

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION – TOPIC SUMMARY

Topic: Review of Graduation Requirements

Date: May 21, 2015

Staff/Office: Jim Carlile, Theresa Richards, Kim Patterson, Doug Kosty, Derek Brown/Office of Learning

Action Requested: Informational Only Adoption Adoption/Consent Agenda

ISSUE BEFORE THE BOARD:

Staff of the Oregon Department of Education would like to provide the current State Board of Education (Board) an overview of the graduation requirements adopted in 2007 in light of the the adoption of more rigorous content standards in 2010 and achievement levels in 2014.

BACKGROUND:

In January of 2007, the Board voted to adopt new high school graduation requirements. These new requirements were designed to better prepare each student for success in college, work, and citizenship. To earn a diploma, students now need to successfully complete the credit requirements, demonstrate proficiency in the Essential Skills, and meet the personalized learning requirements. Students will also have the option to earn credit for proficiency. A phase-in schedule (2007 – 2014) was created to allow students, families, schools and teachers to adequately prepare to meet these new requirements.

Staff would like to hear the Board’s view on the current state of graduation requirements with a focus on the number and type credits as well as the current expectations for proficiency in light of the national movement to raise expectations for all students.

POLICY QUESTIONS:

Should Oregon review the existing graduation requirements with stakeholders to determine if there is a need to make any changes?

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends a statewide conversation to consider the need to revisit and modify the existing graduation requirements.