

KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION
AGENDA STATEMENT

No. 10 b

MEETING OF February 12, 2020

REVIEWED BY:

ITEM TITLE:

PUBLIC HEARING - POLICY

Approval of revisions to Board Policy 6146.1 -
High School Graduation Requirements in first reading

Superintendent
 Policy Committee
 High School administration

SUBMITTED BY: Beth Lougee, Superintendent

CONTACT PERSON/TELEPHONE:

Superintendent Lougee 247-2109
Phone

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL:


Superintendent

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

The School Board is being asked to approve revisions to graduation requirements as outlined in Board Policy 6146.1 – High School Graduation Requirements.

ISSUE:

Board Policy 9310 dictates that “the district shall develop or revise policies and regulations in order to reflect new legislation and changing community views.” Additionally, BP 9311 calls for the Superintendent or the Superintendent’s designee to “maintain procedures for the continuous orderly review of existing policies at a time allocated for this purposes on the agenda of regular Board meetings... in addition to presenting drafts or suggestions for new policy and policy revisions when changes in law occur or when a specific need arises”.

BACKGROUND:

A discussion about potential changes to high school graduation changes has been ongoing.
(See *attached*.)

RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of the revisions as presented.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Proposed revisions to Board Policy 6146.1

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

“I move that the Board of Education approve the recommended changes to graduation requirements as reflected in the proposed revisions to Board Policy 6146.1- High School Graduation Requirements in first reading.”

High School Graduation Requirements BP 6146.10

The Superintendent or designee shall prepare for Board approval a plan consisting of district graduation requirements. Students shall receive diplomas of graduation from high school only after meeting the following district graduation requirements.

Graduation Requirements - Effective Date, Graduating Class of ~~2020~~ 2021

Graduation course requirements for a high school diploma are as follows:

English-Language Arts	4 credits
Social Studies *	3 credits
Math	3 credits
Science	3 credits
Health/Physical Education	1 credit
Health	0.5 credit
Physical Education	0.5 credit
Electives	7 credits
Career Technical Education and/or Fine Arts	1 credit
TOTAL CREDITS REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION	22 credits

Additional requirements include 100 hours or work experience or community service, completion of the State of Alaska Job Application and participation in the Work Keys or ACT or SAT assessment.

** Note: The three units of credit in social studies must include one-half unit of credit in Alaska history or demonstration that the student meets the Alaska history performance standards. This requirement will not apply to a student who (1) transfers into high school after the student's second year of high school; or (2) has already successfully completed a high school state history course in another state, 4 AAC -6.075. The three*

~~units in social studies must also include one unit of credit of World History or United States History and one unit of credit of American Government.~~

(cf. 5127 - Graduation Ceremonies and Activities)

(cf. 6164.2 - Guidance and Counseling Services)

(cf. 6146.3 – Competency Testing)

(cf. 6184 – Virtual/Online Courses)

Legal Reference:

ALASKA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

4 AAC 06.075 High school graduation requirements

4 AAC 06.721 College and career readiness assessment waivers

4 AAC 06.755-790 Statewide assessment program for students with disabilities

KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Revision Date: 6/13/07

Revision Date: 10/14/2015

Revision Date: 08/24/2016

Revision Date: 4/12/2017

Revision Date: XX/XX/XXXX

High School Graduation Requirements AR 6146.10

Graduation

1. Early Graduation - Students with six completed semesters of attendance, may be graduated if the following criteria are met:
 - Parent's written permission is obtained.
 - A letter of intention is submitted one semester prior to completion of requirements for graduation.
 - Administrative approval of the high school principal is obtained.
 - All graduation requirements for a high school diploma have been completed.

