

KENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 415
Kent, Washington

RESOLUTION NO. 1543
Temporary Waiver of Implementation of the 24 Credit Graduation Requirement

WHEREAS, the Washington State Legislature passed into law E2SSB 6552, increasing graduation requirements to align with 24 Credit Career- and College-Ready Graduation Requirements for the Class of 2019 and Beyond; and

WHEREAS, Kent School District currently requires 23.5 credits to graduate from high school; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Board of Education has established an application process pursuant to WAC 180-51-068 to enable the Board of Directors to submit a two-year waiver to postpone implementation of the requirements for 24 credits; and

WHEREAS, the district is seeking additional time to plan the changes in requirements and ensure structures are in place to best support students in meeting these new requirements; and

WHEREAS, the increase in the number of credits required by the State of Washington to graduate from high school to 24 will require a considerable amount of study and planning to implement successfully; and


WHEREAS, WAC 180-51-068 requires that the Board of Directors' application be accompanied by a resolution adopted by the Board of Directors and signed by the board's president and the district superintendent;


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Kent School District authorizes the district to request a two-year waiver of the credit requirements of WAC 180-51-068, effective through the Class of 2020, to allow adequate time to effectively implement the requirements;


RESOLVED that duly certified copies of this resolution shall be presented to district staff assigned to prepare the waiver application as well as to the Washington Board of Education as an attachment to the waiver request.


ADOPTED this 27th day of June 2018.

KENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 415
BOARD OF DIRECTORS









ATTEST:



Dr. Calvin J. Watts
Secretary to the Board

This page is a resolution that contains signatures of Kent School Board Directors and the Secretary to the Board.

CERTIFICATE

I, Dr. Calvin J. Watts, Secretary to the Board of Directors of Kent School District No. 415, King County, Washington, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is a full, true and correct copy of a resolution duly passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors of such District, duly held at the regular meeting place thereof on June 27, 2018, of which meeting all members of such Board had due notice and at which a majority thereof was present; and that at such meeting, such resolution was adopted by the following vote:

AYES, and in favor thereof, Directors: *MAYA VENGDASALAM, DEBBIE STRAUS, ROSS HARDY, KAREN DEBRULER, and DENISE DANIELS*

NAYS, Directors:

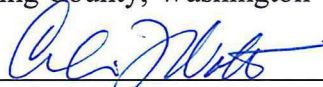
ABSENT, Directors:

ABSTAIN, Directors:

I further certify that I have carefully compared the same with the original resolution on file and of record in my office; that such resolution is a full, true and correct copy of the original resolution adopted at such meeting; and that such resolution has not been amended, modified, or rescinded since the date of its adoption and is now in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 27th day of June 2018.

KENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 415
King County, Washington



Dr. Calvin J. Watts
Secretary to the Board of Directors

(SEAL)



This page is a resolution that contains signatures and a seal of Kent School District.

Application

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

1. Name of district: Kent School District

2. Contact information

Name and title: Dr. Jewelle Harmon, Chief Accountability Officer

Telephone: 253-373-7005

E-mail address: Jewelle.Harmon@kent.k12.wa.us

3. Date of application: June 27, 2018

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.

Due to superintendent transition, there was not consistent district leadership to adequately investigate the options for implementing the career and college ready graduation requirements.

High schools in Kent School District operate a six-period day, allowing students 24 opportunities to meet the graduation requirements. Though the district currently requires 23.5 credits for graduation, the course requirements are not in the same areas as WAC 180-51-068. Our Class of 2017, 4-year cohort graduation rate of 78.8 is evidence that our students need additional options for credit attainment beyond the 24 options provided over the four years.

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

Our current financial uncertainty is the largest impediment preventing the district from making the financial investment needed to implement the career and college ready graduation requirements for the graduating Classes of 2019 and 2020.

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.

Data review of course enrollment, grades, and credit recovery will be used to identify patterns and trends in course failure. This data will help identify bell schedule options that best allow students to meet the 24-credit requirement in four years.

District-wide leadership meetings with school administrative teams, counselors, curricular leaders, and central administration leadership will be held. Discussion topics include:

- development of a district-wide master schedule allowing for equitable course offerings for all students,
- credit recovery and summer school options for high school, and
- dual credit course taking.

Executive Cabinet Meetings to discuss bell schedule options. Discussion and decision-making points include:

- staffing needs associated with each bell schedule option,
- transportation impact on adjusting bell schedules,
- implementation costs of bell schedule options,
- review of contractual obligations, and
- teacher professional development needs associated with bell schedule adjustments.

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.