# Agenda Item: G

## Date: March 23, 2023

## Title: First Review of Proposed Updates to the *Board of Education Approved Courses to Satisfy Graduation Requirements for the Standard, Advanced Studies, and Modified Standard Diplomas in Virginia Public Schools*

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## Presenter: Dr. Brendon Albon, Director of the Office of STEM & Innovation

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## Purpose of Presentation:

Action required by Board of Education regulation

## Executive Summary:

The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) annually proposes updates to the [*Board of Education Approved Courses to Satisfy Graduation Requirements for the Standard, Advanced Studies, and Modified Standard Diplomas in Virginia Public Schools*](https://townhall.virginia.gov/L/GetFile.cfm?File=C:\TownHall\docroot\GuidanceDocs\201\GDoc_DOE_7244_v1.pdf)([*Board Approved Courses*](https://townhall.virginia.gov/L/GetFile.cfm?File=C:\TownHall\docroot\GuidanceDocs\201\GDoc_DOE_7244_v1.pdf)) document. The proposed changes, found in [Attachment A](https://covgov.sharepoint.com/%3Aw%3A/r/sites/DOE-Board-Meetings-External/Drafting%20Materials/2023-03%20Board%20Meeting%20Draft%20Material/2%20Business%20Session/2023-03%20Updates%20to%20Board%20Approved%20Courses%20Attachment%20A.docx?d=w3c70de037c344082bedd6076bca7366a&csf=1&web=1&e=NVgAEM), include the following:

* adding two courses that satisfy graduation requirements, AP Pre-Calculus and AP Seminar for English
* updating School Courses for the Exchange of Data (SCED) codes used to identify courses in which students are enrolled.
* reordering courses within each content area by SCED code.
* clarifying and updating language regarding state/federal testing and state graduation requirements.
* deleting unnecessary or outdated content; and
* improving accuracy, readability, and formatting.

The proposed updates are necessary to ensure appropriate notation of course enrollments in the Master Schedule Collection (MSC) by school divisions and that appropriate credits are used to satisfy graduation requirements, as well as to clarify answers to common questions.

This item aligns with Priority 1 of the [Virginia Board of Education Comprehensive Plan: 2018-2023](https://www.doe.virginia.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/1154/637946384285670000) to ensure a high-quality learning environment for all students.

## Action Requested:

Action will be requested at a future meeting: April 20, 2023

## Superintendent’s Recommendation

The Superintendent of Public Instruction recommends that the Board of Education receive the proposed updates to the [*Board Approved Courses*](https://townhall.virginia.gov/L/GetFile.cfm?File=C:\TownHall\docroot\GuidanceDocs\201\GDoc_DOE_7244_v1.pdf)for first review*.*

## Previous Review or Action:

**Date:** August 17, 2022

**Action:** Final Review

## Background Information and Statutory Authority:

#### Sections [8VAC 20-131-50](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter131/section50/) and [8VAC 20-131-51](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter131/section51/) of *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* ([8VAC20-131](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter131/)) set forth the requirements for awarding diplomas in Virginia. Those requirements specify the level of courses that students must complete in order to earn either a standard or verified unit of credit in the subject areas of mathematics, laboratory science, and history and social science.

Further, the requirements identify credit requirements in other content disciplines. The regulations specify that the Board shall approve courses (other than those specifically named in the standards) to satisfy the requirements in those areas.

Technical edits to this document were previously reviewed and approved by the Board at the August 2022 meeting.

## Timetable for Further Review/Action:

It is anticipated that this item will return to the Board for final review on April 20, 2023. Upon final review and approval, revised [*Board Approved Courses*](https://townhall.virginia.gov/L/GetFile.cfm?File=C:\TownHall\docroot\GuidanceDocs\201\GDoc_DOE_7244_v1.pdf)will be posted to [Virginia Regulatory Town Hall](https://townhall.virginia.gov/index.cfm) in accordance with the requirements of the [Administrative Process Act](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title2.2/chapter40/). The document will be subsequently posted on the VDOE website and shared with public school divisions.

## Impact on Fiscal and Human Resources:

This item does not have a fiscal or human resource impact.