~~Students who graduate early should be involved in an activity such as:~~

- ~~○ The student has been accepted by an institution offering advanced educational or vocational training.~~
 - ~~○ The student can show proof of fulltime and continuous employment.~~
 - ~~○ The student can provide evidence of engaging in an acceptable alternative program of education (world tour, etc.)~~
2. Career Technical Education Requirement - The CTE requirement may be met through the completion of a designated CTE course, or through the completion of a Work Study Course and the requisite number of hours of work or internship experience.
 3. Course Load Requirements - A full load of classes is defined as enrollment in 4 credit-bearing classes.
 4. Correspondence Courses and/or University of Alaska Courses for credit which have prior approval of the high school principal may be taken for credit toward graduation.
 5. Valedictorian, Salutatorian and Top 20 will be determined by Grade Point Average, **Strength of Schedule, and other factors as identified in the Valedictorian/Salutatorian Selection Criteria Rubric (Exhibit _A_)** ~~Students who graduate with an adjusted curriculum (i.e., take courses determined by a Child Study Team (CST) or Individual Educational Plan (IEP) shall not be eligible for these academic awards.~~

6. Work Experience/Community Service – One hundred hours of work experience, community service, or a combination of the two is needed for graduation. **This 100 hour work experience requirement is separate from the work experience that may be utilized to meet CTE requirements.** These **hours** can be obtained all at once in the same year or spread out over a four year period. Students who enter high school from outside of the district will need to perform twenty-five hours of Work Experience/Community Service for each year they attend secondary school in Ketchikan in order to receive a diploma (e.g. a student entering the District in their senior year would only have 25 hours, junior year 50 hours, etc.)
7. ACT, SAT or Work Keys – Beginning with the class of 2020, all Ketchikan Gateway Borough School District students must take the Work Keys or ACT or SAT assessment to be eligible for graduation.

8. PE Waiver-

Students may earn up to 0.5 PE credits for participation in an ASAA sanctioned sport any time in their High School career.

PE credits are earned at a rate of ~~0.25~~ **0.5** credits for each season successfully completed, for a total of 0.5 credits.

Student may earn ~~0.25~~ **0.5** credits for participation in ~~40~~ **75** hours of physical activity through a recognized organization (such as KTB, KYSL, etc.)

~~To earn the PE Credit Waiver, students must also complete the Online Personal Wellness Class.~~

Revision Date: XX/XX/XXXX

KGBSD High School Graduation Requirements Recommendations

Based on input received from district stakeholders, a review of the current KGBSD High School Graduation Requirements has been implemented.

Timeline:

- A public input meeting was held on December 16, 2019, at Ketchikan High School. This meeting was presented by administration from KGBSD District as well as Kayhi and Revilla. The meeting was attended by members of the District's students, staff, parents, and School Board.
- A survey was sent to Kayhi and Revilla staff and students after December 21, 2019, and again by January 6, 2020.
- The survey was closed January 9, 2020.
- A District team met on January 9 to review survey data. The team was comprised of Curriculum Director: Alonso Escalante, Kayhi Principal: Jason House, Revilla Principal: Kurt Lindemann, and Information Specialist: Chasina Worman.
- Recommendations presented to School Board January 15, 2020.
- Public Meeting Held, January 28, 2020
- Survey sent to community January 29, 2020
- [Survey Results can be found later in this document](#)
- Graduation team met February 3, 2020 to review survey responses

The District team's recommendations seek to ensure that KGBSD graduates are provided a rigorous education while maintaining flexibility and student choice in the overall curriculum.

