

## Class of 2018 Graduation Requirements Transition

### How did we get here?

- Last year, some school district superintendents expressed concerns that thousands of students in the class of 2018 were not on track to graduate on time.
- In December 2016, the State Board of Education (SBOE) directed State Superintendent DeMaria to establish Ohio's Graduation Requirements Workgroup, a special panel of educators, school administrators and parents. The Workgroup reviewed research and test result data, and recommended alternative approaches for the class of 2018 to earn a diploma.
- In April 2017, the SBOE passed a resolution supporting the recommendations of the Workgroup (below). The resolution was sent to the Ohio General Assembly for consideration.

### How many students in the class of 2018 could be impacted?<sup>1</sup>

Next year, under the new graduation requirements for the classes of 2018 and beyond, thousands of students who are not much different from the class of 2017 are not on track to graduate. Of the 137,119 in the class of 2018:

- 91,218 (66.5%) students have already met all or are highly likely to meet graduation requirements for the end-of-course exam pathway.
- 38,078 (27.8%) students are projected to need additional support and intervention to meet the end-of-course pathway<sup>2</sup>. This group of students is not on track to graduate on time.
- 7,323 (5.7%) students do not have enough data reported to identify their status.<sup>3</sup>
- Among all these students, some may graduate using the industry credential and WorkKeys option, the ACT/SAT option, or some students' Individual Education Plans (IEPs) may exempt them from test consequences.

Although many students will show improvements on end-of-course tests, thousands of students will begin their senior year not on track to graduate. Additional opportunities for the class of 2018 should be authorized to provide more flexible, but still meaningful, requirements to enable more students to graduate.

### Why should the legislature act now for the class of 2018?

Parents, students, teachers and administrators are worried about the graduation requirements. Families and schools should know, before the first day of their senior year, where they stand and what they need to do to earn a diploma. Enacting these opportunities for the class of 2018 will provide stability and certainty for thousands of Ohioans.

<sup>1</sup> This is not a projected state graduation rate. It is a projected rate of students on track to meet the requirements for the End-of-Course pathway with 2 years remaining. Data included in this document was requested by the State Board of Education and subsequently reviewed by Ohio's Graduation Requirements Work Group.

<sup>2</sup> Includes students that have taken 4 or more tests or have potentially dropped out

<sup>3</sup> Includes students that have taken 3 or fewer tests.

## Proposed Opportunities for the Class of 2018 (only)

### Alternative Graduation Requirements Recommendation 1

A student in the Class of 2018 who does not otherwise meet one of the three current diploma pathways may receive a diploma if the following conditions are met:

- A.** Complete all required high school courses
- B.** Take all required end of course exams; retake once any ELA or Math test for which student scored a "1"
- C.** Meet **two** of the following eight conditions:
  - \_\_\_ Attendance rate during senior year – 93%;
  - \_\_\_ 2.5 GPA for senior year courses (minimum 4 full year courses or equivalent);
  - \_\_\_ Complete a capstone senior project as defined by the district;
  - \_\_\_ Complete 120 hours work experience (including, but not limited to internship, work study, co-op, and/or apprenticeship) or community service during the senior year as defined by the district;
  - \_\_\_ Earn 3 or more credits in a College Credit Plus course at any time during the student's high school experience;
  - \_\_\_ Successfully complete an International Baccalaureate, or Advanced Placement course and earn a score on the respective exam that would earn college credit (4 on IB exam, 3 on AP exam) –at any time during the student's high school experience;
  - \_\_\_ Earn a minimum Level 3 score on each of the reading for information, applied mathematics, and locating information components of the WorkKeys exam (9 points total);
  - \_\_\_ Earn a State Board of Education approved, industry recognized credential or group of credentials equal to or greater than 3 points.

### Alternative Graduation Requirements Recommendation 2 *- for students in a career tech program*

A student in the Class of 2018 who does not otherwise meet one of the three current diploma pathways may receive a diploma if the following conditions are met:

- A.** Complete all required high school courses
- B.** Take all required end of course exams
- C.** Successfully complete an Ohio Department of Education approved Career Technical training program that includes four or more Vocational-Technical (VT) courses

**AND**

- D.** Successfully complete **one** of the following:

- \_\_\_ Score proficient or better on the total test score based on the average of the student's performance across the end-of-course tests or test modules (WebXams) that are required for the program

**OR**

- \_\_\_ Earn a State Board of Education approved, industry recognized credential or group of credentials equal to or greater than 12 points

**OR**

- \_\_\_ Demonstrate successful workplace participation based on a written agreement signed by the student, school district representative and employer/supervisor as evidenced by:
  - Documented completion of 250 hours of workplace experience (paid or unpaid)
  - Evidence of regular written positive evaluations from the workplace supervisor and school district representative.