

## Draft April 10, 2010

### Awards for Achievement

#### AR 5126

The Superintendent or designee may appoint a committee at each school to consider awards for student accomplishments. This committee may consist of school administrators, teachers, parents/guardians, community members, and student representatives.

The committee shall submit recommendations for student awards to the Superintendent or designee for approval.

#### Golden State Seal Merit Diploma

To be eligible to receive the Golden State Seal Merit Diploma upon high school graduation, a student shall: (Education Code 51451, 51452; 5 CCR 876)

1. Complete all requirements for a high school diploma

~~(cf. 6143—Courses of Study)~~

~~(cf. 6146.1—High School Graduation Requirements)~~

~~(cf. 6146.11—Alternative Credits Toward Graduation)~~

~~(cf. 6162.52—High School Exit Examination)~~

2. Demonstrate mastery of at least six subject areas by earning a scaled score of 370 or above on six separate high school California Standards Tests (CST), including:

a. One mathematics exam, excluding the Algebra I, General Mathematics, or Integrated Mathematics 1 test

b. One English language arts exam

c. One science exam, excluding the grade 10 Life Science exam

d. The grade 11 history-social science exam (United States history)

e. Two additional CSTs of the student's choice, which may, but are not required to, include additional exams in mathematics, English language arts, science, or history-social science

~~(cf. 6162.51—Standardized Testing and Reporting Program)~~

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain appropriate records to identify students who are eligible for the merit and shall affix an insignia to the diploma and transcript of each student awarded the merit diploma. (Education Code 51454)

~~(cf. 5125—Student Records)~~

The Superintendent or designee shall submit an insignia request form to the California Department of Education in sufficient time to allow processing of the request prior to the high school graduation ceremony.

### Bi-literacy Award

To be eligible to receive the district's Bi-literacy award upon graduation, a student shall:

1. Complete all requirements for a high school diploma, including all English language arts requirements, with an overall weighted grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 or above
2. Demonstrate proficiency in one or more languages other than English, by fulfilling at least one of the following requirements:
  - a. Receive a passing score of 3 or higher on the Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate exam for foreign language
  - b. Successfully complete a four-year course of study in the same foreign language, attaining an overall weighted GPA of 3.0 or above in those courses
  - c. Pass a district-established foreign language exam, when available, at a proficient level or higher
  - d. Pass a foreign government's approved language exam and receive a certificate of competency for that language from the authorizing government agency

The Superintendent or designee shall annually distribute information about the eligibility requirements for the award and the application process to students in grade 12.

The Superintendent or designee shall affix an insignia to the diploma of each student awarded the bi-literacy award.

### Distinguished Career Pathway Certificate

All students completing requirements for the Distinguished Career Pathway Certificates shall demonstrate proficiency in meeting State-adopted standards. Courses meeting these requirements shall be developed by the Superintendent or designee and adopted by the Board of Education. Two Career Pathways are available to high school students.

1. Engineering, Technology & Industrial Trades Distinguished Career Pathway Certificate

- a) An an integrated set of four (4) technical courses that meet the requirements for Project Lead the Way totaling 40 units of study. In addition to the three technical course requirements, students must complete a capstone course as the fourth course requirement. In this course, teams of students solve problems of their own choosing. The teams apply principles developed in the preceding foundation courses and are guided by a community mentor. They employ all of the skills and knowledge gained through previous coursework to brainstorm possibilities, research current patents and regulations, construct a working model, test the model in real life situations (or simulation), document their designs, and present and defend the designs to a panel of experts.
- b) Students must maintain a weighted 2.0 GPA or above in all pathway coursework.

## 2. Arts/Media & Entertainment Distinguished Career Pathway Certificate

- a) An integrated set of 4 (four) elective courses in Visual and Performing Arts or Media & Communication totaling 40 units of study. In addition to three elective courses, students must complete a capstone project consisting of an approved internship, work experience, community service project or volunteerism relating to their field of study. All capstone projects must be approved by the Superintendent or designee and are monitored by a mentor for 10 units of credit.
- b) Students must maintain a weighted 2.0 GPA or above in all pathway coursework

The Superintendent or designee shall issue a Certificate of Completion along with the high school diploma of each student who successfully completes the requirements for the Distinguished Career Pathway.