Graduation Survey Results

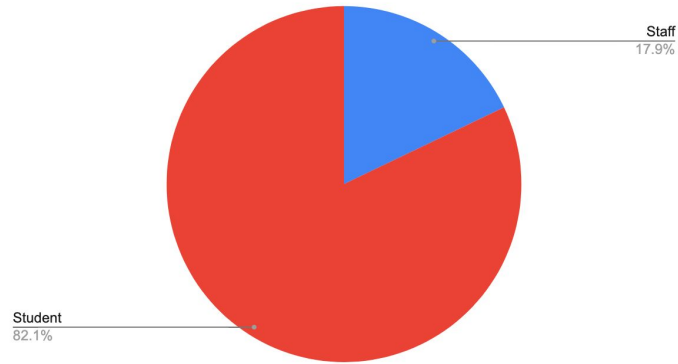
All questions: Total Respondents: 421

Student Respondents: 225

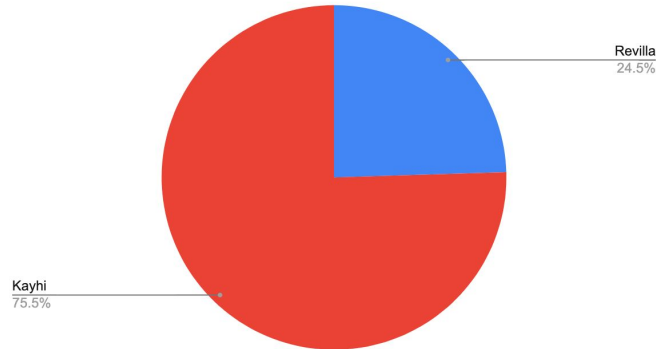
Staff Respondents: 49

Community Responses: 147

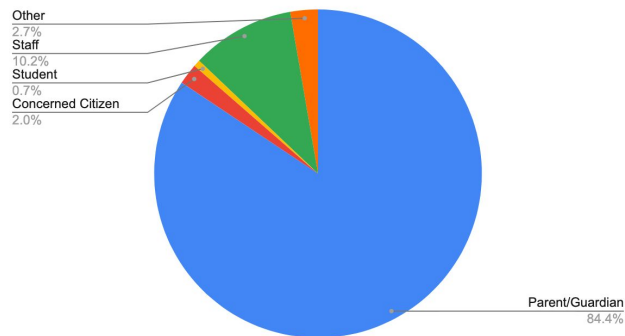
Are you a Student or a Staff Member?



What is your School?

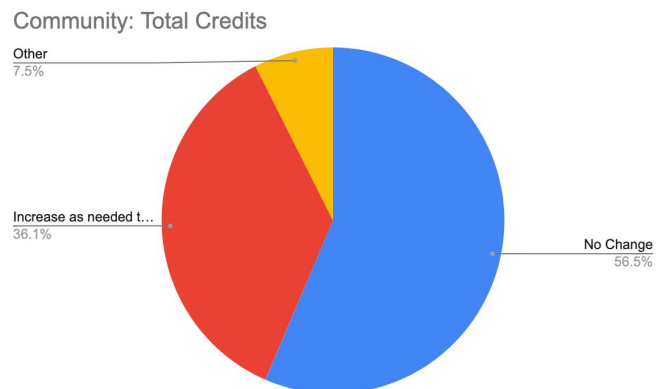
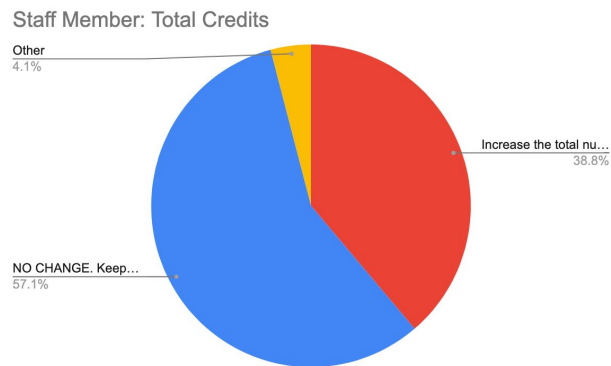
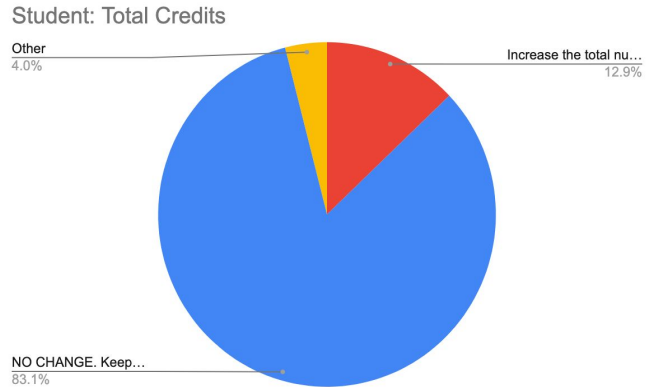


