



THE WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Governance | Accountability | Achievement | Oversight | Career & College Readiness

APPLICATION

Temporary Waiver from High School Graduation Requirements Under Chapter 217, Laws of 2014

Instructions

RCW 28A.230.090(1)(d)(ii) authorizes school districts to apply to the State Board of Education (SBE) for a temporary waiver from the career and college ready graduation requirements directed by Chapter 217, Laws of 2104 (E2SSB 6552) beginning with the graduating class of 2020 or 2021 instead of the graduating class of 2019. This law further provides:

In the application, a school district must describe why the waiver is being requested, the specific impediments preventing timely implementation, and efforts that will be taken to achieve implementation with the graduating class proposed under the waiver. The state board of education shall grant a waiver under this subsection (1)(d) to an applying school district at the next subsequent meeting of the board after receiving an application.

The SBE has adopted rules to implement this provision as WAC 180-51-068(11). The rules provide that the SBE must post an application form on its public web site for use by school districts. The rules further provide:

- The application must be accompanied by a resolution adopted by the district's board of directors requesting the waiver. The resolution must, at a minimum:
 1. State the entering freshman class or classes for whom the waiver is requested;
 2. Be signed by the chair or president of the board of directors and the district superintendent.
- A district implementing a waiver granted by the SBE under this law will continue to be subject to the prior high school graduation requirements as specified in WAC 180-51-067 during the school year or years for which the waiver has been granted.
- A district granted a waiver under this law that elects to implement the career and college ready graduation requirements in WAC 180-51-068 during the period for which the waiver is granted shall provide notification of that decision to the SBE.

For questions or assistance with this application, please contact:

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State Board of Education
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Application

Please complete in full. Please identify any attachments provided by reference to the numbered items below.

1. Name of district: Battle Ground Public Schools

2. Contact information

Name and title: Mark Ross. Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning

Telephone: (360) 885-5338

E-mail address: ross.mark@battlegroundps.org

3. Date of application: 11/3/2014

4. Please explain why the district is requesting a waiver to delay implementation of career and college ready graduation requirements in WAC 180-51-068.

We would like additional time to research several high school schedule options. Currently both of our comprehensive high schools operate a 6-period day. This schedule does not allow much leeway for students who may be credit deficient to access options to make the credit up. We also have a very robust alternative program where many students access the current 20 credit State diploma. Extending the timeline would give us the opportunity for our alternative programs to adjust to the added requirements. Currently the district is experiencing student growth and anticipating even more growth in the years to come with current home construction in the area at an increase. Our high schools are nearing capacity, so extending the timeline for the 24 credit requirement would give us the opportunity to develop facilities and hire teachers to accommodate the need for additional classroom space and staffing. In addition, we are just beginning to explore options for students who would pursue credit recovery or credit attainment via online technology. Again, extending our timeline would give us the opportunity to purchase, implement and train staff to give our students this capability. At this point we are just now seeing STEM options for our students increasing and we could use more time to develop our capacity to teach courses in this area and those identified by the Board as third year math and science courses.

5. Please describe the specific impediments preventing implementation of the career and college ready graduation requirements beginning with the graduating class of 2019.

Limited space and capacity for additional art, science, STEM and lab courses. A limit as to staffing in foreign language and art. Currently limited options in the area of online learning and credit recovery. Limited options for our students who are currently accessing the 20 credit diploma to jump to 24. Our high school students have limited options to make up credit with our current structure of a 6-period day.

6. Please indicate below the graduating class for which the district will first implement the career and college ready graduation requirements.

Class of 2020

Class of 2021

7. Please describe the efforts that will be undertaken to achieve implementation of the career and college ready graduation requirements for the graduating class indicated above.

Our principals and district office administrators will soon be engaged in a study of our current 6-period day schedule to see if there would be other options that would better fit the new graduation requirements. We are currently engaged in a facilities study and review and putting together a facilities committee. Our intent would be a possible proposal for a construction bond to put to our voters in the near future. We are establishing a planning team to look at online options for our students and the possibility of an online academy for our district or within our high schools. We are currently developing a steering committee to look at more STEM opportunities for our middle and high school students and hope to expand that capacity in the near future. Our alternative program administrators are working closely with the district office to develop a plan to transition students from the current 20 credit State diploma to the new 24 diploma.

Final step

Please attach the district resolution required by WAC 180-51-068, signed and dated by the chair or president of the board of directors and the district superintendent.

Battle Ground School District No. 119

Resolution No. L-14

A resolution of the Board of Directors of the Battle Ground School District No 119 to apply to the State Board of Education for a temporary waiver from high school graduation requirements under Chapter 217, Law of 2014, as allowed under WAC 180-51-068 (11).

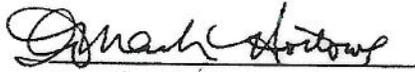
WHEREAS, RCW 28A.230.090(1)(d)(ii) authorizes school districts to apply to the State Board of Education for a temporary waiver from college ready graduation requirements directed by Chapter 217, Laws of 2014 (E2SSB) beginning with the graduating class of 2020 or 2021 instead of the graduating class of 2019;

WHEREAS, a temporary waiver will allow district staff and students to more adequately prepare for the new graduation requirements;

WHEREAS, a temporary waiver will also allow more time for the district to address facility and staffing needs to accommodate the added graduation requirements;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors for the Battle Ground School District No 119 requests a two year waiver from the college ready graduation requirements to begin with the graduating class of **2021** instead of the class of 2019.

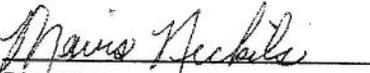
ATTEST:



Secretary to the Board



President, Board of Directors

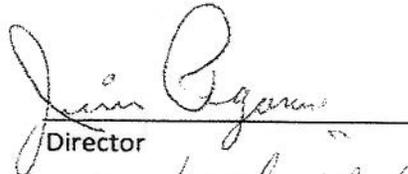


Director

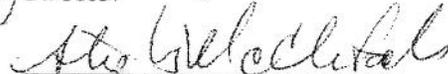


Director

Approved this 24th day of November, 2014.



Director



Director