High School Graduation Requirements

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PROPOSED CHANGE PURPOSE

The Chicago Board of Education will amend the Chicago Public Schools' Minimum High School Graduation Requirements Policy (605.3), beginning with the Freshman class in School Year (SY) 2016-2017, to include the following subject/curriculum areas:

1. Arts
2. Civics and Service Learning
3. Computer Science (CS)
4. International Baccalaureate (IB)

HEALTHY CPS
— OFFICE OF STUDENT HEALTH & WELLNESS —

PURPOSE

To provide students with a rigorous and robust academic experience that not only meets new core content requirements, but also emphasizes Chicago Public Schools' commitment to the Arts, Computer Science and Civic Education.

The proposed Arts and IB changes are in response to requests from schools for greater flexibility in scheduling students.

The proposed Civics and Service Learning changes are in response to State legislation (Illinois Public Act 99-0434 Civics) to clarify expectations and to improve the quality of service learning.

The proposed Computer Science changes are a key initiative of Mayor Rahm Emanuel to keep CPS at the forefront of technology and learning. Computer Science is also part of a "well-rounded" education, according to the new Every Student Succeeds Act.

ADDITIONAL EFFECTS OF THE POLICY CHANGES

- **Arts** will allow students greater choice in their arts education, permitting them to opt for a single arts focus or a broader path of study in arts instruction. Students can choose to go deeper in one discipline of interest, or gain experience across a wider spectrum of disciplines.

- **Civics and Service Learning** will allow schools to integrate quality service projects into classroom curriculum. Instead of simply collecting hours, students will leverage classroom learning to address relevant issues and to engage with their communities.

- **Computer Science** will increase student preparedness to compete in the global community, while keeping CPS on the leading edge of integrating Computer Science as a core skill to graduate, in accord with Mayor Rahm Emanuel's vision.

- **International Baccalaureate (IB)** will allow students more flexibility to take courses that align to their IB Diploma Programme, allowing for increased focus on IB's advanced, college-level, two-year courses.

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DIRECT EFFECTS ON GRADUATION POLICY

SUBJECT	CURRENT	FUTURE
Fine Arts (2.0 Total Credits)	2.0 credits <u>in two different arts disciplines</u>*	2.0 credits <u>in a single arts</u> discipline, <u>or</u> 2.0 credits <u>in two different arts disciplines</u>*
Career Education (2.0 Total Credits)	2.0 credits from *any combination* of Career Ed / Advanced Academic courses	• 1.0 credit from *any combination* of Career Ed / Advanced Academic courses • 1.0 credit from any approved Computer Science course
Social Science (3.0 Total Credits)	• 1.0 credit in World Studies • 1.0 credit in U.S. History • 1.0 credit in *any other* Social Studies course	• 1.0 credit in World Studies • 1.0 credit in U.S. History • A minimum of 0.5 credit in Civics or AP Government course • 0.5 credit in *any other* Social Studies course
Service Learning	40 hours	• 1 project in either Civics or AP Government course • 1 service project either independently or in conjunction with a 9th or 10th grade course offering
International Baccalaureate	IB courses satisfy *specific* requirements <u>per content area</u>	IB courses satisfy *all* requirements <u>per content area</u>

*Dance, Drama/Theatre, Music, and Visual Art

APPENDIX