Community Member Type



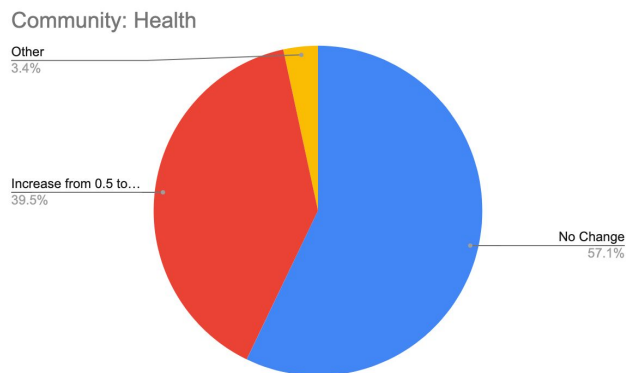
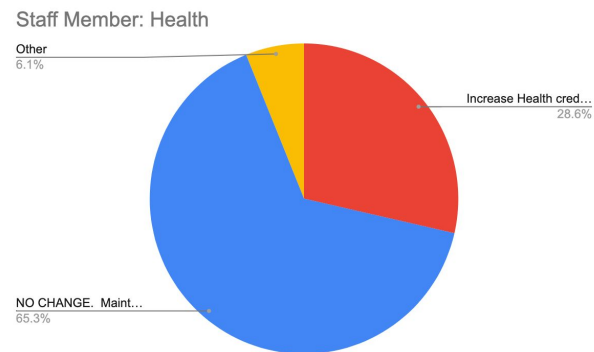
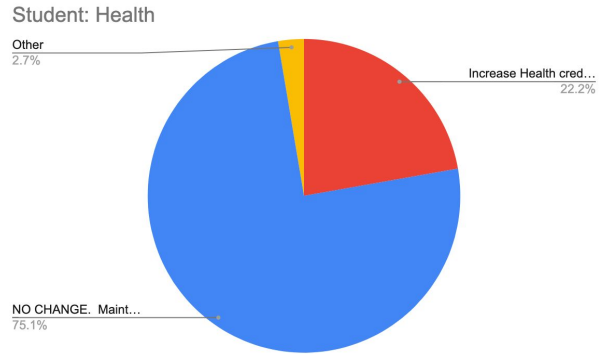
1) KGBSD currently requires 22 total credits for graduation. In order to increase any specific graduation requirement, we must either increase the total number of required credits or adjust the distribution by reducing "elective" credits.

- a) NO CHANGE. Keep the total required number of credits at 22. If course changes are made, take the credits from "electives"
- b) Increase the total number of required credits to a maximum of 24 credits to accommodate any proposed changes.



2) Students currently receive 1 semester (0.5 credits) of Health in High School (typically during 9th grade year). There is a suggestion that the Health requirement be increased to a full-year (1.0 credits). This increased credit would include additional content related to mental health/social-emotional health among other topics. Full course curriculum specifics to be determined later.

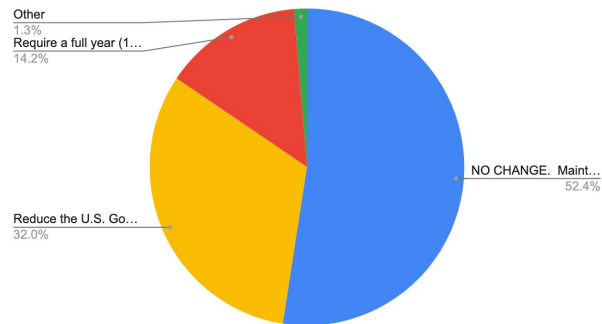
- a) NO CHANGE. Maintain current requirement of 0.5 credits Health.
- b) Increase Health credit requirement from 0.5 credits to 1.0 credits.



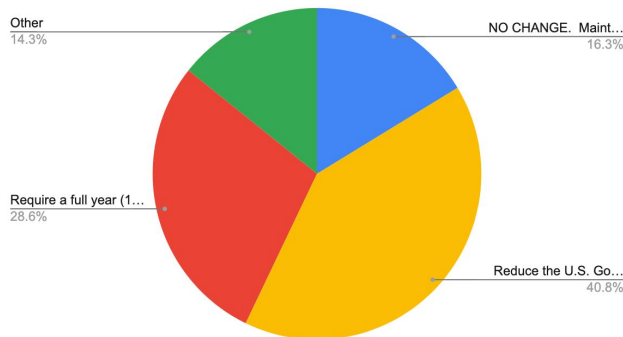
3) Due to the current distribution of Social Studies credit requirements, many students are meeting their Social Studies requirement (currently 3.0 credits) and are choosing to drop US History at the end of first semester. This results in students graduating without having taken “modern” US History.

