

ENROLLED ACT NO. 29, SENATE

FIFTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING
2002 SPECIAL SESSION

AN ACT relating to public school performance and graduation standards; modifying requirements for graduation as specified; imposing different types of student proficiency with respect to performance standards; imposing assessment duties upon school districts; conforming statutory provisions accordingly; clarifying duties of the state board of education; and providing for an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:

Section 1. W.S. 21-2-202(c), 21-2-304(a)(iii), (iv) and (v), (b)(ii) and (c), 21-3-110(a) by creating new paragraphs (xxiv) and (xxv), 21-3-308(g), 21-9-101(b)(intro) and 21-13-101(a)(v) are amended to read:

21-2-202. Duties of the state superintendent.

(c) In addition to subsection (a) of this section, the state superintendent may take appropriate administrative action with the state board as necessary, including but not limited to the changing of accreditation status, against any school district or state institution failing to comply with any applicable law or with the uniform educational program standards specified under W.S. 21-9-101 and 21-9-102 and the student content and performance standards prescribed by the state board.

21-2-304. Duties of the state board of education.

(a) The state board of education shall:

(iii) By rule and regulation and in consultation and coordination with local school districts, prescribe uniform student content and performance standards for the common core of knowledge and the common core of skills

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specified under W.S. 21-9-101(b), and promulgate uniform standards for programs addressing the special needs of student populations specified under W.S. 21-9-101(c) that ensure these student populations are provided the opportunity to learn the common core knowledge and skills as prescribed by the uniform student content and performance standards pursuant to this paragraph. Student content and performance standards prescribed under this paragraph shall include standards for graduation from any high school within any school district of this state ~~based upon performance or mastery of~~ and shall describe required performance levels in order to achieve proficiency of the common core of knowledge and common core of skills prescribed under W.S. 21-9-101(b). The ability to prescribe content and performance standards shall not be construed to give the state board of education the authority to prescribe textbooks or curriculum which the state board is hereby forbidden to do. Graduation standards imposed under this paragraph shall require the successful completion of the following components, as evidenced by passing grades or by the successful performance on competency-based equivalency examinations:

- (A) Four (4) school years of English;
- (B) Three (3) school years of mathematics;
- (C) Three (3) school years of science; and
- (D) Three (3) school years of social studies, including history, American government and economic systems and institutions, provided business instructors may instruct classes on economic systems and institutions.

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(iv) Establish, in consultation with local school districts, ~~through testing or other means, a requirement~~ requirements for ~~each student to demonstrate mastery of the common core of knowledge and skills in order~~ students to earn a high school diploma ~~as measured by each district's body of evidence assessment system prescribed by rule and regulation of the state board and required under W.S. 21-3-110(a)(xxii). A high school diploma shall provide for one (1) of the following endorsements which shall be stated on the transcript of each student:~~

(A) Advanced endorsement which requires a student to demonstrate advanced performance in a majority of the areas of the common core of knowledge and skills specified under W.S. 21-9-101(b) and proficient performance in the remaining areas of the specified common core of knowledge and skills, as defined by the uniform student content and performance standards promulgated by the state board pursuant to paragraph (a)(iii) of this section;

(B) Comprehensive endorsement which requires a student to demonstrate proficient performance in all areas of the common core of knowledge and skills specified under W.S. 21-9-101(b) as defined by the uniform student content and performance standards promulgated by the state board pursuant to paragraph (a)(iii) of this section;

(C) General endorsement which requires a student to demonstrate proficient performance in a majority of the areas of the common core of knowledge and skills specified under W.S. 21-9-101(b) as defined by the uniform student content and performance standards promulgated by the state board pursuant to paragraph (a)(iii) of this section.

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(v) Through the state superintendent and in consultation and coordination with local school districts, implement a statewide assessment system for measuring student progress based upon uniform educational program and student content and performance standards imposed by law and by board rule and regulation. The assessment system shall be administered at appropriate levels at specified grades and at appropriate intervals aligned to the standards. The assessment system shall be aligned to the statewide educational program standards, shall specifically assess student performance in reading, writing and mathematics at grades four (4), eight (8) and eleven (11) and may measure the other common core of knowledge and skills established under W.S. 21-9-101(b) which can be quantified. The assessment results will be used in conjunction with a school district's annual assessment to design educational strategies for improvement and enhancement of student performance. This design for improvement shall be part of each district's school improvement plan. In consultation and coordination with school districts, the board shall review and evaluate the assessment system regularly and based upon uniform statewide reports from each district, annually report to the legislature on student performance at specified grade levels and on school improvement plans.

(b) In addition to subsection (a) of this section and any other duties assigned to it by law, the state board shall:

(ii) Enforce the uniform state educational program standards imposed by W.S. 21-9-101 and 21-9-102 and the uniform student content and performance standards established by rules and regulations adopted under subsection (a) of this section by taking appropriate administrative action with the state superintendent,

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including but not limited to the changing of accreditation status;

(c) The state board shall perform an ongoing review of state board duties prescribed by law and may make recommendations to the legislature on board duties. In addition and not less than once every five (5) years, the board shall evaluate and review the uniformity and quality of the educational program standards imposed under W.S. 21-9-101 and 21-9-102 and the student content and performance standards promulgated under paragraph (a)(iii) of this section, and shall report findings and recommendations to the joint education interim committee of the legislature on or before December 1 of the year in which the review and evaluation was undertaken. The joint education interim committee shall report its recommendations, based upon findings and recommendations of the state board, to the legislature during the immediately following legislative session.

21-3-110. Duties of boards of trustees.

(a) The board of trustees in each school district shall:

(xxiv) Establish a student assessment system to measure student performance relative to the uniform student content and performance standards in all content areas for which the state board has promulgated standards pursuant to W.S. 21-2-304(a)(iii). A component of the district assessment system required by this paragraph shall include a body of evidence assessment system designed and used to determine the various levels of student performance as described in the uniform student content and performance standards relative to the common core of knowledge and skills prescribed under W.S. 21-9-101(b);

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(xxv) At minimum, provide the three (3) endorsements on high school transcripts specified under W.S. 21-2-304(a)(iv) and may provide additional endorsements.

21-3-308. Hearing by local board; prohibited actions by local board; criteria; compliance with state standards; state board review; contractual authority.

(g) Charter schools shall meet the state uniform educational program standards imposed upon public schools by W.S. 21-9-101 and 21-9-102 and the uniform state student content and performance standards prescribed by the state board of education under W.S. 21-2-304, including compliance with requirements under the statewide assessment system pursuant to W.S. 21-2-304(a)(v).

21-9-101. Educational programs for schools; standards; core of knowledge and skills; special needs programs; class size requirements; cocurricular activities.

(b) Each school district within the state shall provide educational programs sufficient to meet uniform student content and performance standards at the level established by the state board of education in the following areas of knowledge and skills:

21-13-101. Definitions.

(a) As used in this article:

(v) "Foundation program" means the level of funding which is to be made available to each district under this article so that each district is able to comply with the state uniform educational program standards

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imposed under W.S. 21-9-101 and 21-9-102 and the uniform state student content and performance standards prescribed by the state board of education under W.S. 21-2-304(a)(v);

Section 2. This act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

(END)

Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Governor

TIME APPROVED: _____

DATE APPROVED: _____

I hereby certify that this act originated in the Senate.

Chief Clerk