for the graduating classes of 2019 and 2020.

ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Mukilteo School District No. 6, Snohomish County, State of Washington, in a regular meeting thereof held on the 27th day of February, 2017.

MUKILTEO SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 6

By 
President




ATTEST:


Marci Larsen, Board Secretary



APPLICATION Temporary Waiver from High School Graduation Requirements Under Chapter 217, Laws of 2014

Instructions

RCW 28A.230.090(1)(d)(ii) authorizes school districts to apply to the State Board of Education (SBE) for a temporary waiver from the career and college ready graduation requirements directed by Chapter 217, Laws of 2014 (E2SSB 6552) beginning with the graduating class of 2020 or 2021 instead of the graduating class of 2019. This law further provides:

“In the application, a school district must describe why the waiver is being requested, the specific impediments preventing timely implementation, and efforts that will be taken to achieve implementation with the graduating class proposed under the waiver. The state board of education shall grant a waiver under this subsection (1)(d) to an applying school district at the next subsequent meeting of the board after receiving an application.”

The SBE has adopted rules to implement this provision as WAC 180-51-068(11). The rules provide that the SBE must post an application form on its public web site for use by school districts. The rules further provide:

- The application must be accompanied by a resolution adopted by the district’s board of directors requesting the waiver. The resolution must, at a minimum:
 1. State the entering freshman class or classes for whom the waiver is requested;
 2. Be signed by the chair or president of the board of directors and the superintendent.
- A district implementing a waiver granted by the SBE under this law will continue to be subject to the prior high school graduation requirements as specified in WAC 180-51-067 during the school year or years for which the waiver has been granted.
- A district granted a waiver under this law that elects to implement the career and college ready graduation requirements in WAC 180-51-068 during the period for which the waiver is granted shall provide notification of that decision to the SBE.

Please send the application and school board resolution electronically to:

Jack Archer
Director, Basic Education Oversight
360-725-6035
jack.archer@k12.wa.us

For questions, please contact:

Jack Archer
Director, Basic Education Oversight
360-725-6035
jack.archer@k12.wa.us

Linda Drake
Research Director
360-725-6028
linda.drake@k12.wa.us

Application

Please complete in full. Please identify any attachments provided by reference to the numbered items below.

1. Name of district: Mukilteo School District
2. Contact information
Name and title: Dr. Alison Brynelson, Deputy Superintendent
Telephone: (425) 356-1319
E-mail address: Brynelsonax@mukilteo.wednet.edu
3. Date of application: February 27, 2017

4. Please explain why the district is requesting a waiver to delay implementation of career and college ready graduation requirements in WAC 180-51-068.

The Mukilteo School District is requesting a waiver to delay implementation of the graduation requirements in WAC 180-51-068 for the graduating classes of 2019 and 2020. This request is based on the following factors:

- 1) Mukilteo's district-level results for 9th grade course failure rate for the class of 2019 indicate 27% of its 9th graders failed one or more of their ELA, math, or science classes. This is three percentage points higher than the State average. We also know that research shows that failure rates in 9th grade are highly correlated to low graduation rates. Administrators are in the process of analyzing 2016-2017 first semester grades to determine current credit status for both the class of 2019 and 2010.
- 2) Each of the high schools created and implemented a tiered intervention system to help students meet the new 24-credit graduation requirements. In addition, district-wide supports for its most struggling learners are still being created. For example, a partnership was recently developed with Graduation Alliance to assist with recovering high school dropouts as well as currently enrolled students not successful in our high schools. We recently developed and launched a new program called "Opportunity Day School". This school is designed for students who have been long-term suspended and/or expelled. These students can continue to earn their high school credits even though they are not allowed on their home school campus. Despite implementation, these systems are still in their infancy. Time is needed to monitor and adjust the interventions, ensuring they are the right supports to help all students meet the new graduation requirements.
- 3) Increased science requirements, along with potential increases in high school credit options, will have budget, staffing, and facility ramifications. The Teaching and Learning Department, as well as District Services, need additional time to work with principals and teachers to develop new third-credit science courses. This is complicated work. We need to ensure that courses are aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards and prepare students for the evolving state science exams. Curriculum materials for these courses need to be taken through our district process for adoption and then purchased. We need to hire teachers to teach additional sections of science. Time is

also needed to train our teachers who will be implementing these new science courses. This training includes certification requirements to be able to teach CTE or AP courses. The district also needs additional time to modify our facilities to be able to deliver additional science courses.

5. Please describe the specific impediments preventing implementation of the career and college ready graduation requirements beginning with the graduating class of 2019.

The implementation of the new graduation requirements contained in WAC 180-51-068 will have significant impact on Mukilteo School District policies, procedures, training, staffing and facilities. Although we are in the process of preparing for the new graduation requirements, additional time is necessary to ensure an adequate system to help all students meet the new 24-credit standard.

6. Please indicate below the graduating class for which the district will first implement the career and college ready graduation requirements.

Class of 2020

Class of 2021

7. Please describe the efforts that will be undertaken to achieve implementation of the career and college ready graduation requirements for the graduating class indicated above.

The following are a variety of efforts that Mukilteo has undertaken to achieve implementation of the career and college ready diploma:

- a. A career and college ready counselor was added to each of the comprehensive high schools. These staff members focus on preparing all students for career and college readiness.
- b. The high school and beyond graduation requirement was re-vamped and students are expected to begin their planning in the eighth grade.
- c. A seventh period day program was started at each of the high schools. Specifically, a variety of several seventh period options were created so students can either gain specific academic support from teachers or recover credit.
- d. Bridge to College Math and English were implemented in the high schools to allow students to have alternative options for earning math and English credit as well as bypassing remedial math and English courses in college.
- e. Student Support Advocates were added to the secondary schools so at-risk youth have a dedicated specialist to link the student and/or family to essential supports.
- f. The district summer school program was overhauled so that students can enter high school with "fresh" credit. A very successful program was created called Introduction to High School, which serves up to 140 incoming freshmen who have attendance or school engagement issues. The goal is for these students to leave this program with the confidence that they can be successful in high school.
- g. A science committee is working on new course pathways that are aligned to the Next Generation Science standards. They will also create new courses that students can take for their third credit of science.

Final step

Please attach the district resolution required by WAC 180-51-068, signed and dated by the chair or president of the board of directors and the district superintendent.