- a) NO CHANGE. Maintain current number and distribution of required Social Studies credits.
- b) Require a full year (1.0 Credits of US History) This will increase Social Studies to 3.5 total credits.
- c) Reduce the U.S. Government requirement from 1.0 credits to 0.5 credits while maintaining the 3.0 total SS credit requirement. This will create "space" in the Social Studies requirement and students will be more likely to complete U.S. History.

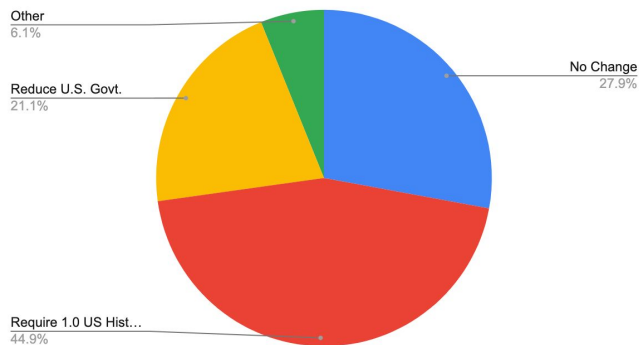
Student: Social Studies



Staff Member: Social Studies



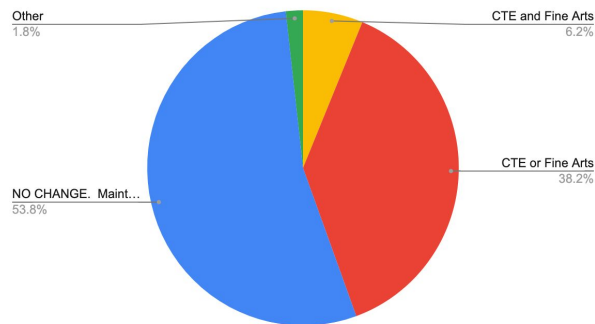
Community: Social Studies



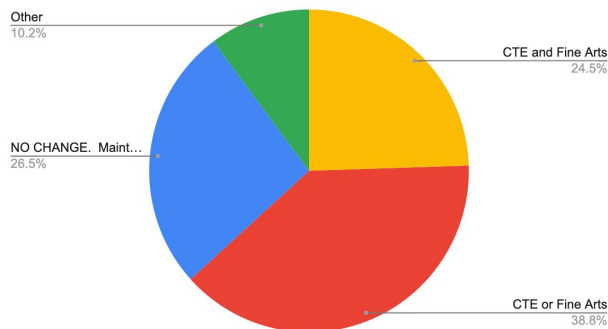
4) There is currently a requirement that every student must earn 1.0 credits of Career Technical Education (CTE). Students who are heavily involved in Fine Arts may struggle to meet the CTE Graduation Requirement.

- a) NO CHANGE. Maintain current requirement of 1.0 credits CTE and no credits of Fine Arts
- b) Change the requirement to be a total of 1.0 credits of CTE or Fine Arts
- c) ADD a 1.0 credit requirement of Fine Arts (students would be required to take 1.0 credits of CTE and 1.0 credits of Fine Arts)

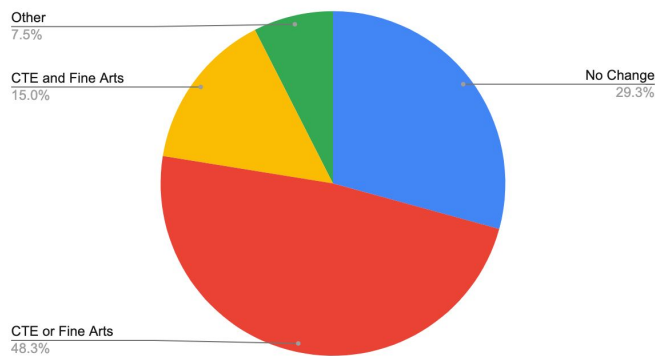
Student: Fine Arts



Staff Member: CTE/Fine Arts

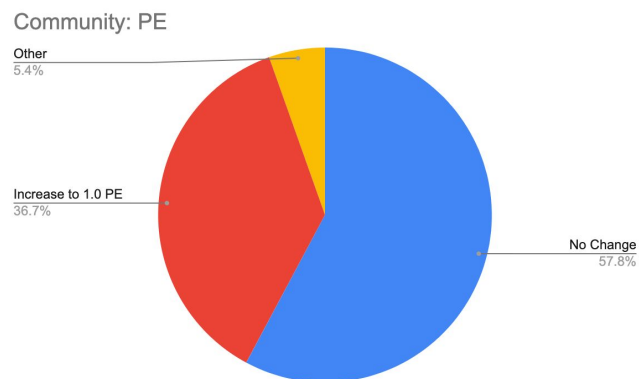
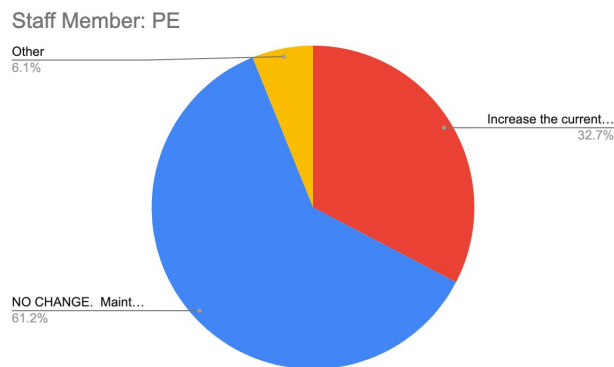
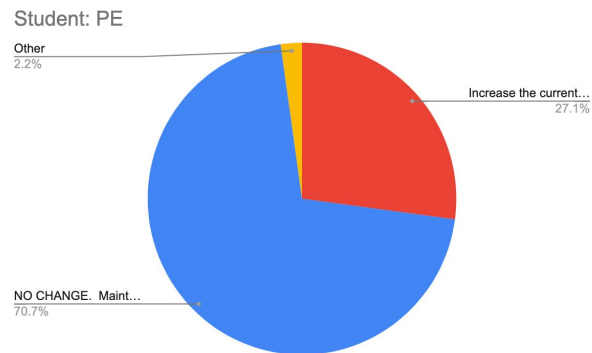


Community: CTE/Fine Arts



5) Currently there is a requirement of 0.5 credits of Physical Education. There has been a suggestion to increase this requirement to promote greater health and physical fitness in students

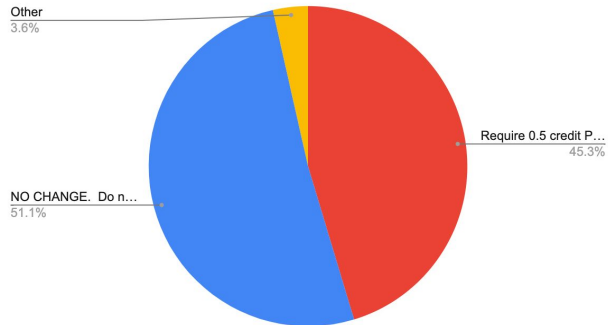
- a) NO CHANGE. Maintain current requirement 0.5 credits of PE
- b) Increase the current PE requirement to 1.0 credits



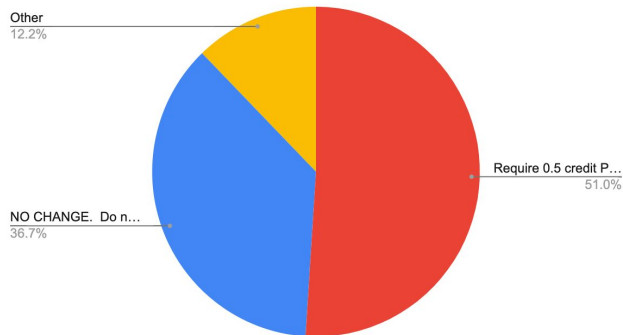
6) Currently there is no requirement for a personal finance course. There has been a suggestion that there should be a requirement of 0.5 credits of Personal Finance (Financial Health) to provide students with the skills and understanding they need to be financially healthy.

- a) NO CHANGE. Do not add a Personal Finance requirement.
- b) Add a 0.5 credit Personal Finance requirement to KGBSD Graduation Requirements

Student: Personal Finance



Staff Member: Personal Finance



Community: Personal Finance

